

## **SUSTAINABILITY REPORT for 6-24-'20 Greater Valley Glen Council Government Relations Meeting**

Report by Joanne D'Antonio, Sustainability Representative, GVGC

Posted on GVGC website under City Reports: <https://www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org/special-reports/>

### **USDA Forest Service Webinar: "Addressing Loss of Tree Cover in Urban Watersheds: The Importance of Local Codes and Policies" 5-13-'20 10:00 a.m-11:30**

In Chicago Water Dept. Inspectors were cross-trained to enforce tree protection ordinances.

### **NCSA Trees Committee Zoom meeting 5-20-'20 noon- 2:00**

Concern that smaller replacement trees are being planting, thus downsizing the urban forest.

Extended maintenance programs beyond 3 years need to be associated with all tree-planting.

Protected tree ordinance protects all native trees in Beverly Hills on private property -- need same in LA.

### **Tree Summit LA Zoom 5-20-'20 9:00-noon**

Topics covered by 3 guest experts:

"Ways of Preventing Sidewalk Damage"

"Planting for a Hotter Future"

"Tree Selection for Human Benefits"

(Webinar recording available through Streets LA website)

### **Community Forest Advisory Committee Zoom meeting 6-4-'20 1:00 -3:00**

Michelle Barton, LASAN Biodiversity:

LASAN received \$1.2 million to plant trees in low-income areas: 2,000 trees with 3 years of watering.

Tim Tyson, UFD Chief Forester:

Issues with bird nesting season through most of year -- does year-round pruning with nesting inspections.

Issues with getting personnel to come to LA to work on Tree Inventory, which is running behind. (Greater Valley Glen scheduled to start end of July) Tree Inventory posted on Streets LA website

### **Rachel Malarich, City Forest Officer:**

**LA BPW awarded CalFire grant of \$5 million grant to continue/complete tree inventory, create Urban Forest Management Plan that she will author, and fund community engagement for the urban forest. LA County did not get their grant for Urban Forest Management Plan.**

CFAC member:

Concerns that there is not an updated tree planting species list -- too many crape myrtle, pink tulip and Australian willow getting planted.

Next CFAC Zoom meeting June 25, 2020

### **Livable California Zoom meeting 6-6-'20 10:00 a.m.-12:30**

Robert Silverstein, CEQA attorney, went over how there are many bills at the State level, not covered by the press, that affect development throughout the state. These remove local control and impose building quotas. They do not increase affordable housing and the structures invade single family neighborhoods with overlay zones to allow luxury multiple unit buildings. (Bills were placed on GR agenda)

### **USDA Forest Service Webinar: "Science and Practice of Managing Forests in Cities" 6-10-'20 10:00 a.m-11:30**

Natural parklands being lost in cities and require protection. Private urban woodlands need to be purchased and left natural to mitigate climate change vulnerability.

### **Tree People Zoom Webinar: "Heat" 6-17-'20 9;00-10:00 a.m. Presented by Los Angeles Urban Cooling Collaborative**

LA experiencing a rise in heat-caused deaths. Urban areas are more sensitive. Variability of weather determines region's vulnerability to heat. Changing tree canopy can change meteorology and save lives.

Recommend planting largest tree space will bear.

(Webinar recording available on Tree People website)