



## PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

---

October 9, 2020

Mr. Tim Tyson, Chief Forester  
Urban Forestry Division  
StreetsLA, City of Los Angeles

By email: [timothy.tyson@lacity.org](mailto:timothy.tyson@lacity.org)

**Re: Replacement Street Trees at 15539 W. Via De Las Olas, Pacific Palisades**  
(at the corner of Mt. Holyoke Ave.)

Dear Chief Forester Tyson,

The Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) has represented the Palisades as its broadest based community organization since its founding in 1973. We coordinate with the Urban Forestry Division (UFD) through its representative on our PPCC Palisades Forestry Committee.

On June 3, 2019, PPCC was dismayed to hear from community members that several large and healthy parkway trees were removed by the owner of the adjacent property at 15539 W. Via De Las Olas, Pacific Palisades (“the Parkway”), which resulted in the City of Los Angeles June 28, 2019 “Stop Construction Notice and Notice of Intent to Revoke Building Permits” letter to the owner.

Under a resulting agreement between the owner and the City, 6 new *Lophostemon confertus* / Brisbane Box trees were planted in the Parkway in remediation of the unauthorized removals. A Protected Tree Bond (“Bond”) was required for the six new trees (24” box size) to be replanted and watered for a survival period of 3 years from planting on February 14, 2020.

Four of those six new replacement trees died.

Recently, the owner has planted another 4 replacement trees in the same places as the dead ones.

The PPCC Board decided at its October 8, 2020 meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote to urge the City to:

1. Require the owner to increase the number (same species and container size) of remediation trees that shall be planted in the Parkway from 6 to as many as 10, in order to maximize the number of parkway trees along Mt. Holyoke and Via De Las Olas, using UFD measurement criteria, rather than leaving the current big open spaces where the original street trees were removed. Locations to be selected by UFD.
2. Require the best practices of maintenance of the parkway trees, including: (a) removing the nursery stakes tied to each tree; (b) removing the deep water tubes, with instructions to water the basins from the top to imitate rainfall; and (c) comply with the proper staking and watering of Newly Installed Trees pursuant to the protocols of the International Society of Arboriculture.

3. Amend the survival date for release of the Bond (or its replacement bond) to reflect the planting date of October 2020 (8 months longer than the original date), to restart the 3 year period for the newly replanted replacement trees. Additional parkway trees required to be planted by UFD should also be covered by a similar or amended bond.

4. Confirm that the Bond (or its replacement) is issued by an insurer and to a beneficiary that is acceptable to UFD and the Bureau of Engineering, City of Los Angeles, prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

Thank you for your help in re-foresting Pacific Palisades.

Very truly yours,



David Card, Chair  
Pacific Palisades Community Council  
[davidcard22@gmail.com](mailto:davidcard22@gmail.com)

cc: Hon. Mike Bonin, CD 11 Councilmember, [mike.bonin@lacity.org](mailto:mike.bonin@lacity.org)  
Rachel Malarich, City Forest Officer, [rachel.malarich@lacity.org](mailto:rachel.malarich@lacity.org)  
Durrh Wagner, CD11 Pacific Palisades Field Deputy, [durrah.wagner@lacity.org](mailto:durrah.wagner@lacity.org)  
Stephen Du Prey, Supervisor, UFD, [stephen.duprey@lacity.org](mailto:stephen.duprey@lacity.org)  
Andrew Nave, Inspector, Building & Safety, [Andrew.Nave@lacity.org](mailto:Andrew.Nave@lacity.org)  
Cindy Kirven, Palisades Forestry Committee Chair, [cindykirven@aol.com](mailto:cindykirven@aol.com)