

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 01/06/2026 03:07 PM

Council File No: 25-1428

Comments for Public Posting: Homeowner and resident organizations from across the City of Los Angeles' most fire-prone neighborhoods, representing thousands of households submit the attached joint comment letter urging City Council to vote YES on Council File 25-1428. .

COALITION OF LOS ANGELES HOMEOWNER AND RESIDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Yes on Los Angeles City Council File 25-1428



1/06/26

Via Council File Submission (CF 25-1428)

Los Angeles City Council

Re: **Yes on CF 25-1428**

Dear Council President and Honorable Councilmembers,

We, the undersigned Los Angeles homeowner and resident organizations, write to express our **strong support for Council File 25-1428** and to thank the Public Safety Committee for advancing the motion on December 10, 2025.

Our coalition previously submitted a joint letter to the California Board of Forestry on October 10, 2025 opposing the State's draft Zone 0 regulations and supporting the City's

evidence-based approach to defensible-space policy. We also issued a public statement reinforcing these concerns on October 14, 2025. Both documents highlighted the necessity of locally tailored Zone 0 standards that reflect Los Angeles' urban form, ecological context, and scientific understanding of ignition pathways.

Council File 25-1428 achieves precisely that by directing the Los Angeles Fire Department, in consultation with the City Attorney, to adopt:

- **Option 4 (Vegetation):** allowing well-maintained landscape plants and potted plants in Zone 0 while prohibiting dead material, weeds, needles, and combustible mulches; and
- **Option 2 (Trees):** allowing well-maintained trees in Zone 0 with appropriate clearances and respecting trees protected by local ordinance.

This balanced, science-informed approach maintains public safety while preserving the vegetation and mature canopy that are essential to heat mitigation, slope stability, and biodiversity across Los Angeles.

The Committee's unanimous consent vote reflects both the City's long-standing position and the views of thousands of residents represented by our coalition. We now urge the full City Council to **adopt CF 25-1428**, ensuring that Los Angeles retains local control over Zone 0 implementation and avoids the ecological harm, financial burden, and ineffective fire-safety outcomes associated with the State's proposed one-size-fits-all clearance mandate.

We respectfully request your approval of this motion and thank you for your continued leadership on behalf of Los Angeles' residents, neighborhoods, and urban forest.

Sincerely,

David Kaden
President
Benedict Canyon Association

Rosa Rivas
President
Garvanza Improvement Association

David Gadd
President
Argyle Civic Association

Tani Kaye
President
Historic Garvanza Coalition

Missy Kelly
President
Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Assoc.

Johnathan Brand
Executive Director
Bel-Air Association

David Kaden
President
Benedict Canyon Association

Carolyn LoBuglio
Chair
Brentwood Community Council

Thelma Waxman
President
Brentwood Homeowner Association

Eric Edmunds
President
Brentwood Hills Homeowners Association

Nina Standord & John Mass
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Kate Blackman
President
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Jamie Hall
President
Laurel Canyon Association

Anastasia Mann
President
Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council

David Lefkowitz
President
Mandeville Canyon Association

Lisa Anne Auerbach
President
Mount Washington Alliance

Jessica Rogers
President
Pacific Palisades Resident Association

Jay Weitzler
President
Sherman Oaks Homeowners Assoc.

Barry Johnson
President
Studio City Residents Association

Diana Nicole
President
Sunshine Hill Residents Association

Kelly Lynch
President
The Oaks Neighborhood Association