



**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:				
24.		Favor	Cassandra F Bolden	
			Elissa Braitman	I care about the environment and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR
			Lucy Erdman	I care about the environment and please ensure that the redevelopment of Rancho Los Amigos South Campus does not harm the mature Rusty Leaf fig trees that are called out in the EIR
			Tanya Geddes	Please save the trees like the Moreton Bay Fig when doing this project! I worked at LACC, and construction companies liked to chop them down to make work easier, and will hire people who claim the tree is 'sick'— tree like that is hearty to some earth vibrations, and it isn't impossible to work around them and safeguard them during construction. The end result of a majestic tree like that is worth it!
		Oppose	Aleks Navasardyan	
			Bryan Ranger	
			Joan Yarfitz	Please save the Morton Fig. No reason to kill this amazing 100+ year old tree. Please build around it for the environment and for people to enjoy.
			Nicole Osyka	
		Other	Adriene B Biondo	I care about preserving the environment, and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR. These trees, with their distinctive canopies and buttress trunks are important features of the site.
			Ann Rubin	Dear LA County, I care about the environment and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR. We must learn to adapt our built environment to accommodate existing big trees that provide health benefits and great pleasure and are an essential part of our heritage. Please be a model in this regard. The last thing we should be doing these days is chopping down healthy, big trees that have more than earned their keep over decades and are not replaceable in our own lifetimes. Thank you Ann Rubin in Carthay Circle HPOZ



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			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
24.		Other	Barbara Broide	I am very concerned about the survival of and needed respect for the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR governing future uses. These landmark specimens must be an integral part of future plans for the site. Future development plans should incorporate their role as anchors for a green and sustainable environment that recognizes the importance of countering urban heat island effect. It would take many decades to replace the tree canopy that these trees provide with benefits for both the large and small creatures living in the area. Please ensure that the trees are protected for future residents and future generations to enjoy.
			Donald R Hodel	Attached please find a letter regarding the stand of Rusty Leaf Fig trees (Ficus rubiginosa) on the former site of the Men's Psychiatric Facility near the intersection of Erickson and Golondrina Streets on the western edge of the parcel, which are protected under the 2020 EIR but not mentioned in the new contract.
			Ellen J Rippberger	Please don't hurt the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR
			Erin Maher	Hello, I am very concerned about the fate of the rusty fig trees on this property and would urge you to make sure that they are saved when and if development happens here. Thank you.
			Hope Anderson	I care about the environment and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR. Trees such as these improve air quality and are desperately needed.
			Joanne DAntonio	Trees are vital to our county's health and there are important longstanding trees on this property that should be considered historic. Please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR
			Kim Frank	With your plans to redevelop the south campus Please consider and preserve all the fig trees on the campus They are listed in the EIR We Constituents are very concerned about the trees And look forward to enjoying the campus again Please listen to our wishes ????
			Leah Loh	I care about the environment and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR.



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24.		Other	Marijane Jackson	<p>Please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR. Although these trees are explicitly protected in the Environmental Impact Report, they aren't mentioned in the contract under discussion on Tuesday, please see they are protected.</p> <p>Citizens care about this historic place and are paying attention, and hopefully it won't be too much longer before the fences come down and you can visit these beautiful trees, and the cool buildings that still survive, like the Spanish style women's residence Casa Consuelo, and the two very old Bunya Bunya trees behind it.</p>
			Martin Castro	I care about the environment and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR
			Melinda J Mariano	I care about our old growth trees and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Ranchos Los Amigos South Campus does not harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR. Once these are gone they will not return.
			Sarah Graham	Please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus includes horticultural protection for the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees on site, as they are explicitly listed as significant trees in the environmental impact report. They are also rare - rarer now, as other species locally have been decimated by fire.
			Simone Boudriot	I care about the environment and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR.
			Steve Loh	I care about the environment and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR.
			Susan Garman	I care about the environment and am asking that you please ensure that redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR.
			Susan Spencer	Please make sure that any redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus doesn't harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are called out in the EIR. These trees must be protected. Thank you!
			Wes Chuang	I am deeply concerned about the environment and ask that the redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus be planned to protect the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees identified in the EIR.

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
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24.		Other	William Campbell	The redevelopment of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus should NOT harm the mature Rusty Leaf Fig trees that are identified in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Though explicitly protected in the EIR, they aren't mentioned in the contract under discussion on Tuesday. Stand with the many citizens who care about this historic place, correct that omission and ensure that the trees are protected.
		Item Total	28	
Grand Total			28	

14 February 2025

Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles

Dear Supervisors,

Because Tuesday's vote concerns redevelopment of the northeast portion of the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus (RLASC), I wish to call out in particular the stand of Rusty Leaf Fig trees (*Ficus rubiginosa*) on the former site of the Men's Psychiatric Facility near the intersection of Erickson and Golondrina Streets on the western edge of the parcel. Please see the attached map and photograph.

These old, historic trees, which are of the uncommon and valuable 'El Toro' cultivar and are some of the largest and nicest of their kind, were called out to be protected in the 2020 RLASC EIR and have inventory numbers 64, 65, and 66.

Would you please ensure that these valuable, protected trees are not threatened by the redevelopment project and instead are incorporated into the project where, leaving them in place, would make a handsome, useful, and appealing courtyard for employees and visitors to gather, rest, and relax?

I first visited the RLASC in 1987 to document its old, rare, large, and historic trees for my book *Exceptional Trees of Los Angeles* (California Arboretum Foundation, Arcadia, 1988). Because of that project and book, many of the trees on the South Campus have had Exceptional Tree Status for nearly 40 years. In the last six months, I have been working with preservationists Richard Schave and Kim Cooper and staff from the ISD and CEO's office to ensure that these trees are receiving adequate care, especially irrigation during our unprecedented dry rainy season, so that they can continue to grow and be incorporated where they stand as unique and invaluable components of the redeveloped site. Positive work is afoot there on the historic tree front.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Hodel

Donald R. Hodel
Emeritus Environmental Horticulture Advisor

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, page 2

Specializing in Palms, Trees, and Landscape Management
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