

Communication from Public

Name: marianne king
Date Submitted: 01/06/2025 11:53 AM
Council File No: 24-1399
Comments for Public Posting: see attached letter,

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not require that mature significant trees be preserved, and worse, it does not require that significant trees be replaced. In fact, one could just wipe out 100 trees on a site and not replace them, period. Ultimately, under the ordinance point system as presently written, a project can be developed without planting one tree. Additionally, because the ordinance will be applied “administratively”, alternative compliance with the ordinance under the Administrative Code Section can be approved by the Director of Planning, such as if there is a “physical hardship” in planting trees on site. The public will be shut out of this process, thus those in the community who care about trees will have no say whatsoever.

At a time when the city is losing its tree canopy at an accelerated rate due to competing factors such as project streamlining (making projects ministerial, thus no CEQA review or significant tree preservation or replacement requirement), the sidewalk repair program, overly dense projects with incentives to reduce yards and open space, and trees suffering from neglect due to excessive heat, drought, and needed tree trimming, this ordinance unfortunately is missing teeth to ensure there is an actual balance between development and maintaining and growing a healthy tree canopy.

Following are photos of a before, during, and after typical housing project that we all see sometimes, cringe, and hope to not see again. However, unfortunately, there is nothing in the landscape ordinance that ensures we won't see this again.

Please require that the ordinance include a one to one, 15 gallon or 24-inch box tree replacement, for each significant non-protected tree on-site that cannot be preserved. This has been the Planning Departments long standing environmental policy for projects.

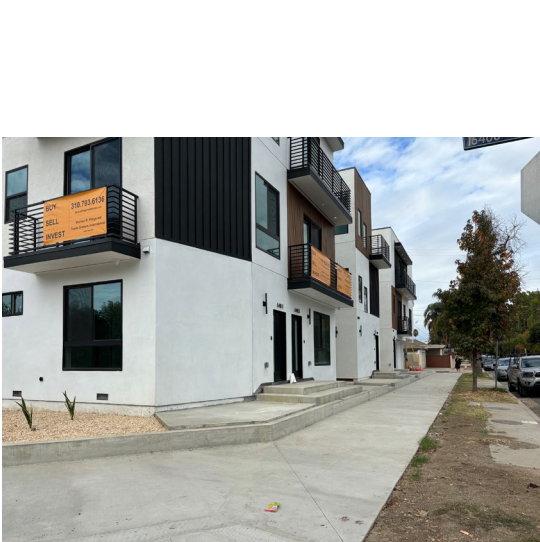
BEFORE – Trees on project site 6401 Odessa



DURING – site cleared of all trees.....



AFTER – NOT ONE TREE on site





Two 3 story duplexes and a “recreation room” in the middle.....

Communication from Public

Name: marianne king

Date Submitted: 01/06/2025 11:59 AM

Council File No: 24-1399

Comments for Public Posting: Please require that the ordinance include a 1:1 tree replacement (15 gallon or 24-inch size box) for the unavoidable loss of significant mature trees. See attached letter.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not require that mature significant trees be preserved, and worse, it does not require that significant trees be replaced. In fact, one could just wipe out 100 trees on a site and not replace them, period. Ultimately, under the ordinance point system as presently written, a project can be developed without planting one tree. Additionally, because the ordinance will be applied “administratively”, alternative compliance with the ordinance under the Administrative Code Section can be approved by the Director of Planning, such as if there is a “physical hardship” in planting trees on site. The public will be shut out of this process, thus those in the community who care about trees will have no say whatsoever.

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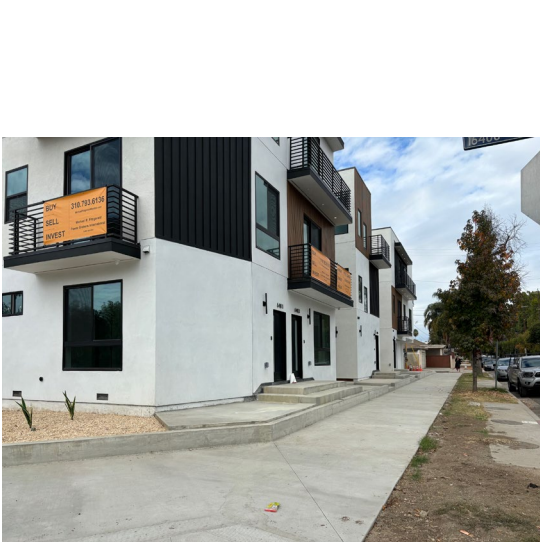
BEFORE – Trees on project site 6401 Odessa



DURING – site cleared of all trees.....



AFTER – NOT ONE TREE on site





Two 3 story duplexes and a “recreation room” in the middle.....