

COMMUNITY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CFAC)
Policy Subcommittee
DRAFT MINUTES for THURSDAY, April 21, 2022, 3:00-5:00 pm (virtual)

CFAC Members: Isabelle Duvivier (ID), Katherine Pakradouni (KP), Lynnette Kampe (LK), Robin Gilliad, Joanne D'Antonio (JD), Shelley Billik (SB), Mary Montes (MM)

Other participants (partial list): Theresa Maysonet, Leon Boroditsky, Harold Arrivillaga, Bernard Oro, Ryan I., Stephen DuPrey (UFD), Carolyn LoBuglio, Kyle Hickey, Jack Smith, Hugh Kenny, Angelica Thomas, Albert Vera, Marilouise Morgan

1. Meeting call to order at 3:01 by Chair KP; Determination of a quorum (3); Welcoming remarks.
2. General Public Comment on Non-agenda Items: Harold Arrivillage of Community Investment for Families announced meetings May 3 & 4
3. Tree of the month - CA Bay Laurel, Umbellularia californica is wide ranging in CA, uncommon elsewhere. It is evergreen and prefers areas with more moisture -canyons , ravines or high water table areas. It is a relative of avocado and both existed 60 million years ago in the prehistoric time of megafauna. Does well in part shade, easy care, clay tolerant, turf irrigation tolerant. Can be used as flavoring but strong scent is best taken sparingly. Glossy attractive leaves, can be pruned as a shrub. Seeds can't be stored long term. Host in Northern CA for Sudden Oak Death Syndrome but not a problem in LA. Insect repellent. Potential street tree for irrigated parkway or median or in coastal areas. SD: inquiring vendors about bay and other native trees.
4. Approval of Minutes from February 17, 2022. **Motion to approve.** Moved by LK, seconded by SB. Passed unanimously.
5. Reports - Chair Report -
 1. TPF Native Plant Garden Tour (April 23-24) - ticketed self-guided event
 2. Groundbreaking of Liberty Canyon Crossing Events - April 22, Livestream 10-11 \$105 million project to create a wildlife bridge over the 101 FWY to improve genetic health of Mt. Lions and others. KP is the Nursery Manager for the bridge and lands on either side. She is wildflower scouting for later seed collection and commented that native plants may act as invasives outside of their range. Collection and seeding must be done with permission and ecological assessment. Restoration will require removal of invasives and restoration of soil mycorrhizae.
 3. 2022 LA Raptor Study Underway - Friends of Griffith Park sponsors volunteer surveys in Griffith Park and across LA to monitor nests. Eucalyptus and Pines are frequent nest sites, possibly because they are taller. Raptors will recycle nests. More people are needed to monitor nests.
 4. (ID) Venice bird walk this Saturday. Bird boxes for BlueBirds & other birds in Golf Course. See: Cheepcheephomes
6. New Business (Discussion, Motion and Possible Action)
 - A. In Lieu Fee alternative species -SD reported UFD searching vendors for 15 gal. & 24" box Torrey Pines, Desert Willows & other native species; Hector Banuelos will determine if any substitutions are possible this year.

- B. Planning Tree Guarantee Fees (1 tree per 4 units) SB - funds reported to be only in 1 district - where are the rest? Many small maturing trees are being planted on roofs. Need to investigate Planning structure.
- C. Council File 15-0499-S2 from Marqueece Harris Dawson - RG reported on motion to prepare a report and recommendations to protect and expand the urban canopy. Low tree canopy in all districts but especially in low-income communities. Need for community outreach and tree disclosure at on-set of projects. CFAC comment: CEQA does not address removal of a few trees, so another mechanism is needed. Comments on motion are requested - email to RG, SB or TM Motion will be heard May 17th.
- D. Tree Disclosure Report/Form - AV reported forms are live at Planning. Forms are for native trees & Eucalyptus city-wide and Significant Trees 12" dbh or greater in Mt. Washington/Glassell Park Specific Plan areas.
<https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/3611221f-8099-469a-bdb7-abec2c290a6c/Tree%20Report%20Template.pdf>
<https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/8bf21b33-41e7-4843-9f03-5042e2795035/Tree%20Disclosure%20Statement.pdf>
Environmental Assessment Form requires reports of Non-protected trees 8" dbh or Protected 4"- Non-protected trees on private property are not under UFD. JD: motion passed in 2020 to include all significant trees but is waiting for a report back. New forms should include non-protected species over 8" or 12" dbh and UF should receive additional funding to monitor. CFAC requests UF discuss expanded protection, funding needs and spacing requirements. Can removal be denied if adequate space is not available for replacements? Are 3 replacement walnuts planted in one hole considered equivalent to 3 trees or just 1?
- E. Yard tree giveaways at the Arbor Day event included 40 natives. Measuring success and failures - Cityplants is now growing natives - Jack Smith, Nursery Manager at TreePeople reported that TP is growing natives and last giveaway was all natives. Nursery does not have the capacity for 15 gal. Nursery is Phytophthora free certified. CFAC Comment: native shrubs are good for smaller spaces. Giveaways in neighborhoods are often non-native and natives are not well promoted. Fusing habitat restoration and canopy benefits is needed. North East Trees, Audubon and Theodore Payne also have native nurseries.
- F. Metro Tree Policy - LK reported that the motion had a lot of support and passed without public comment. JD commented that improved watering was not included. Additional influence may still be possible. CM: opportunities for natives are included in the motion. Resistance to natives has been stated based on concern for diversity of tree species for resistance to pests within the UF.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07.

Next Monthly CFAC Meeting: Thursday, May 5, 1:00-3:00 pm via Zoom

Minutes prepared by: Lynnette Kampe