

March 18, 2019

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
**SUSTAINABILITY
ALLIANCE.**

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

Via email: michael.espinosa@lacity.org

Re: Council File 19-0235. CEQA Appeal of Environmental Determination for Tree Removal Permit for 10768 W. Bellagio Road Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21151 © (CEQA Document ENV-2017-3314-CE)

Dear City Council Members:

The Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) Environmental Health Committee and Trees Committee join in the above-referenced appeal by Dr. Linda Whitford. A letter of appeal was filed before the City Council by Channel Law Group LLP on behalf of its client Dr. Linda Whitford, with which the NCSA Environmental Health Committee and Trees Committee join.

Background: On January 30, 2019, the Board of Public Works withdrew consideration of a tree removal permit for the removal of 21 protected trees to facilitate a "renovation" of the Bel-Air Country Club in the neighborhood of Bel-Air and submitted into the public record that developers can remove protected trees without a permit. The Board of Public Work's withdrawal of the permit request was accompanied by an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Over 60 mature trees not protected by the City's protected tree code were also cut down by the Bel-Air Country Club for their renovation project.

We strongly urge the City of Los Angeles City Council, after reviewing the grounds for appeal and the records, to demand that the Board of Public Works require a tree removal permit for the project on the basis that a tree removal permit is required and other circumstances as stated in the appeal letter of March 4, 2019 by Jamie T. Hall, another copy of which is attached hereto.

Respectfully Submitted,


Diana N Zogran
Environmental Health Committee Chair


Joanne D'Antonio
Trees Committee Chair