

## Communication from Public

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**Council File No:** 22-1547

**Comments for Public Posting:** I absolutely support designating the Quercus agrifolia (Coast Live Oak) as the City's official tree. I also implore you to strengthen protections for the coast live oaks that we have, which are removed on a regular basis simply by applying for a cheap permit that doesn't come close to valuing all the nature/ecosystem services that this keystone species provides. Even on private property, these trees give us PUBLIC benefits - cleaning the air, absorbing carbon, providing shade, providing cooling through evotranspiration, food and shelter for hundres of insects which become food for birds and wildlife. PLEASE implement the use of the Tree Valuation Tool that the city of Santa Monica has, and has been given to our city's Forest Officer to utilize. That will empower the City to protect our so called "protected species."