

## **Sustainability Report 9-13-'21 GVGC Board Meeting**

### **Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) monthly meeting 8-5-'21**

Street tree species list presented based on being “site suitable” adapted to current poor circumstances. CFAC and public questioned why not based on environmental and biodiversity goals and why the omission of important native trees.

David Miranda is UFD Manager (not same title as Tim Tyson who was Chief Forester (he retired)) reported there are 100,000 vacant parkway sites to plant trees.

### **Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) monthly meeting 8-8-'21**

Planning Dept. and LADOT presentation on proposed new requirements of developers of large projects to include elements aimed at reducing driving (bike racks, scooter racks, transit passes, vanpools). This part of the Mobility element of the new City General Plan.

Michele Barton of the LASAN Biodiversity Report presented ideas on how community projects can qualify to get the City points to improve its biodiversity rating. Suggesting these for NCs (GVGC's butterfly project would qualify). Also, LASAN has a Healthy Soils Project (the mulch for the GVGC medians came from it).

### **Channel Islands Native Plant Society 8-19-'21**

Prof. Travis Longcore spoke on the protected, but becoming rarer, Southern CA walnut tree. 5,000 of these are street trees, yet not on proposed species planting list.

### **I-405 Sepulveda Pass Express Lanes Project Scoping Meeting 8-19-'21**

This is the scoping period public comment period for the EIR until Oct. 1 There are 5 plans, including leaving it as it is. [405expresslanes@metro.net](mailto:405expresslanes@metro.net)

### **CFAC Building Around Trees (BAT) Subcommittee 8-25-'21**

Need efforts like in Santa Monica to retain trees in planning new buildings – allow space for existing tree roots.

Planning Dept. reported they are working on new thresholds for protecting trees on site.

Community Plans in progress need more tree accommodation specifications. Still can weigh in directly to City Planners.

Recode LA: Could give us ability to add trees beyond street trees. Pay attention to Boyle Heights Community Plan, as it may be model for most of City.

### **Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) monthly meeting 9-9-'21**

Keith Mozee, new director of Streets LA (oversees Urban Forestry) spoke.

Questions arose regarding job description for Environmental Planner to be hired.

Issues with enforcement of illegal tree pruning and removals discussed.

Street Tree Species Comment Period may be extended. Now ends 9-15-'21

### **VANC 9-9-'21**

SB 9,10 passed awaiting Governor signature. According to Councilmember de Leon cities will have to “opt in” and LA City Council voted non-support of both (though not unanimous)

### **Plancheck NC 9-11-'21**

Housing Element and Safety Element of General Plan comment period extended to Sept. 22. Issues with open space, loss of canopy, lack of school space, not addressed. The public hearing on the Housing Element is Sept. 22 at 11 a.m. (includes public comment)

### **NCSA monthly meeting 9-12-'21**

**Cool Blocks Program.** To get neighbors to meet, lessen carbon footprint, water street trees, be better prepared for emergency. 3 cities will get \$1 million to do program if enough sign up, but LA will do it even if not awarded grant. Info will go on NC websites.

<https://www.coolblock.org/neighbor-neighbor-video> Info: [ncsa.la/cool\\_blocks\\_la](http://ncsa.la/cool_blocks_la)

Sign up to be a Cool Block leader: <https://forms.gle/9wE7XB6yZeX2xJP39>