

**COMMUNITY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CFAC)
MINUTES for THURSDAY, Oct. 6, 2022, 1pm – 3 pm PT (virtual)**

Members of the public are invited to participate. Under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that is brought to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, issues raised by a member of the public may be added to the agenda for future meetings. Members of the public can also provide comments on an agenda item when it is being considered.

Guests/City reps. (partial list): Stephen DuPrey, Sarah Burns, Theresa Maysonet, Jonathan Weiss, Ron Bitzer, Kathy Schreiner, Marianne King, Charles Miller, Lee McLeod, Rachel Malarich, Robert Roy van Der Hook, Bryan Ramirez, Lee McLeod, Sarah Burns, Ann Rubin, Sarah Wauters, Glenn Bailey, Charles Miller, Lee McLeod, Diana Nicole, Gabrielle Del Barrio

AGENDA:

1. Call to order at 1:04.
2. **Motion to adopt the following finding/determination: Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361. Shelley Billik, Chair moves, and seconded by Member ID, that the Community Forest Advisory Committee and all subcommittees including ad hoc committees determine in accordance with Assembly Bill 361, Section 3(e)(3) that this advisory body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and/or state local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.** Ayes: LK, JD, KP, SB, ID, CH. CL Passed unanimously. (Alternates and late arrivals not included in vote.)
3. Welcome by Chair SB and acknowledgement of the First Nations to open with an attitude of respect for community members from the First Nations and their traditional ecological knowledge.
4. Roll Call and establishment of a quorum by Secretary LK

	P	A		P	A		P	A
Lynnette Kampe CD 1 (Secretary)	X					CD 13 - vacant		
Joanne D'Antonio CD 2	X		Robin Gilliam CD 8 David McNeill, Alt.	X	X	CD 14 - vacant		
Jane Skeeter CD 3	X		CD 9 - Lila Higgins	X		CD 15 - vacant		
Katherine Pakradouni CD 4 Amber Hawkes CD 4 Alt.	X		Brent Green CD 10		X	Cyndi Hubach Mayor's Rep -	X	
Shelley Billik CD 5 (Chair)	X		Isabelle Duvivier CD 11 (Vice Chair) Carolyn LoBuglio, CD 11 Alt.	X	X			
CD 6 vacant			Mary Montes CD 12 Scott Harmon Alt.		X			X

5. Adoption of Sept. 1 & Sept.15 (Special Meeting), Approval of Minutes as amended. Moved by LK , seconded by SB. Ayes: LK, JD, KP, SB, ID, CH. CL Passed unanimously. (Alternates and late arrivals not included in vote.)

6. Chair Report/Announcements -

7. Presentation by Gabino Carballo on Barcelona's Superblocks. A landscape architect trained in Spain and UK and project manager in Barcelona's Parks and Gardens department, nature-based solutions, greenspace management. Gabino also writes and lectures about nature based solutions, practiced landscape architecture in the UK, and is a member of the Spanish Association for Public Parks and Gardens. Presentation on Urban Tree Management in Barcelona. Barcelona has an extended dry season, located between the sea and Mts., has dense development with and limited greenspace, mostly along corridors. No outside contractors used for UF. Environmental justice goals. City is seen as an ecosystem. Approx. 300k trees or 1 tree/5 persons. Management plan with vision, timeline, education and management plans and objectives. Avoiding use of artificial chemical products resulted in an uptick in butterflies. Flowers are planted in tree pits. Risk assessed every 2 years, considering density of population as risk factor. One superblock in the center of the city presented: public transportation within 3 blocks, sprinklers and drip irrigation for street trees: remotely controlled valves, cast iron used with high durability and high cost; reduced traffic lanes, more room for pedestrians, reduced pollution, with more use, increased need for maintenance. Trees watered for 4 years. Q & A: Who was deciding body? How are broken sprinklers fixed? - A: Political & public support needed. Strategic goals for greening & biodiversity. Elaborate system of inspectors and repairs. Q: How did a shift in public appreciation of trees happen? A: Awareness campaigns, school programs, training for non-professionals, quality of life concern, many years of effort. Few volunteers, strong unions oppose volunteers. Q: Buy-in of renters vs owners? A: Issue of parking and resistance of shops until value of pedestrian traffic appreciated, increase in property value has increased rent and pushed out lower demographics. Q: Bicycles and trees? A: "Comfort corridors." Great.

8. Public Comment On Non-Agenda Topics within Committee's Jurisdiction: each comment is limited to 2 minutes (unless waived by the Chair) Glenn Bailey: Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates are in place, most meetings with City depts. will be held by mid-Nov. Contact: www.BudgetAdvocates.org Robert van de Hoek; most LA butterflies are ground butterflies, few lay eggs in trees but may sleep in trees. More native willow trees needed for Mourning Cloaks. Parkways get sidewalk run-off increasing rainfall impact. Charles Miller: Speaking at CNPS conference in 2 weeks, let him know if you have questions. ID: excessive pruning has damaged many ironwoods in Venice. Follow-on comments - ask if the pruning co. has a permit and if no hardcopy on site, call the City. Photographs and license plate info. helpful. City flyers on proper pruning suggested or education for other depts. and public. Du Prey: Education needed on the requirement of a permit to prune a street tree is needed. Pruning guidelines are on pruning permits. Goal to have a permit look-up in NavigateLA.

9. New Business - Discussion, planning, and possible motions:

a. 2023/2024 Budget priorities - letter drafted and reviewed by several reps. after consultation with multiple sources. Reps asked to speak to their council office by mid-Nov. ID and SB will reach out to reps. Comment: A City visionary is needed. Budget will be well in process before the new mayor is in place. Dept. budget requests due by Nov. 18th. UFD is requesting 69 new positions. Enforcement & ecologist needed. Public safety goals should be included. SB: CFAC does not make specific item cost estimates; 1% of budget is a guideline from the Dudek Report. Early input is critical.

b. BPW/BSS Median Maintenance contract renewals - 4 contracts have been issued. (Item postponed)

c. Planning Case Watch - Marianne King has been reviewing planning cases and attending hearings with tree removals. Has seen over 600 mature tree removals in 14 cases. More speakers are needed. JD - pre-development meetings are not being held, how/when can they be reinstated?. Rachel Malarich - conversations are happening with UFD and developers and better checks and balances are needed. Motion by Marquese Harris-Dawson has been helpful.

10. Departmental Reports

Dept. of Recreation & Parks - no report

UFD - Stephen Du Prey: over 11,000 trees pruned, 550 dead trees and 1,000 stumps removed. 177,000 locations available for trees. Inventory continues. Tree emergencies reduced and safety increased by increased budget for pruning; planting season has just started: 129 trees planted, 150 oak trees later in the fall. The Oak Trust fund is going to the Board this Friday. Q: Can irrigation be installed for Street Trees? A: Du Prey: Budget needed for installation and maintenance. Trees removed for street lights are valued at \$1,000. Greater valuation of trees would provide a larger budget for trees. Malarich: Median irrigation is often outdated. Irrigation would be less expensive than hand-watering. Irrigation has been turned off in parks. Monitoring of moisture levels needed. Sam Bloch: Barcelona system integrates tree irrigation into public work projects & development.

City Forest Officer, Rachel Malarich - allocations for CFAC high priority UFD staff would be helpful; Finance Study is coming in early Nov. (Rachel O'Leary) Tree planting this Sat. for Hispanic Heritage Month. In Lieu tree planting plan will be available for review. Barcelona reduction of traffic lanes raises issue of emergency response access.

CityPlants - no report

LASAN Biodiversity Group - no report

Other Government Representatives - none

10. Ongoing & Pending Business - Discussion, planning and possible motions - postponed.

- a. CD8 Marqueece Harris-Dawson motion: CF 15-0499-S2 & Report back
- b. Native Tree Motion
- c. Tree Disclosure Statement & Tree Report Template for DCP & LADBS
- d. Environmental Assessment Form – DCP (Dept of City Planning)
- e. ROW tree protection during construction draft guidelines -
- f. Inventory of City Medians by StreetsLA
- g. Clean California Grants - UFD Medians
- h. Tree removal transmittals motion to BPW
- i. Proposed brush clearance guidelines
- j. ROW Species Master List
- k. SB 1425 - requires Open Space Elements to be updated by 2026
- l. CF 03-1459-S3 - Strengthening the Protected Tree Ordinance, 8" DBH

Meeting adjourned at 3:21.

Enforcement Committee Meeting: October 13, 1 pm

Next CFAC Meeting: November 3, 2022

Minutes prepared by Lynnette Kampe.