

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: I strongly support the designation of the native Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) as the official tree of the City of Los Angeles! This native tree had been growing throughout the Los Angeles region for thousands of years before its founding in 1781, almost 242 years ago. Some specimens may attain an age exceeding 250 years, according to the California Native Plant Society. The Coast Live Oak is a beautiful evergreen oak providing maximum aesthetic and environmental benefits. The outer layers of leaves are designed for maximum solar absorption, containing two to three layers of photosynthetic cells. These trees also attract a variety of birds and butterflies. Once established, they are especially drought tolerant and in fact, should NOT be artificially watered inside the dripline. Normally the tree is found on well drained soils of coastal hills and plains, usually near year-round or perennial streams. It's also often found in rocky hillsides that capture and hold more moisture. While normally found within 60 miles of the Pacific Ocean at elevations less than 2,300 feet, in southern California it occasionally occurs at up to 4,900 feet in altitude, so this includes the entire area of the City of Los Angeles. The Coast Live Oak is one of the only California native oak that actually thrives in the coastal environment, although it is rare on the immediate shore; it enjoys the mild winter and summer climate afforded by ocean proximity, and it is somewhat tolerant of aerosol-borne sea salt. The coastal fog supplies relief from the rainless summer heat. Lastly, the current official City tree, the Coral Tree, is native to South Africa. For the above and many other reasons, Los Angeles deserves to have one of its own as its official tree: the native Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*). Thank you. Glenn Bailey GlennBaileyNCs@gmail.com Voicemail/Text: 818-514-5355