



Michael Espinosa <michael.espinosa@lacity.org>

**Council File 18-0680. CEQA Appeal of Board of Public Works Adoption of an MND (ENV-2016-3230-MND) and Its Approval of Tree Removal Permit Request (for Removal of Ten Protected Trees Located at 11580 Sunshine Terrace**

1 message

**Lisa Cahan Davis** <lisacahandavis@gmail.com> Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 10:07 AM  
To: PAUL KREKORIAN <Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org>, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, joe.buscaino@lacity.org, nury.martinez@lacity.org, David Ryu <david.ryu@lacity.org>, monica.rodriguez@lacity.org, michael.espinosa@lacity.org  
Cc: Karo.Torossain@lacity.org

September 4, 2018

City Council Members  
City of Los Angeles  
c/o Michael Espinosa  
City Clerk's Office  
City Hall, Room 395  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear City Council Members:

I am writing to voice my strong support by my neighboring homeowners and residents to revoke and set-aside the approval of the tree removal permit on the basis that a Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration is required under the circumstances as stated in the appeal letter on file and 6 coast live oaks could be saved. Please consider the thoughtful and workable alternatives suggested by the Sunshine Hill Residents Association legal counsel, Jamie T. Hall in his letter of July 17, 2018.

Here are a few reasons, in addition to meeting the CEQA requirements, to give you pause for thought and vote the right way on this matter and others to preserve and protect mature tree growth throughout LA:

- Noise, geology and soils were not considered as potentially significant environmental impact. Why not? The proposed hauling of over 2000 cubic yards of soil will certainly have a significant impact.
- A stand of 6 coast live oak trees could be saved by relocating retaining walls **only** 9 feet 8 inches as illustrated on the attached.
- Saving the stand of 6 oaks would have the added benefit of allowing for a more horticulturally and biologically sound tree replacement plan on the property.
  - One cannot half the planting space by putting up a large building, quadruple the number of trees, and then expect those replacement trees to survive.
- [The city's urban canopy is disappearing. \(read\)](#)
  - [Trees are critical for cooling down warming cities like Los Angeles. \(read\)](#)
- [LA temperatures are expected to increase an average of 4 to 5 degrees Fahrenheit by 2050 - we need trees to help combat the heat island and cool down our city. \(read\)](#)
- [Since 2000, many neighborhoods in the LA region have seen a tree canopy reduction of 14 to 55 percent, much due to mass-produced dwellings and home expansion. \(read\)](#)
  - [Question: Where are the rights to homeowners/residents versus developers in all these decisions?](#)
- [The workaround for removing trees was made too easy for developers --- removals of less than three trees at a time for sidewalk repairs do not require a public hearing or permit. \(read\)](#)
- [In April 2018, the American Lung Association ranked Los Angeles-Long Beach area as the worst in the United States when measuring pollution by ozone. \(read\)](#)
  - [USC did a study as to those neighborhoods with worse pollution. \(read\)](#)

Please consider this request.

And, please consider looking into the supportive articles

hyperlinked above for re-addressing decisions that impact EVERY Angelino's quality of life which includes clean air, reduction of heat islands, and the biodiversity of our natural landscapes all provided by a robust urban canopy.

Help make Los Angeles a livable city for today's and tomorrow's generation. It's in your hands.

Regards,

Lisa Cahan Davis  
A resident of Los Angeles, 90068

### **Lisa Cahan Davis**

*Inspiring Change in People, Government and Business*

E: [LisaCahanDavis@Gmail.com](mailto:LisaCahanDavis@Gmail.com)

C: 312-882-4246

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