



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
2.		Favor	Adam Diaz	I fully support the adoption and implementation of the CFMP. We need to have more trees and tree canopy in communities across the county, but especially in East LA and South LA which are also park-poor and climate-vulnerable areas. The CFMP complements other important efforts by LA County to advance equity, including the Parks Needs Assessment, the Parks Needs Assessment Plus, Climate Vulnerability Assessment, and the OurCounty Sustainability Plan. I commend the County for making strides to improve the quality of life for residents in under-resourced communities.
			Ashley Orona	
			Carlos Baltazar	
			Ilena Reynoso	As a long-time resident of District 2 who has recently returned from college and experienced the positive impact of a tree-rich environment, I wholeheartedly support the proposed Forest Management Plan, with a particular focus on prioritizing underserved communities. This plan is a crucial step towards addressing the significant disparities in tree canopy coverage and improving the overall quality of life for all residents. Trees offer numerous benefits, including improved air quality, reduced urban heat island effect, enhanced environmental sustainability, and increased property values. Additionally, trees contribute to a sense of community pride and can positively impact residents' mental and physical health. Despite these advantages, many underserved communities currently lack sufficient tree cover, negatively impacting our health, environment, and community aesthetics. I urge you to prioritize the Forest Management Plan and allocate the necessary resources to ensure its successful implementation, with a specific focus on underserved areas. This investment in our community's future will yield long-lasting benefits for generations to come. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.
			Joseph Copperhill	I'm in support of the CFMP and protection and expansion of our community forest. The County needs to do more education and outreach regarding invasive pests, especially the goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) which threatens many of our oak trees. People have to know how serious the problem is and take precautions. The County should also explore other strategies to prevent the spread of the GSOB to the Santa Monica Mountains which is home to a significant number of oaks.



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2.		Favor	Katherine Vega	<p>Dear Board of Supervisors,</p> <p>We are reaching out to provide public comment in support of Supervisors Holly Mitchell's and Lindsey Horvath's Motion to adopt and equitably implement the Los Angeles County Community Forest Management Plan (CFMP).</p> <p>We are a University of Southern California-based team called the Urban Trees Initiative (USC Trees) which has been studying various aspects of trees in Los Angeles since August 2020. Our team is comprised of USC faculty, staff, and students working in partnership with the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, nonprofit tree-planting organizations, and community members to guide the equitable growth and quantify the value of L.A.'s urban forest. Our research has primarily focused on six neighborhoods in L.A. thus far - Lincoln Heights, El Sereno, Ramona Gardens, Boyle Heights, University Park/South L.A., and City Terrace in unincorporated L.A. County. Our work has guided the planting or supported the maintenance of approximately 950 trees within these neighborhoods. Our team has also consistently engaged in the City and County of L.A. Urban Forestry Management Plan Workshops which resulted in the County's development of the CFMP. We support the CFMP's equity-focused, data-driven, community-driven, and long-term strategy to manage trees in the County of L.A.</p> <p>Extreme heat from climate change is a growing concern in Los Angeles with current predictions suggesting that by 2060 the City will see temperatures of 95 degrees Fahrenheit or higher 40 days per year (Hulley et al., 2019, 2020). With higher temperatures come greater risks to human health, including life-threatening conditions such as heat stroke and heart attacks. High temperatures also lead to increases in harmful air pollution that can trigger health issues for residents. Unfortunately, communities of color and those with low incomes are disproportionately more likely to live in areas with less shade and worse air quality (McPherson et al., 2008). This inequity is an important issue of environmental justice. Increasing the urban tree canopy reduces risks caused by heat and pollution, improves health outcomes and general well-being, and makes urban neighborhoods more walkable, more enjoyable, and more livable environments. Knowing which trees to plant and where to plant them is critical to successful implementation. The CFMP takes us one step closer to addressing the shade equity gap in the County by prioritizing communities with the highest needs and using proven strategies to preserve, expand, and maintain our tree canopy.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>The USC Urban Trees Initiative Team</p>



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2.		Favor	Mary Hammon	I write in support of the Community Forest Management Plan (CFMP). Unlike other county plans which seem to have an urban bias, the CFMP actually does a good job documenting the need for tree canopy in various rural communities in the Antelope Valley. It correctly shows that communities like Juniper Hills, Lake Los Angeles, Littlerock, and Sun Village all have high tree canopy need. But please don't stop with this analysis or plan. Please dedicate the necessary resources to plant more trees and expand the community forest in these communities for the health and well-being of our rural residents, especially the most vulnerable including kids and the elderly.
			Sarah Wolf	I'm pleased to see the LA County Community Forest Management Plan on the agenda and I urge the supervisors to vote yes on adoption. Altadena is in need of tree cover and shade on our corridors, especially in west Altadena that has a history of disinvestment. We also need a plan to protect the native trees we already have in our community such as the San Gabriel Oak that is under threat by development.
			Steve Kang	KYCC applauds Supervisors Mitchell and Horvath for authoring this motion to adopt and equitably implement the Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP) for Los Angeles County to expand the tree canopy in neighborhoods with the least tree coverage. We wholeheartedly support agenda item #2 for the October 8, 2024 Board of Supervisors' meeting. Please see the attached letter of support.
			Yanel Saenz	

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
2.		Favor	Zoe Cunliffe	<p>My name is Dr Zoe Cunliffe, and I am the Environmental Justice Program Lead at Black Women for Wellness, a community-based organization fighting for reproductive justice and human rights for Black women and girls in South LA.</p> <p>I strongly urge the Board of Supervisors to vote in favor of this motion put forward by Supervisors Mitchell and Horvath, to ensure equity in the implementation of the CFMP (Community Forestry Management Plan), and to ensure that communities like the one I represent receive the appropriate benefits. Black households in South LA already suffer a disproportionate environmental health burden, due to their proximity to polluting land uses like freeways and urban oil drilling. This burden exists because of environmental racism - a history of discriminatory policies, redlining, and disinvestment.</p> <p>Importantly, this racist history also means that many areas of South LA also lack adequate tree canopy cover, compared to other parts of LA County. Community members have shared with dismay numerous examples where fully grown trees were cut down for industrial or land use purposes, and in many instances not replaced. Insufficient tree coverage means that our members are deprived from the benefits of trees that other communities in LA County enjoy. Furthermore, during the hot summer months it worsens their vulnerability to extreme heat and its serious health impacts - something else that is a frequently shared worry by community members.</p> <p>Following in the footsteps of Lark Galloway-Gilliam, a longtime community advocate in South LA who fought to preserve trees in our neighborhoods, we at Black Women for Wellness know that proactive steps must be taken to ensure that communities like ours are not left behind. To ensure that neighborhoods with the least tree coverage are given priority, we urge the Board of Supervisors to vote in favor of this motion. Thank you.</p>
		Item Total	11	
Grand Total			11	



Juntos Florence-Firestone Together

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October 7, 2024

Re: In Favor of Agenda Item 2: Adoption and Equitable Implementation of the Los Angeles County Community Forest Management Plan

To Whom It May Concern,

Juntos Florence-Firestone Together (Juntos) urges the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to approve agenda item two. Additionally, we hope the Board prioritizes seeking the necessary funding so our communities can immediately see the goals outlined in this plan come to fruition.

Low-income communities of color, such as unincorporated Florence-Firestone (2nd District), are disproportionately impacted by low tree canopy, making our streets unwalkable, especially in the sizzling summer days. Florence-Firestone was identified to have a measly 10% canopy level, according to the Community Forest Management Plan.

Florence-Firestone is considered a Transit-Oriented District where the county encourages “infill development” and “pedestrian-friendly” uses, yet residents can’t even walk our streets safely. Upward of a dozen trees have been cut without being replaced at Col. Leon Washington Park, Franklin D. Roosevelt Park, Central Avenue and throughout the community (See Below). Our community also suffers from pollution in the air and soil from manufacturing industries in the region, which is why we urgently need not only this plan passed but the county secure funding to implement the many action items.

As the county works to implement this plan, the process should prioritize community engagement and education. LA County departments should work with residents to identify the needs in their community such as where trees should be placed, concerns, and barriers. The process should also include educational workshops informing residents about the importance of trees and how to care for them.

LA County should also take accountability for not prioritizing tree care for years. Part of the reason residents have misconceptions about trees is due to the fact that the county and local cities do a poor job at maintaining trees. Years of mismanagement has led to residents dealing with plumbing issues and broken sidewalks.



Juntos Florence-Firestone Together

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Please feel free to reach out to us at juntosfftogether@gmail.com if there are any questions or clarification needed.

Sincerely,

Juntos Florence-Firestone Together

Image 1: One of four tree pits next to the playground, Col. Leon Washington Park



Image 2: Tree cut south of pool, Col. Leon Washington Park



Image 3: Tree removed, stump grinded, Col. Leon Washington Park





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October 7, 2024

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Board of Supervisor Meeting Agenda Item # 2 for October 8, 2024
Adoption and Equitable Implementation of the Los Angeles County Community
Forest Management Plan
Support for Community Forest Management Plan**

Dear Supervisors:

Koreatown Youth and Community Center (KYCC) is writing in support of Agenda Item # 2 (October 8, 2024 Board of Supervisors' Meeting) of adopting and equitably implementing the proposed Community Forest Management Plan (CFMP), a long-term strategy to manage trees in the unincorporated communities of Los Angeles County that spans over 4,000 square miles,

KYCC's mission is to serve the evolving needs of the Korean American population in the Greater Los Angeles area as well as the multi-ethnic Koreatown community. KYCC's programs and services are directed toward recently immigrated, economically disadvantaged youth and families, and promote community socioeconomic empowerment. KYCC is committed to making Koreatown a safe and beautiful place to live and work.

KYCC has planted or distributed over 20,000 trees since 1994, and we are providing regular care and maintenance for over 1,500 street trees. Koreatown has the highest density in LA County and is identified as a Disadvantaged Community according to the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. Koreatown has one of the highest population densities of over 10,000 people per square mile, compared to Los Angeles County's density of 2,466.9, per the 2020 Census data. Research confirms what KYCC knows based on our almost 50 years of experience – Koreatown and portions of Central and South Los Angeles are disproportionately impacted by burdens of poverty, environmental hazards, such as pollution, heat, lack of cooling centers, lack of shade, energy and water conservation resources, etc., as well as health challenges compared to the rest of Los Angeles County. According to the USC Neighborhood Data for Social Change, Koreatown has a 12.69% tree canopy compared to 24.58% Citywide.

KYCC's Environmental Services (ES) Unit is one of our most prominent, public facing, on the ground units, uniquely positioned to implement projects due to their long-standing history and dedicated staff. For over 30 years, ES has addressed neighborhood blight in Koreatown and nearby areas in partnership with the City of Los Angeles. Our deep-rooted presence and experienced team enable them to effectively carry out tree planting, community clean-ups, resource conservation initiatives, and graffiti removal services. Our success is rooted in the strong relationships built with residents, business owners, and community allies.

KYCC applauds Supervisors Mitchell and Horvath for authoring this motion to adopt and equitably implement the [Community Forestry Management Plan \(CFMP\)](#) for Los Angeles County to expand the



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tree canopy in neighborhoods with the least tree coverage. We wholeheartedly support agenda item #2 for the October 8, 2024 Board of Supervisors' meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Kang, Director of External Affairs at skang@kyccla.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Johng Ho Song".

Johng Ho Song
Executive Director