

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 08/04/2015

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 08/14/2015

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 14-0163-S3

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: The Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council (ERNC) supports a “fix and release” plan for the repair of residential sidewalks in Los Angeles damaged by city street trees. As part of any such plan, there must be an increase in funding and staff for the city’s Urban Forestry department, and an increase in fines and penalties for the destruction and removal of city street trees, along with increased organizational capacity for enforcing them. T

Additional Information: In addition to the “fix and release” program, we also recommend that the City investigate a point-of-sale program for residential properties, so that sidewalks not damaged by street trees, which are already the responsibility of the homeowner to repair, are fixed whenever a residential property is sold. This will result in better sidewalks in Los Angeles, much faster than the “fix and release” program.

**EAGLE ROCK
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Executive Committee

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**COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT
CF# 14-0420-S1, 14-0163-S4, 14-0163-S3**

August 14, 2015

We declare that on August 4, 2015, a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held by the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council (ERNC) at which a quorum was present, and the following motion was passed unanimously:

The Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council (ERNC) supports a “fix and release” plan for the repair of residential sidewalks in Los Angeles damaged by city-planted street trees.

- *As part of any such plan, there **must** be an increase in funding and staff for the city’s Urban Forestry department, and an increase in fines and penalties for the destruction and removal of city street trees, along with increased organizational capacity for enforcing them. The current “2 for 1” program is not enough to guarantee that our urban forest survives any such plan.*
- *In addition to the “fix and release” program, we also recommend that the City investigate a **point-of-sale** program for residential properties, so that sidewalks not damaged by street trees, which are already the responsibility of the homeowner to repair, are fixed whenever a residential property is sold. This will result in better sidewalks in Los Angeles, much faster than the “fix and release” program.*
- *We support the proposed plan for the repair of commercial sidewalks; we recommend that this plan be extended to **multi-unit residential properties**, whose owners have similar financing options to commercial landowners.*
- *We support research into other alternative plans -- like the **50/50 program**, and **Assessment Districts**. We suggest that the 50/50 program could be streamlined, to make it more attractive to homeowners: perhaps by providing the 50% directly to vetted and city-recommended contractors, so that homeowners can make one payment, for a reduced price, and get the work done faster. One element of the vetting/recommendation process could be a value-added bonus for homeowners, like the free planting of new or upgraded street trees.*
- *The ERNC also supports: property owners and the City being able to retain independent contractors and managers for sidewalk repairs; the assessment of the status of our sidewalks and prioritizing the necessary repairs; and a volunteer independent Oversight Committee, **including Neighborhood***

Council representatives, be established to ensure transparency throughout the process.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Greene', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Greene
President, Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council

cc: Office of Councilmember José Huizar