

Communication from Public

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Council File No: 22-0685

Comments for Public Posting: Please amend the motion to instruct LASAN staff to provide training to contractors performing the "Fuels Reduction" at Lopez Canyon, requiring them to be familiar and trained on the City's Protected Tree Ordinance so that they don't remove or heavily reduce 6 species, including shrubs like the threatened California Black Walnut, Toyon, Mexican Elderberry, and of course any oak species. Severely pruning them will ensure their demise, and doesn't provide any further fire protection, as these California native species are fire adapted and actually help catch embers. Currently most "brush clearance" contractors are removing native habitat including these species because they are not receiving proper guidance from LAFD and claim that they won't get paid properly if they don't leave "moonscapes." The best way to be fire safe is to harden homes and structures, not leave an empty path for embers to travel.