

Street Tree Designation Facts & Questions for the Pacific Palisades Community Council

(1) The decades-old designations of particular street tree species to various street segments in Pacific Palisades are now no longer permitted by the City of Los Angeles Urban Forestry Division in at least 59% of those street segments because those tree species in those locations have health problems (e.g. pests, lack of drought tolerance) and infrastructure conflicts (e.g. breaking sidewalks, dropping limbs).
Are street tree designations sustainable here with a current failure rate over 59%?

(2) Santa Monica has a previous (“Existing”) street tree designation failure rate over 64% and its new (“Primary”) designations are designed to fail over 94% of the time (i.e. they have backup [“Secondary”] designations to deal with *future* failures of their new [“Primary”] designations).
Is that a sustainable model for the Palisades Forestry Committee to use as a starting point?

(3) Adapting the Santa Monica model for Pacific Palisades would require a huge investment in time, effort, and money – resources that would *not* be devoted to planting new street trees, of course.
Why make another one of these failed investments when the Urban Forestry Division already vets (*for free*) which street trees are permitted (i.e. because they are appropriate for the planting location in terms of maximizing their health and minimizing their infrastructure conflicts)?

(4) Right now, homeowners (and groups of neighbors) have a choice among many permitted species when it comes to planting a new tree along the street in front of their homes, but the Palisades Forestry Committee has been considering paying a special fee of \$1000.00 per new tree to take that choice away.
Will you donate to the Palisades Forestry Committee in order to take that choice away from yourself and/or your neighbors?

(5) One of the stated Missions of the Palisades Forestry Committee is to educate residents about trees.
Will the Palisades Forestry Committee educate residents sufficiently to trust them in making choices (individually or collectively) of what trees to plant along the streets in front of their homes, given that all of the available choices are “good” (i.e. they are all permitted by the Urban Forestry Division)?