



## AGENDA – PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

October 24, 2019, 6PM – 7:50PM

Palisades Branch Library Meeting Room

861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

### 1. Call to Order and Certification of Quorum.

**2. Reading of Community Council’s Mission.** The purpose of the Pacific Palisades Community Council shall be to (1) be a forum for the consideration of Community issues, (2) be an advocate for Pacific Palisades to government and private agencies upon issues where there is broad Community agreement, as reflected by two-thirds of the Board Members voting on any one of those issues at a PPCC Meeting, and (3) assist other organizations in the Palisades which want help in accomplishing their objectives or projects, which the PPCC determines to support. See *PPCC Bylaws*: [www.pacpalicc.org](http://www.pacpalicc.org) (*Documents / Council Bylaws & Procedures*).

### 3. Introduction of the Board and Audience.

### 4. Approval of Minutes & Upcoming Meetings.

1) *Approval of Minutes* – October 10, 2019. 2) *Upcoming Meetings* – November 14, 2019: (1) Guest speaker – Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin; (2) Announcement of Citizen of the Year & Golden Sparkplug possible honorees. December 12, 2019: Holiday meeting & Awards celebration (event details TBA). January 9, 2020: Topics to be announced. January 23, 2020: Briefing on proposed Gladstones Redevelopment; additional topics to be announced. *Topics noticed in advance may change.*

### 5. Consideration of Agenda.

### 6. Treasurer’s Report.

**7. General Public Comment.** *This time is reserved for non-Board members to speak on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the PPCC (Bylaws, Art. IX.7). Speakers will be limited to one minute. Chair retains discretion to extend.*

### 8. Reports, Announcements and Concerns.

#### 8.1. From the Chair/Presiding Officer.

**8.1.1.** *2019 Citizen of the Year and Golden Sparkplugs Awards.* Appointment of Awards Event Committee. See Awards Guidelines at [www.pacpalicc.org](http://www.pacpalicc.org) (Documents/Awards Guidelines); see also Item 9.1 below.

**8.1.2.** *Pacific Palisades Park Advisory Board (PAB) 10/16/19 meeting update.*

**8.1.3.** *Dog park funding update.* See letter from Executive Committee to Councilmember Bonin: <http://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/PPCC-Dog-Park-EIR-Funding-Letter.pdf>.

#### 8.2. From Officers.

**8.2.1.** Chris Spitz (Secretary). Updates: WRAC 10/16/19 meeting & legislation status.

**8.3.** From At-Large and Area Representatives.

**8.4.** From Organizational Representatives.

**8.5.** From Government Offices / Representatives. *Contact information available at: [www.pacpalicc.org](http://www.pacpalicc.org) (Resources / Government/Other Contacts).*

**8.6.** From PPCC Advisors.

**9. Reports from Committees.**

**9.1.** Awards Selection Committee (ASC; David Kaplan, Chair). Committee update/Awards nomination & selection process. Deadline to submit nominations: 9pm, October 26. See Awards Nominations Press Release posted at [www.pacpalicc.org](http://www.pacpalicc.org).

**9.2.** Three Chairs Committee (Maryam Zar, Chair; Richard Cohen; Chris Spitz). Committee nomination and possible Board election of 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate At-large Representative.

**9.3.** Land Use Committee (LUC; Howard Robinson, Chair). LUC recommendation and possible Board action re Calvary Christian School (701 Palisades Dr.) application for Plan Approval to its Conditional Use Permit & for a Coastal Development Permit (“the Application”). *See Recommendation (attached below) and LUC 10/17/19 Meeting Summary at: <http://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/PPCC-Land-Use-Committee-10-17-Summary.pdf>.*

**9.4.** Palisades Forestry Committee (PFC; David Card, Chair). Introduction of resolution for Board approval of the PFC Mission Statement and proposed street tree selection policy for the Palisades; possible Board action. *See Resolution (attached below).*

**10. Old Business** – None.

**11. New Business** – None.

**12. Adjournment.**

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For additional information about the PPCC, see [www.pacpalicc.org](http://www.pacpalicc.org) or e-mail [info@pacpalicc.org](mailto:info@pacpalicc.org). PPCC meets at 6:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. Exception: Only one meeting is held in July and August (on either the 2nd or 4th Thursday) and in November and December (on the 2nd Thursday).

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Item 9.3 – LUC Recommendation to the Board**

The PPCC LUC recommends that the Board adopt the following position: PPCC does not oppose the Application, contingent upon the Board’s review and approval of language to be provided by the applicant recommending a condition to regulate the concurrent use of facilities at the site.

**Item 9.4 – PFC Proposed Resolution**

**Proposed Resolution re Street Tree Selections & Urban Forestry**

Presented at the October 24, 2019 PPCC meeting

Whereas, Pacific Palisades is blessed with an abundant forest of trees, including street trees in our public parkways, medians, and public right of ways, as well as in our public parks;

Whereas, the founders of Pacific Palisades and successive generations of civic leaders have recognized the many benefits of a healthy and robust urban forest;

Whereas, the urban forest is the greatest generator of oxygen and other ecological benefits, as well as providing economic, aesthetic, social, emotional and quality of life benefits;

Whereas, the Urban Forestry Division (UFD), City of Los Angeles, has recently done limited planting of street trees in the Palisades, and both the Palisades community and the UFD agree on the need to work together to facilitate the preservation and enhancement of our urban forest and its canopy;

Whereas, the PPCC formed the Palisades Forestry Committee (PFC), consisting of landscape professionals, community organizations, tree advocates, and local government officials;

Whereas, after studying the issue for five months, at the September 12, 2019 PPCC meeting, the PFC presented its report (the "Report") dated September 1, 2019 and has since considered all comments submitted in response;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Pacific Palisades Community Council endorses the Mission Statement of the PFC in the Report, as follows:

*PFC MISSION STATEMENT*

*Enhance and sustain the health and beauty of the Pacific Palisades urban forest for future generations by facilitating the planting of appropriate trees and the caring for our existing trees;*

*Educate our community about the economic, environmental, health, social, emotional and aesthetic benefits of the trees that comprise our urban forest;*

*Protect the urban forest from unnecessary removals by better management, planning and enforcement, and honor the history of trees in the community; and*

*Establish a replicable model of a community urban forest task force for Pacific Palisades in partnership with the City of Los Angeles.*

RESOLVED further, that the PPCC specifically endorses the following street tree selection policy (the "Policy") (the language of which has been adapted from the PFC Report (Paragraphs 1, portions of 2A, and 2B), pursuant to edits approved by the PFC at its October 15, 2019 meeting for purposes of this Resolution):

1. **Primary Objective:** *To facilitate the preservation, enhancement, and best practices management of the Pacific Palisades community's urban forest.*

- A. *The initial focus is on street trees in the public parkways, medians and rights of way, both our existing trees and the vacant spaces where street trees do not presently exist.*
- B. *We aim to maximize the number of urban forest trees and their canopy by facilitating the planting of more trees, and to minimize the number of trees that are removed.*
- C. *The goal is to develop an urban forestry policy that increases the age and species diversity in the public tree population, augments biomass and canopy coverage community wide, enhances the character and aesthetics of our neighborhoods, and achieves exemplary stewardship of the forest for all who live and work here.*

2. **Urban Forest Policy:** *To create urban forest policies that implement the Mission and the Primary Objective, and to work with both the City of Los Angeles urban forestry leadership and the Pacific Palisades community to discuss and adopt urban forest policies to achieve that objective. Such policies may include:*

A. **Selection Policy:** *The Committee has decided to use the following criteria for selecting appropriate species of street trees, according to local circumstances and as permitted by the City of Los Angeles Urban Forestry Division.*

1) **Criteria: The Right Tree in the Right Place.** *The right tree in the right place will be determined by the following criteria, which will be considered when selecting street trees as vacancies occur:*

- a) **Growspace Availability:** *Soil volume is the most important criterion. A bigger growspace allows for a larger tree species, while small growspaces require smaller tree species. The preference is for the largest species for the available growspace.*
- b) **Water Requirements and Growing Conditions:** *The water requirement of the species and its ability to withstand little watering when established. Micro-climate conditions, such as salt air, wind, heat, etc.*
- c) **Species diversity:** *A new, different species, that does not share the same vulnerabilities.*
- d) **Aesthetics and Neighborhood Character:** *Blend aesthetically with existing species and with the neighborhood character.*
- e) **Canopy Size:** *Consider the mature tree's canopy size and form, and the proximity of buildings and other structures or trees. Generally, the preference is for larger canopies.*
- f) **Land Use and Traffic Considerations:** *Commercial vs. residential streets, truck clearance, pollution tolerance, root pruning tolerance, pedestrian shade, overhead wires, etc.*

g) Disease Resistance and Susceptibility.

h) Availability: Monitor tree availability, and research new species introductions.

i) Special Cases may be considered.

**B. Diversity and Adaptation Over Time Policy**: A policy of diversity of species, genus, form, and aesthetics (evergreen, deciduous, broad leaf, small leaf, flowering or not, leaf color, etc.) across Pacific Palisades. A policy of flexibility and adaptation to changing conditions over time.