



clerk CIS <clerk.cis@lacity.org>

Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 24-1399

1 message

LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>

Sun, May 4, 2025 at 12:48 PM

Reply-To: LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>

To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org, vic@westlasawtelle.org, CPC@lacity.org, APCWestLA@lacity.org

A Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement (CIS) has been successfully submitted to your Commission or City Council. We provided information below about CISs and attached a copy of the CIS.

We encourage you to reach out to the Community Impact Statement Filer to acknowledge receipt and if this Community Impact Statement will be scheduled at a future meeting. Neighborhood Council board members are volunteers and it would be helpful if they received confirmation that you received their CIS.

The CIS process was enabled by the to Los Angeles Administrative Code §Section 22.819. It provides that, "a Neighborhood Council may take a formal position on a matter by way of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) or written resolution." NCs representatives also testify before City Boards and Commissions on the item related to their CIS. If the Neighborhood Council chooses to do so, the Neighborhood Council representative must provide the Commission with a copy of the CIS or rResolution sufficiently in advance for review, possible inclusion on the agenda, and posting on the Commission's website. Any information you can provide related to your agenda setting schedule is helpful to share with the NC.

If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *listed on the Commission's agenda*, during the time the matter is heard, the designated Neighborhood Council representative should be given an opportunity to present the Neighborhood Council's formal position. We encourage becoming familiar with the City Council's rules on the subject. At the Chair's discretion, the Neighborhood Council representative may be asked to have a seat at the table (or equivalent for a virtual meeting) typically reserved for City staff and may provide the Neighborhood Council representative more time than allotted to members of the general public. They are also permitted up to five (5) minutes of time to address the legislative body. If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *not listed on the agenda*, the designated Neighborhood Council representative may speak during General Public Comments.

We share this information to assist you with the docketing neighborhood council items before your board/commission. If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at empowerla@lacity.org.

***** This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. *****

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: West Los Angeles Sawtelle

Name: Victor Pacheco

Email: vic@westlasawtelle.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(8) Nay(1) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 04/23/2025

Type of NC Board Action: For if Amended

Impact Information

Date: 05/04/2025

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Area Planning Commission - West Los Angeles, City Council and Committees, City Planning Commission

Council File Number: 24-1399

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: SUMMARY: The West Los Angeles Sawtelle Neighborhood Council supports the larger goals and efforts in the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance created by the Department of Planning. We request further that the City adopt more key recommendations from the Los Angeles Community Forest Advisory Committee and other professionals. By revising Section 3.5 Biodiversity and Habitat, the recently updated Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will be improved to create a greener, lush, healthier environment for residents and wildlife. PLEASE REFER TO ATTACHED DOCUMENT FOR COMPLETE BACKGROUND STATEMENT.



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WEST LA SAWTELLE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

Council File Number: 24-1399

City Planning Case Numbers: N/A

04.23.2025

MOTION: On April 23, 2025, the West Los Angeles Sawtelle Neighborhood Council Board of Directors resolved to support if amended Council File: [24-1399](#).

TITLE: Landscape and Site Design Ordinance / Landscape Ordinance No. 170978 Rescission / Los Angeles Municipal Code / Amendment

The Board voted 8-1 to approve if amended.

SUMMARY: The West Los Angeles Sawtelle Neighborhood Council supports the larger goals and efforts in the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance created by the Department of Planning. We request further that the City adopt more key recommendations from the Los Angeles Community Forest Advisory Committee and other professionals.

By revising Section 3.5 Biodiversity and Habitat, the recently updated Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will be improved to create a greener, lush, healthier environment for residents and wildlife.

Palms NC passed a similar resolution in Jan. 2025:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P-MFE1CM_BCLWMF_Y_Z2Whu2M_LcpLP/view

1. Mandatory Trees in Open Space Areas

- 1.1. This effort to incentivize tree canopy is a good start. However, by requiring applicants to install trees that come in nursery stock sizes of 24-inch-box and up, the City unintentionally incentivizes the planting of non-native species that do not support biodiversity in the local ecosystem because most native species currently are only available in the slightly smaller 15-gallon standard nursery size. Generally, within five years, there is no difference in the canopy size of trees planted from a 24-inch-box or a 15-gallon container, because the smaller trees will acclimate to the site more quickly and grow faster. This section should be revised to allow for 15-gallon container trees to qualify, especially if the species are native to the California Floristic Province.

2. Native Plants

- 2.1. The ordinance requests 75% native plants for landscaping, but the current biodiversity crisis has pollinator and habitat loss at critical levels. Applicants should not be allowed to plant 25% non-native plants during this crisis. Plants that are not planted to create food for human consumption or a recreational playing field should be 100% native to the California Floristic Province.

3. Greening in the Public Realm

- 3.1. In the vines section, there is inconsistency between the order of the scientific and common names of several species on the list.
- 3.2. The list should read:
 - 3.2.1. Island Morning Glory (*Calystegia macrostegia*),
 - 3.2.2. Virgin's Bower (*Clematis ligusticifolia*),
 - 3.2.3. Chaparral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera interrupta*),
 - 3.2.4. Pink Honeysuckle (*Lonicera hispidula*),
 - 3.2.5. California Blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*),
 - 3.2.6. Chaparral Clematis (*Clematis lasiantha*)
- 3.3. The list then continues with four non-native species we object to incentivizing that should be removed from the list. If the City needs additional native vining options to offer, we suggest:
 - 3.3.1. Dutchman's Pipe,
 - 3.3.2. California Grape (*Vitis californica*),

- 3.3.3. Desert Wild Grape (*Vitis girdiana*),
- 3.3.4. Chaparral False Bindweed (*Calystegia occidentalis*)

Ex parte communications: None disclosed by any committee members.

Disclosures and conflicts of interest: None disclosed by any committee members.

To government agencies: Only the Chair and designated Board members may testify to public agencies on behalf of the West L.A. Sawtelle NC. The Board requests that the Council Office and private/non-profit entities do not testify or speculate on behalf of the NC.

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