Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(15) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 04/05/2016

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information Date: 04/16/2016

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 15-0467-S4

Agenda Date: Item Number:

Summary: Our urban forest can be better preserved in 2 ways: Increasing the penalties for destruction and removal of city street trees, and better oversight and standards for city-approved contractors and residents / business owners who obtain permits for private companies to trim city trees. Neither of these are new ideas; both have been brought to the City Council before, but so far the Council has not acted. Recently, Councilmember O'Farrell introduced a motion (15-0467) regarding street tree pruning/removal permit process and enforcement of permit conditions. This is the third similar motion made since 2009 about the same issue. We urge the City Council to take this one seriously, and to act on it. Regarding Council File #15-0467-S4, the ERNC recommends that the City Council accept the recommendations made in both the City Attorney's report and the Bureau of Street Services' report that were made in response to this motion and to act on them immediately. Furthermore, the ERNC recommends that these Council Files, which were adopted by the City Council and resulted in proposed ordinances that were never enacted be considered along with the above: Council File: 09-1664, Title: Enforcement of Ordinances Protecting Urban Forest / Amendment. Council File: 09-2605, Title: Illegal Tree Pruning and Removal. Council File: 14-0019, Title: Street Tree Guidelines and Policies / City of Los Angeles / Bureau of Street Services Urban Forestry / Issuing Contracts.