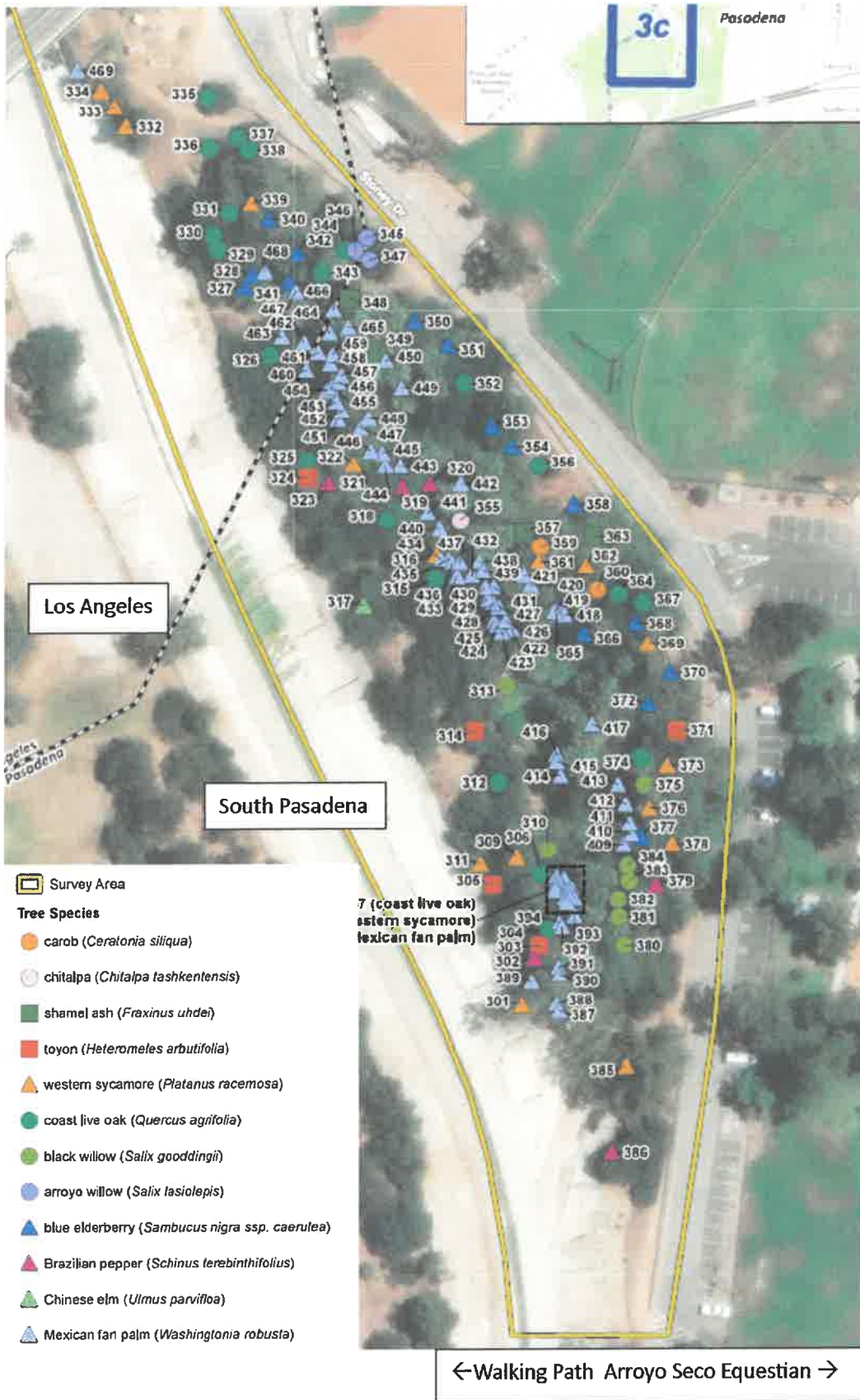


**EXHIBIT B**



40 Protected Trees will be removed + 1 native

11 Coast Live Oaks average height 30ft

6 Western Sycamore

Average height 43 feet

2 Toyon

11 Mexican(Blue) Elderberry

8 Black Willow

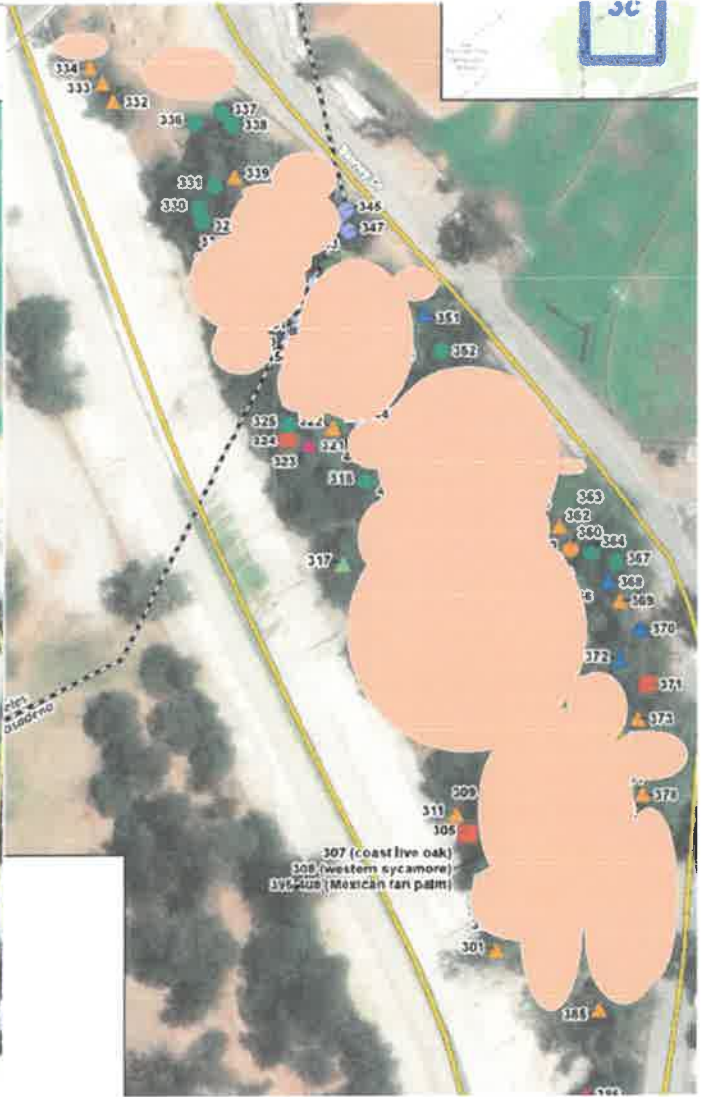
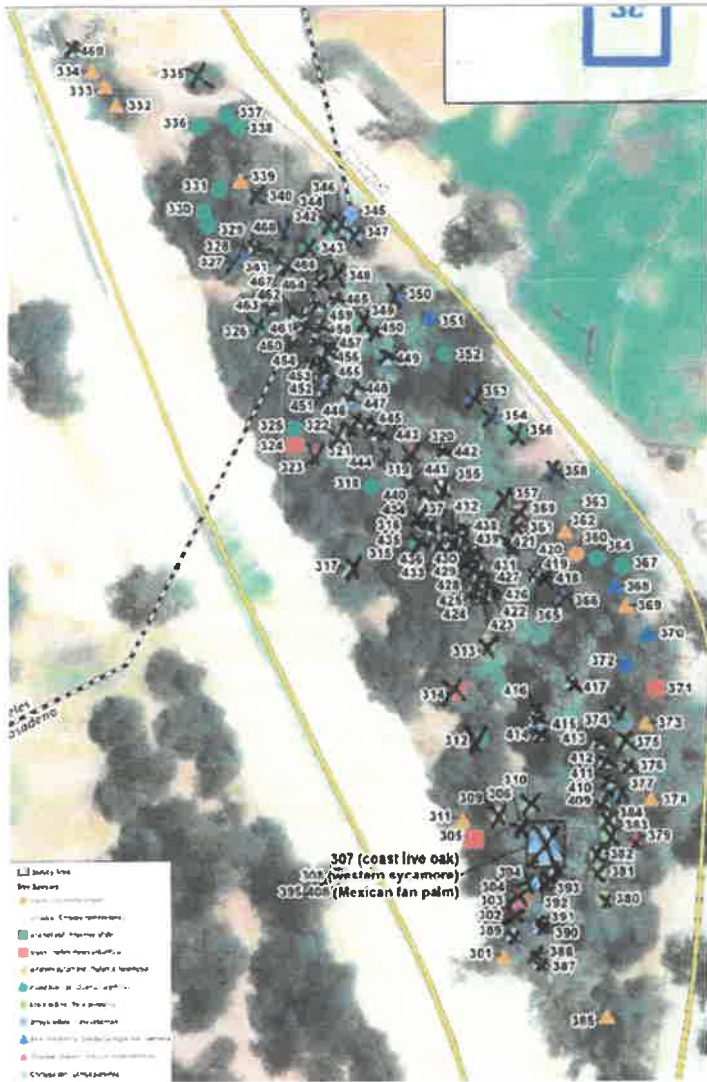
3 Arroyo Willow ( 1 LA not in protected tree ord. is native)

Lots of understory and smaller natives will be removed.

82 Mexican Fan Palms will be removed – provide habitat for Western Yellow Bats listed as CA species of special concern.

At left below trees to be removed X'd

At right below, trees left after removals



HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
Post Office Box 50791 Los Angeles, CA 90050  
<http://www.highlandparknc.com>  
Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

**OFFICERS**

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First Vice President Darren Gold  
Second Vice President John Vangelisti  
Treasurer Connie Martinez  
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Executive Angela Gonzales-Torres  
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Outreach John Vangelisti  
Rules Darren Gold  
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Housing, Renters & Homelessness Ad Hoc Vacant

Governance Reform Ad Hoc Connie Martinez, Clara Solis, Steve Crouch

HHPNC NELA Community Plan Ad Hoc Clara Solis, Darren Gold, John Vangelisti, Karen Daniel, Rick Marquez

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



**DIRECTORS AT-LARGE**  
Dante Marquez, Jens Jonason, Darren Gold, Angela  
Gonzales-Torres, Karen Daniel, Connie Martinez, James  
Marcotte, Yvonne Chavez, Lyannie Tran, Kevin Guico,  
Lea Klein

DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT  
200 N. Spring St. Ste 2005 Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Telephone (213) 978-1551

**PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTORS**

Caroline Aguirre, Vacant

**BUSINESS DIRECTORS**

John Vangelisti, Vacant

**HOUSING DIRECTOR**

Vacant

**ARTS DIRECTOR**

Vacant

**HOMELESSNESS DIRECTOR**

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Vacant

**SENIOR DIRECTORS**

Clara Solis, Vacant

**YOUTH DIRECTOR**

Ainsley Drake

# HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

## REQUEST FOR ACTION

July 11, 2024

Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council (HHPNC) represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in Highland Park, Garvanza, and San Pascual Valley.

The HHPNC is writing in support of Los Angeles City, the community of San Pascual Valley, its stakeholders, the flora and fauna of the historic Hahamongna Watershed Basin, and the First Nations - the Gabrielino Kizh - who are lineal descendants of the area encompassing San Pascual Park and the land that will be used by the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project.

The HHPNC calls upon the City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Commission, our elected City District representatives, Kevin de Leon and Eunisses Hernandez, our Senator Maria Elena Durazo, Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo, County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Congressman Jimmy Gomez, and Mayor Karen Bass to directly intervene on the people's behalf for a just and equitable process that protects our life-giving water resources, endangered plant species, and the Gabrielino Kizh tribal authority burials and cultural sites.

Additionally, we ask that the City of Los Angeles, City Attorney investigate the legality of the City of South Pasadena and Pasadena's attempt to take resources – water, remove protected trees,

displace flora and fauna, and restrict Open Space/Green Space in the City Of Los Angeles that is currently available to City of Los Angeles residents.

The Arroyo Seco reuse project will deeply change the path of our water resources. The HHPNC is deeply troubled that the Cities of Pasadena and South Pasadena have not shown care or concern to engage with our stakeholders and there has never been any outreach to the community of Highland Park for this project, nor were our elected officials ever notified. This approach by Pasadena and South Pasadena is extremely disturbing and troubling. For instance, not even the simplest posting of a physical sign, electronic notifications across our community or notification to the park director of Highland Park recreation center, which San Pascual Park falls under its jurisdiction, has been made. The community of Highland Park would share in reasonable requests of its lands and waters if there were equitable and direct benefits to its own community green space. However, there has been no engagement with our community or our own community experts in land management.

We believe that the water being redirected to Pasadena and South Pasadena to green its recreations sites and golf course must be shared with our disadvantaged and park-poor community because this project is only being made possible using Los Angeles Land (from San Pascual Park) and Los Angeles Water.

We are outraged that this Pasadena/South Pasadena project will be taking and using our Open Space/Green Space land for this project. We believe this is illegal. The City of South Pasadena is taking this land, removing protected trees, flora and fauna in a project that provides no direct benefit to our Highland Park residents. We ask that the City Attorney of Los Angeles investigate this taking of our public open space/green space land. It is outrageous is that Highland Park water will be diverted and not one drop given to the City of Los Angeles instead the diverted water will be used to provide water for a South Pasadena golf course. Again, we ask that the City Attorney of Los Angeles investigate the possible unlawful taking of City of Los Angeles resources – water, protected trees, flora, fauna and open space/green space land - from our residents and community.

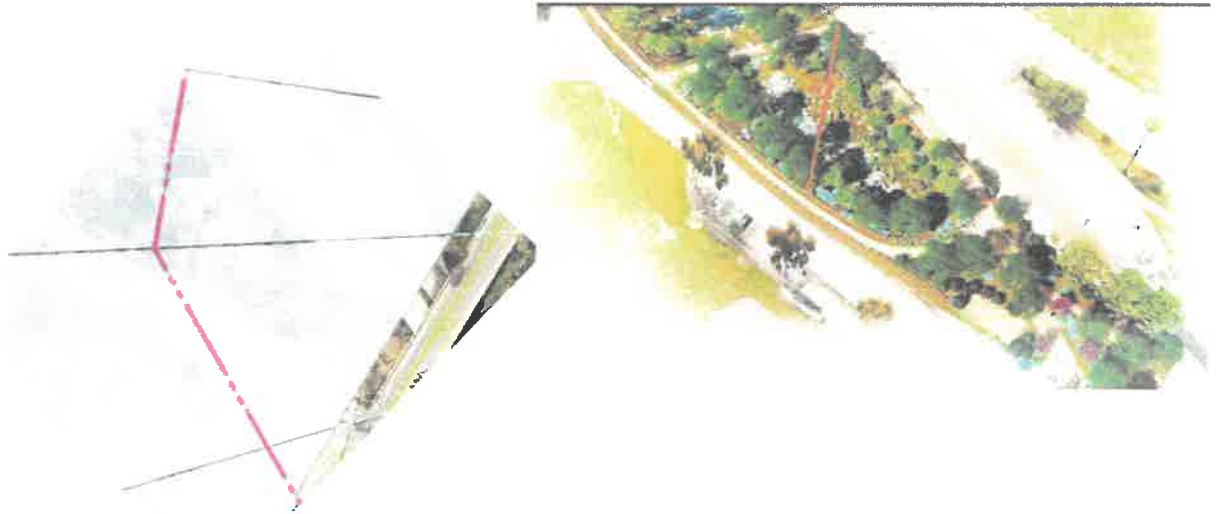
Further, land and park space that is currently used by our residents will no longer be available. Residents who live in Highland Park who do not have air conditioning use the area next to the water to keep cool on hot summer days. With this project that area will be fenced off and unavailable to our Highland Park residents.

Please see below, the Navigate LA City of Los Angeles boundaries by the San Pascual bridge and diagrams from the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project showing the land and trees which will no longer be available to our Highland Park residents.

At left, from City website Navigate LA, the purple line shows the City of Los Angeles boundaries. At right is the proposed project. (Note: We inverted the drawing to match the orientation of the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse drawing at right)



The orange line (roughly) is the City of Los Angeles boundary. To the right of the line, from the street to the river extending to the bottom of the drawing is all Open Space / Green Space located in the City of Los Angeles. This land is used daily by Highland Park residents and City of Los Angeles residents for recreation.



While our community of Highland Park may be willing to share resources and would request a plan for a larger project that would enhance climate resilience, water management, and integrate our communities using traditional ecological knowledge. All three cities should be planning for habitat restoration and water management because of the impending violence of Climate Catastrophe. A just and reasonable start would be immediate engagement with our community, our land use experts, and the Gabrielino Kizh who have marked burials adjacent to the water project, and also have AB52 Sacred Land Claims at this park and numerous sites along the Hahamongna Watershed.

Below are further concerns with the current plan for San Pascual site. We request the following be included in the current plans

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Vangelisti".

John Vangelisti, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Acting President)  
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council



LEGEND

- ① Decomposed Granite Path
- ② Concrete Path
- ③ Reclaimed Wood Log Bench
- ④ Informational Sign
- ⑤ Concrete Seatwall
- ⑥ Vehicular Gate
- ⑦ Post and Rail Fence

- Opportunity for Highland Park residents to have input on any proposed plan.
- That all Highland Park/ San Pascual Park land be accessible to the public. No park land should be fenced off and off limits.
- No concrete pads or pathways on our Highland Park land as shown in Item 2 or the concrete pad between Item 1 and four. The unidentified square structure should be in South Pasadena not Highland Park. Plans should identify what the purpose of the concrete pad is.
- No parking on Highland Park Open Space/ Green Space Land. Disabled parking spaces should be provided in South Pasadena.
- All informational signs should acknowledge the land that is in Highland Park and a part of the Gabrieleno Kizh lands. (See below a Pasadena sign which ignores Highland Park land that is part of the trail.)
- The project must comply with AB 52 and consult with the Gabrieleno Kizh on the project.
- No historic structures should be removed, including the historic Arroyo Stone hitching post.
- The boulders that were removed between 2007 and 2011 must be restored so that cars cannot park in Highland Park park area.
- The project must not result in any reduction in open and/or green space in Highland Park.

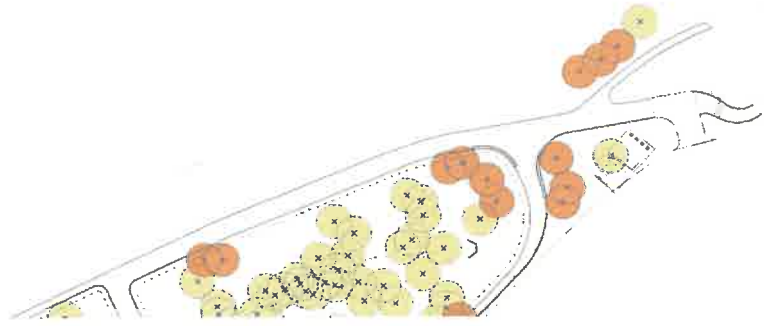
- Access to current Horse trails for the stables on City of Los Angeles land should be maintained. This includes access both for the San Pascual stables, which are partially located in Highland Park and South Pasadena and the Arroyo Seco stables in Hermon.

Retest the bacterial levels in the channel adjacent to the San Pascual bridge in the City of Los Angeles as the San Pascual stables have stopped dumping horse droppings run-off into the channel.

- No protected trees should be removed in Highland Park. Any protected Tree and shrubs are covered by LAMC SEC. 46.00. PROTECTED TREE AND SHRUB REGULATIONS.
  - Protected Trees on Los Angeles City Land at the project site include: California Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), or any other tree of the oak genus indigenous to California but excluding the Scrub Oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*), Western Sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*)
  - Protected Shrubs include: (a) Mexican Elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*) (b) Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*)
- Provide a copy of the biological and tree removal reports as required by the Protected Tree Ordinance.
- Detail tree replanting plans for any trees removed.
- A plan for making certain that when the filtration does not work it will be repaired/modified so that Highland Park residents and users of the San Pascual park are not exposed to noxious odors and mosquitos. We are concerned that the filtration system in Pasadena near the casting pond has frequently not worked.
- It is likely that the Western yellow bat can occur here – CDFW SSC, State Ranking S3. Moderate potential to occur. Untrimmed palm trees are present onsite. A plan must be made to protect them and California Department of Fish and Wildlife consulted.
- Great blue heron use San Pascual Park – CDFW Special Animal, State Ranking S4. A plan must be made to protect them and California Department of Fish and Wildlife consulted.

## TREE DISPOSITION PLAN

- Existing Tree to Remain
- Existing Tree to Remove





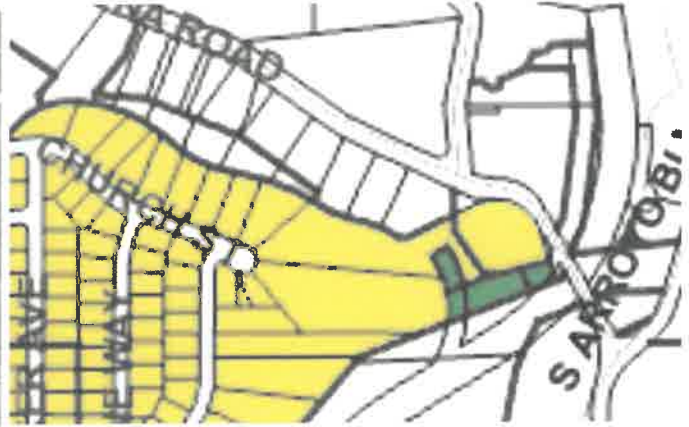


We don't want our Park land (Green Space/Open Space) used as a parking lot.



**Concerns with San Rafael Site:**

City Boundaries are incorrectly drawn. According to ZIMAS (LA City Mapping Tool) The City Boundary extends to Laguna Rd. Left Project Map, Right ZIMAS boundaries.



Below Map of City Boundaries from ZIMAS. It looks like project is using some City Land.



**TREE DISPOSITION PLAN**

- Existing Tree to Remain
- Existing Tree to Remove



All informational signs should acknowledge the land that is in Highland Park and a part of the Gabrieleno Kizh lands. (See at right a Pasadena sign which ignores Highland Park land that is part of the trail.)



**It appears that the project objectives may have changed:**

Improve San Rafael Creek by providing a naturalized channel for dry weather flows and low flow events. – *It is not clear that the current project does this.*

Enhance native habitat, provide educational opportunities, and increase biodiversity. – *There is currently a lot of biodiversity in the area. The plans include more people and people made paths. There are currently bats near the San Rafael area. How will they be impacted by the project.*

**Letter 1**



**Kevin de León**

January 15, 2024

Christina Monde

**RE: Draft Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration for Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project**

Dear Ms. Monde:

I am writing in regards to the City of Pasadena's Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. First and foremost, I am deeply concerned about the lack of engagement with the City of Los Angeles and its residents.

While the intent of improving recreation space and water quality is admirable, any project that spans over multiple jurisdictions should be a true collaboration between all agencies involved.

Given that the City of Los Angeles has not been outreached to as a partner for the project, I find it very concerning that there is a presumption that the City of Los Angeles has already entered into an agreement with the City of Pasadena or the City of South Pasadena with regard to this project, as is stated on page 1-16 of the report. In fact, any such agreement must be approved by the Department of Recreation and Parks Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners. This has yet to happen and it shall not happen without outreach to and feedback from the community in the City of Los Angeles impacted by this project. One town hall style outreach meeting was conducted but it was held in Pasadena and there was little to no outreach to Angelenos prior to the event.

Los Angeles City Hall | 200 N Main Street, Room 425, Los Angeles, CA 90012 | Phone: (213) 473-7014





Kevin de León

In addition to the concerns regarding outreach, we want to uplift the following concerns and proposed mitigation strategies:

Air Quality

Given the proximity of construction to recreation facilities where many children and seniors, both groups known to be sensitive to particulate pollution, recreate, we propose both outreach, posted signage and coordination with the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks to minimize active construction during times when children and seniors are most likely to congregate.

2

Biological Resources

In Table 3 on page 1-8, it is stated that of the 25 trees on City of Los Angeles property, 15 will be removed, 9 of which are protected trees. It is explained below that all of these trees are coastal live oaks. Table 3 then indicates that these 15 trees will be replaced by 36 trees.

Table 13 on page 2-20, however, shows slightly different replacement ratios at the San Pascual site. Per the table, Arroyo Willows will be replaced at a ratio of 31 to 1, the Black Willow will not be replaced, the Blue Elderberry will be replaced at a 2 to 1 ratio, and Coast Live Oak and Western Sycamores will each be replaced at 3 to 1 ratios.

3

The Arroyo Seco is one of the true treasures of Northeast Los Angeles and the removal of mature trees is extremely concerning. While the project does propose tree replacements for tree removals, the replacement ratio is inadequate. We request a minimum of a 4 to 1 replacement ratio for all species including the Blue Elderberry which, despite California Department of Fish and Wildlife practices, should be treated as a tree not a shrub given its role in preventing erosion and soil pollution.

Furthermore, the city requests that all replacement trees be at least 36" box with irrigation included and planted in San Pascual Park at locations that maximize the shade each tree can provide - especially on the west side of the Arroyo Seco adjacent to San Pascual Avenue.



**Kevin de León**

---

I urge the City of Pasadena to develop a more collaborative relationship with the Arroyo Seco community on the Los Angeles side of the border as it continues to pursue this water reuse project.

4

Should you have further questions about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact Nate Hayward, my Deputy Chief of Staff, at [nate.hayward@lacity.org](mailto:nate.hayward@lacity.org) or (213) 473-7014.

---

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin de León".

KEVIN DE LEÓN  
Councilmember, 14th District



## **San Pascual Arroyo Seco Wildlife Preservation**

July 16, 2024

Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners

(To be Hand Delivered on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Friendship Park Meeting)

Dear Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners:

We urge you not to approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project (the Project) until and unless Highland Park resident's and Native American tribe concerns about the project are acknowledged, cured, and incorporated into the plan and residents are allowed to participate in a real outreach process. After input is received, the City of Los Angeles should negotiate to incorporate community concerns into the project.

San Pascual Park land should not be removed as open/green space with City of Los Angeles residents receiving no meaningful benefits. The Project will use San Pascual Park land which is located in Highland Park to build a water filtration project. They claim this is necessary to clean the water from the Arroyo Seco channel. The San Pascual parkland that will be used is currently located on the east side of the channel and is a virtual small forest. The Project will fence in Highland Park land and make it inaccessible to City of Los Angeles residents and other users of the park. This land is currently used by area residents for hiking, running, bird and wildlife watching, equestrian use, and by local residents who come to sit by the water on hot days because it is approximately 10 degrees cooler in the forest. (See Exhibit C)

San Pascual Park east of the Arroyo Seco channel and South of the San Pascual bridge (San Pascual Park – East) should not be removed as park land and in anyway be made inaccessible to the residents of our community and the city of Los Angeles. Under the Los Angeles City Charter, Los Angeles may not transfer or lease land that is used by the public. This park land is used by Highland Park residents. Los Angeles City Charter Section 594 states: "Control and Management of Recreation and Park Lands, Section (c) Restrictions on Transfer of Dedicated Parks. All lands heretofore or hereafter set apart or dedicated as a public park shall forever remain for the use of the

public inviolate” While there are some circumstances which allow use of park land or lease, it is not allowed if the public uses the park land.

There was no meaningful outreach or engagement to users of the park, residents of the San Pascual Valley, Native American tribes, Equestrian users of the park, City of Los Angeles residents, or to the Highland Park Neighborhood council. A Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) notice was mailed to just 98 Highland Park residents within 500 feet of the park. Most of these residents do not recall the notice which we were told was mailed just before the Thanksgiving Holidays in 2023. In the whole of Pasadena, South Pasadena and Los Angeles only two residents submitted comments on the MND. This lack of participation shows that the community was largely unaware of the project and its impacts to their community.

The San Pascual Neighborhood is unique. It is largely a bowl which is bordered by the hillside of Avenue 66, the York street bridge, South Pasadena and the 110 freeway/ Arroyo Seco Parkway. Most residents live from across the street from the freeway to within half a mile of the freeway. Thousands of vehicles pass by each day. Because of its topography residents are susceptible to heat which settles in the community and pollution from the I-110 freeway. Fortunately, the area has had an abundance of mature trees which have protected residents from heat and pollution. This tree canopy in the past decade has been reduced by development.

We are concerned that this project will remove 136 mature trees out of 166 trees (82 percent) from the San Pascual site. Forty of these trees are protected. Almost a third of the tree removals will be of protected trees. The 166 trees that are adjacent to the Arroyo Seco channel make up a small green belt forest that is a haven for area wildlife. **The destruction of this small forest will be felt as it protects San Pascual residents from pollution, noise, and heat. It provides protection from the I-110 freeway.** Please see Exhibit B for tree impacts.

We are also concerned that 15 mature trees will be removed from the east side of our San Pascual Park in Highland Park. Nine (9) of these trees are protected. Four (4) mature coast live oaks and five (5) Mexican elderberries will be removed. One native Arroyo Willow will also be removed from the Los Angeles portion of the Park. We need the trees as we face unprecedented climate change impacts. The replacement of trees will not provide any benefit to the community for 10 to 20 years in terms of shade or protection from air and noise pollution. Trees remove pollution by reducing temperature and removing ozone, gaseous air pollution, and particulate matter either through direct uptake of gasses or temporarily intercepting airborne particles.

The San Pascual stables until recently allowed run-off from the stables including horse droppings to run into the Arroyo Seco channel. The stables stopped diverting water into the channel after they were contacted by community members and Tim Brick of the Arroyo Seco Foundation. The water should be retested.



The historic Arroyo Seco stone hitching post located on Highland Park land in San Pascual park to the east of the Arroyo Seco Channel south of the San Pascual park should be not be removed. It should be preserved in place. Some have heard it has been here since the 1880's.



Water resources should be shared with the City of Los Angeles.

Wildlife should be protected. The current small forest located east of the Arroyo Seco channel south of the San Pascual bridge provides connectivity to wildlife. Wildlife is able to use the forest. A wide variety of birds and other wildlife frequent this area. A list of wildlife observed is attached as Exhibit A. Wildlife can walk from the Hahamonga in La Canada to Debs Park.

In California, western yellow bats (*Lasiurus xanthinus*), a California Species of Special Concern, and other wildlife appear to roost exclusively in the skirt of dead fronds of both native and **non-native palm trees** and appear to be limited in their distribution by availability of palm habitat. Some individuals or populations may be migratory, although some individuals appear to be present year-round, even in the northernmost portion of the range including southern **California**. Their range includes Los Angeles. The removal of 82 Mexican Fan Palms without proper mitigation can doom many bats.

We are concerned that the Project will make San Pascual Park Land in Highland Park inaccessible to area residents. The concrete pad covering the pumping station should not be on San Pascual park land, it benefits the golf course in South Pasadena so it should be in South Pasadena. It reduces the size of our open space. Additionally, fencing off a portion of our park land will make that land inaccessible. We use this land.

Previously, the San Pascual Park – East had small rocks adjacent to the roadway so vehicles could not park on the park. We believe that users of the South Pasadena Park removed them to allow vehicle parking for little league games and Soccer. Our community is park poor. Our park land should not be used to provide parking for South Pasadena AYSO and Little league participants. They can park in designated parking spots.

We are not convinced that the San Pascual portion of the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project is necessary. The San Rafael portion will clean water from the San Rafael Creek and send it into the channel. South Pasadena currently diverts water from the Arroyo Seco channel and sends it to the golf course. Why is such an environmentally impactful project needed, when the San Rafael portion of the project will clean the water and the existing system can be used.

Further, we are concerned that the technology and system is largely untested, we can lose over a hundred trees and the system may not work properly. We note that the Pasadena diversion project is often dirty and smelly. We are concerned that not enough maintenance will be provided and the San Pascual portion of the park could smell and be a breeding ground for mosquitos. Currently, turtles, mosquito fish and other fish and amphibians live where the water is diverted on the east side of the Arroyo Seco channel south of the San Pascual bridge they control the mosquito population.

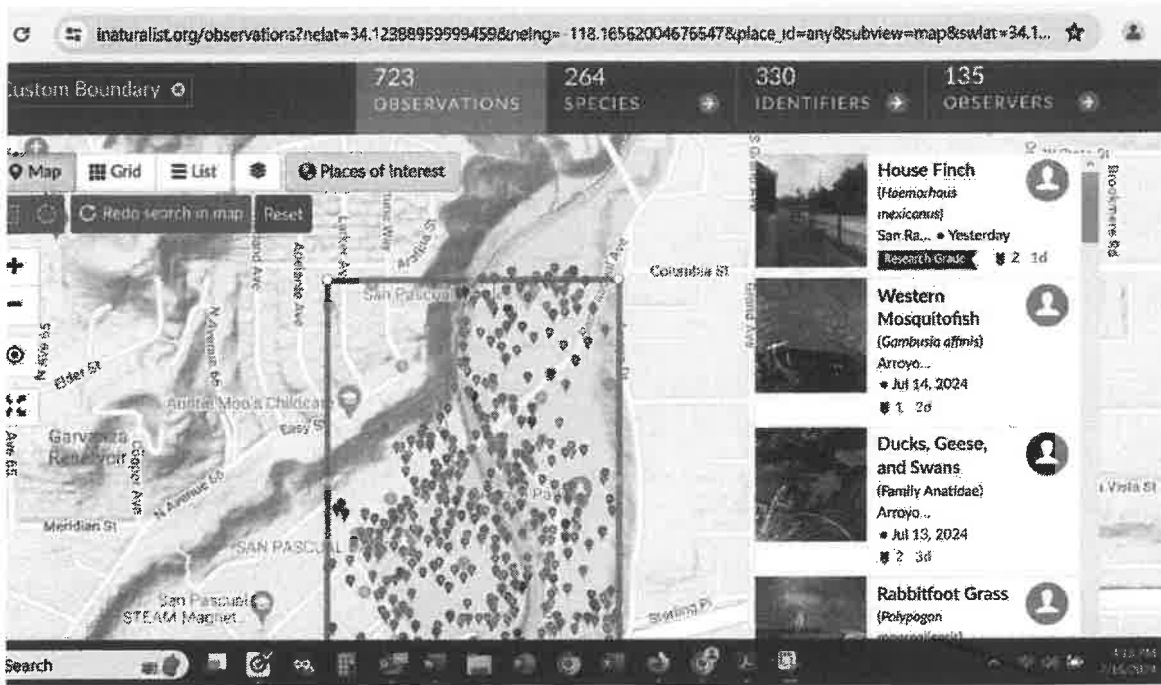
We urge you to protect San Pascual park land that residents in our community use daily.

Sincerely,

San Pascual Arroyo Seco Wildlife Preservation  
Clara Solis, Cruz Burrerescia, Robert Burrerescia, Rosa Rivas, & Tani Kaye, Board

EXHIBIT A

From iNaturalist:



Each spot is an observation.

Great Blue Heron observed in San Pascual Park, April 30, 2024



California Twohee, 7/29/2023



**Amazon Parrots**  
(Genus *Amazona*)  
Highla... • Jul 12, 20

👍 2 4d

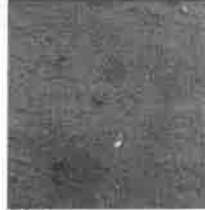
**Yellow-headed Parrot**  
(*Amazona oratrix*)  
Stoney...  
• Jul 12, 2024

👍 4 2d



**Mitred Parakeet**  
(*Psittacara mitratus*)  
Los An... • Jul '24

Research Grade 🛡️ 2



**Mammals**  
(Class *Mammalia*)  
San Pa...  
• Jun 27, 2024  
👍 1 19d



**Hooded Oriole**  
(*Icterus cucullatus*)  
S Pasa... • Jun 6, 2023

Research Grade 🛡️ 2

**Pin-tailed Whydah**  
(*Vidua macroura*)  
S Pasa... • Jun 6, 2023

Research Grade 🛡️ 2



**Genus *Phoebis***  
Arroyo...  
• Jun 25, 2024

👍 2 21d

**Dotted Paropsis Leaf Beetle**  
(*Paropsis atomario*)  
San Pa...  
• Jun 20, 2024



**White-lined Sphinx**  
(*Hyles lineata*)  
Stoney...  
• Apr 30, 2023

Research Grade 🛡️ 2



**Genus *Corythucha***  
Arroyo...  
• Aug 29, 2022

👍 2 2y

**Winged and Once-winged Insects**  
(Subclass *Pterygota*)  
Arroyo... • Aug 1, 2022

👍 4 2y



**Acorn Woodpecker**  
(*Melanerpes formic*)  
San Pa...  
• Sep 30, 2022



**Spot-winged Glider**  
(*Pantala hymenaea*)  
Highla... • Jul 31, 2022

Research Grade 🛡️ 2 2y





### American Robin

(*Turdus migratorius*)

Northe...

• Jun 25, 2022

Research Grade

2 2y



### Black Phoebe

(*Sayornis nigricans*)

Northe...

• Jun 25, 2022

Research Grade

2 2y



### Coyote

(*Canis latrans*)

Comet... • Jul 3, 2022

Research Grade

3 2y



### Genus Villa

CA-110...

• Jul 3, 2022

2 2y



### Lesser Goldfinch

(*Spinus psaltria*)

South... • Jun 25, 2022

Research Grade

3 2y



### Northern Mockingbird

(*Mimus polyglottos*)

Northe...

• Jun 25, 2022

Research Grade

3 2y



### Anna's Hummingbird

(*Calypte anna*)



### Cassin's Kingbird

(*Tyrannus vociferans*)

South... • Jun 25, 2022

Research Grade

2 2y



### Black Phoebe

(*Sayornis nigricans*)

South... • Jun 25, 2022

Research Grade

2 2y



### House Finch

(*Haemorhous*

*mexicanus*)

South... • Jun 25, 2022



### Downy Woodpecker

(*Dryobates pubescens*)

South... • Jun 25, 2022

Research Grade

2 2y



### Western Toad

(*Anaxyrus boreas*)

San Pa...

• Jun 27, 2021

Research Grade

2 3y



### Mallard

(*Anas platyrhynchos*)

San Pa...

• May 30, 2021

Research Grade



### Eastern Fox Squirrel

(*Sciurus niger*)

Chestn...

• May 30, 2021



**Western Bluebird**

(*Sialia mexicana*)

South... • May 1, 2021

Research Grade

2 3y



**Violet-green Swallow**

(*Tachycineta thalassina*)

South... • May 1, 2021

Research Grade

2 3y



**Bushtit**

(*Psaltriparus minimus*)

South... • May 1, 2021

Research Grade

2 3y



**Cassin's Kingbird**

(*Tyrannus vociferans*)

South... • May 1, 2021

Research Grade

2 3y



**Black-chinned Hummingbird**

(*Archilochus alexandri*)

South... • May 1, 2021

Research Grade

2 3y



**Allen's Hummingbird**

(*Selasphorus sasin*)

Highla...

• Apr 26, 2020



**Common Raccoon**

(*Procyon lotor*)

San Pa...

• Jan 26, 2021

Research Grade



**White-crowned Sparrow**

(*Zonotrichia leucophrys*)

Stoney...

• Nov 8, 2020

Research Grade

2 4y



**Southern Alligator Lizard**

(*Elgaria multicarinata*)

90042....

• Mar 17, 2019



**Killdeer**

(*Charadrius vociferus*)

Stoney...

• May 16, 2020

Research Grade

2 4y



**Western Tanager**

(*Piranga ludoviciana*)

South... • Apr 26, 2020

Research Grade

2

**Western Bluebird**

(*Sialia mexicana*)

Highla...

• Apr 26, 2020



**Spotted Towhee**

(*Pipilo maculatus*)

South... • Apr 26, 2020



### Cliff Swallow

(*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)

Highla...

• Apr 26, 2020

Research Grade 2 4y



### Dark-eyed Junco

(*Junco hyemalis*)

Stoney... • Oct 1, 2017

Research Grade 3 7y



### California Scrub-Jay

(*Aphelocoma californica*)

South... • Apr 26, 2020

Research Grade 2 4y



### Yellow-rumped Warbler

(*Setophaga coronata*)

Stoney... • Oct 1, 2017

Research Grade 2



### Black-throated Gray Warbler

(*Setophaga nigrescens*)

Highla...

• Apr 26, 2020

Research Grade 2 4y



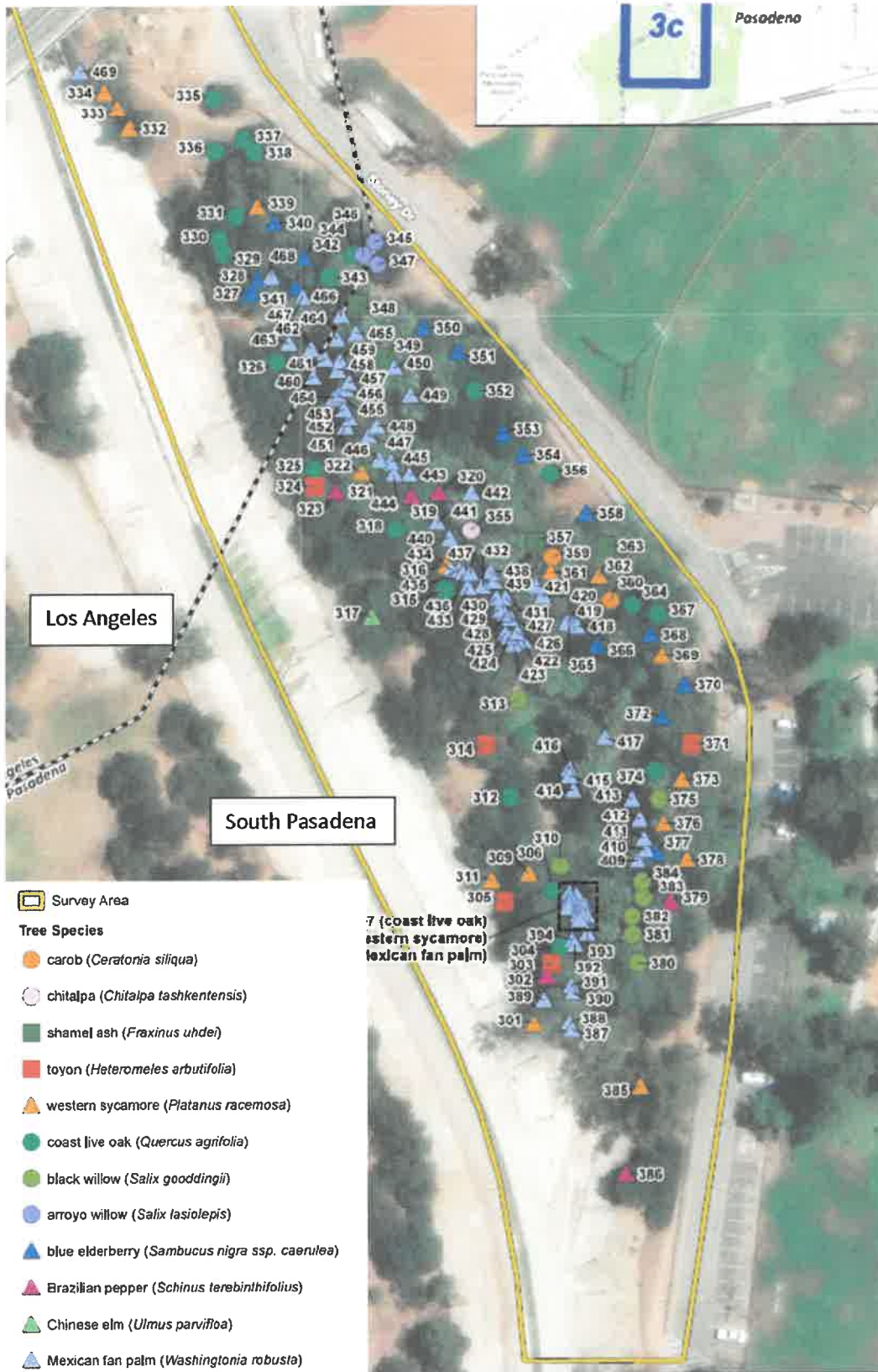
### Mantises

(Order Mantodea)

837 Ch...

• Aug 16, 2017

**EXHIBIT B**



- 40 Protected Trees will be removed + 1 native
- 11 Coast Live Oaks average height 30ft
- 6 Western Sycamore Average height 43 feet
- 2 Toyon
- 11 Mexican(Blue) Elderberry
- 8 Black Willow
- 3 Arroyo Willow ( 1 LA not in protected tree ord. is native)
- Lots of understory and smaller natives will be removed.
- 82 Mexican Fan Palms will be removed – provide habitat for Western Yellow Bats listed as CA species of special concern.

7 (coast live oak)  
 eastern sycamore)  
 Mexican fan palm)

←Walking Path Arroyo Seco Equestrian →







San Pascual Park, located in Highland Park east of the Arroyo Seco Channel, South of the San Pascual bridge. Below: Park Users – San Pascual Park East



July 17, 2024

Dear Board of Recreation and Parks Commission:

I am 18 years old. I urge you to reject the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project.

Since I was little, my mother took us on hikes through the Arroyo. We would pass through the east side of San Pascual Park and use the Highland Park trail along side the Arroyo Seco channel.

The future faced by my peers and your children and grandchildren is in jeopardy.

Action must be taken now. In six years, it will be 2030. To stop the worst impacts of climate change and preserve a livable planet, global temperature increase must be limited to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Emissions need to be reduced by 45% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050. We aren't making it.

You must stop allowing mature trees to be removed and pretending that replacing one mature tree with 4 new small trees will help climate change. The new trees won't provide shade, reduce heat, protect us from pollution and climate change for 10 to 20 years and we don't have the time.

It takes 10 to 20 years for new trees to become carbon sinks. We don't have that time.

Forests take up one-third of all human-caused carbon dioxide emissions from the atmosphere each year. Ending deforestation and allowing mature forests to keep growing could enable forests to take up twice as much carbon.

Thank you,



7

Pluto Hernandez Solis

Highland Park resident of 18 years.

PS I've attached articles regarding this.

<https://thekidshouldseethis.com/post/trees-carbon-storage-forest-conservation-climate-beverly-law-video>

<https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/net-zero-coalition#:~:text=to%202010%20levels,-.To%20keep%20global%20warming%20to%20no%20more%20than%201.5%C2%B0,reach%20net%20zero%20by%202050.>

# The Replacement Tree Myth

*In response to cutting down trees for development and sidewalk repairs the City of Los Angeles has a policy of planting two trees for every one street tree cut down and four trees for every protected tree cut down.*

Planting trees is both good and essential in order to keep the urban forest healthy. But it is insufficient, in and of itself. This perception that planting two or more trees for every mature tree cut down replaces the mature tree, or perhaps even doubles it, is wrong. In fact, the City's tree replacement policy may ironically create a smaller and less effective urban forest in the future.

Planting a sapling only replaces another sapling, not a mature tree. Sixty years of growth are needed to realize the environmental cost-benefits of a mature tree, called Ecosystem Services. Never realized, are the ecosystem services of a large-stature tree that has been downsized or replaced by a small-stature tree. Small trees like crape myrtle deliver far fewer benefits. In fact, studies at The Center for Urban Forest Research shows that the crape myrtle benefits are up to eight times less. These are important distinctions as the city of LA uses small trees to replace large trees.

Despite ambitious tree planting programs in cities, tree canopies have been in decline. The decline may have to do with the fact that new trees are particularly vulnerable to premature mortality. One research study showed that a quarter of the trees planted through volunteer tree projects will die in the first six years (Lu, Svendsen, Campbell, Greenfeld, Braden, King, and Falxa-Raymond, 2010). In the study about Los Angeles' million tree program (E. Gregory McPherson, et al., Los Angeles 1-Million tree canopy cover assessment. USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station, GTR-207 2008), a low mortality scenario projected that 17% of newly planted trees would be dead after 35 years, and a high mortality scenario projected 56% mortality.

The steady removal of mature trees paired with the loss of land available to plant them on is another reason cities see a decline in tree canopy. Despite LA's "Million Trees" tree planting campaign, Los Angeles tree cover declined along with the potential to increase tree canopy cover as the amount of land available to be planted was covered over with larger houses, paved with driveways and hardscaped, according to a study published in *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening* by a team led by USC researchers (Lee et al. 2017).

As more land becomes dedicated to driveways and buildings, fewer permeable surfaces are available to support trees. It's common for a developer in Los Angeles to buy a mature-treed property, cut the trees down, halve the amount of permeable land by putting up a larger building or buildings, and then plant twice as many sapling trees on the remaining open land. But one cannot keep halving the planting space and doubling the number of trees. There is a tree *carrying capacity* built into every piece of land. Two-for-one and four-for-one tree planting policies consistently fail to take this into consideration. To avoid overcrowding, replacement tree plans need to be tied to the amount of land available – not the number of trees put in the ground. Recommendations in the study about Los Angeles' million trees program are 16 ft<sup>2</sup> of pervious surface for small trees, 36 ft<sup>2</sup> for medium trees, and 100 ft<sup>2</sup> for large trees. Hence, tree planting programs can be a form of *green-washing*. This is because these programs allow governments, individuals, and companies to avoid taking more meaningful steps to preserve the urban forest as land continues to be sold, subdivided, built and overbuilt, and mature trees cut down without challenge.

The seductive thing about tree planting initiatives is that they are politically uncontroversial. Most people love to get a free tree, and those that don't, just decline the offer. Tree preservation, on the other hand, is much more complicated and unpopular with many groups and individuals. Tree preservation policies can decrease the profit margins of developers, they can appear to be in opposition to other city goals such as increasing housing density

and transportation improvements, and they can restrict people's property rights. But the need to protect mature trees, and to preserve the required amount of permeable surface to support them and their replacements, is becoming increasingly urgent.

The summer of 2018 gave Angelenos record heat waves and 87 consecutive days without a day of clean air, the longest stretch of bad air in at least 20 years. This is part of a worrisome trend.

The combination of heat and extreme drought spell trouble for air quality in Los Angeles through a complex chain of events. Prolonged dry spells bring more temperature inversions, with a layer of warmer air trapping cooler air below, concentrating pollution near the ground. Higher temperatures accelerate the chemical reactions that form ozone, a key ingredient in smog, while also boosting demand for electricity, which further increases the smog-forming emissions from power plants. Hot, dry weather also creates ideal conditions for wildfires, which release still more smoke and soot.

Emissions from cars, trucks, ships, power plants, and industrial facilities are falling. Yet, the City is heating up twice as fast as the surrounding countryside, and experts predict Los Angeles air quality is in further danger. Given the threat increasing temperatures due to climate change poses to air quality, we need to look to other strategies to reduce smog and greenhouse gas emissions at the local level.

Trees, of course, supply both these benefits (air purification, carbon sequestration) at once, as well as other co-benefits: helping mitigate stormwater run-off, reduce the heat island effect, reduce noise, provide habitat for birds and other wildlife. Trees, therefore, deserve to be a major tool for City planners as they struggle to clean and cool the air. Tree planting should be a complementary strategy, not a replacement for tree preservation.

From Treeology.org

## UN Article

<https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/net-zero-coalition#:~:text=to%202010%20levels,-.To%20keep%20global%20warming%20to%20no%20more%20than%201.5%C2%B0,reach%20net%20zero%20by%202050>

## For a livable climate: Net-zero commitments must be backed by credible action

### What is net zero?

Put simply, net zero means cutting carbon emissions to a small amount of residual emissions that can be absorbed and durably stored by nature and other carbon dioxide removal measures, leaving zero in the atmosphere.

### Why is net zero important?

The science shows clearly that in order to avert the worst impacts of climate change and preserve a livable planet, global temperature increase needs to be limited to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Currently, the Earth is already about 1.1°C warmer than it was in the late 1800s, and emissions continue to rise. To keep global warming to no more than 1.5°C – as called for in the Paris Agreement – emissions need to be reduced by 45% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050.

### How can net zero be achieved?

Transitioning to a net-zero world is one of the greatest challenges humankind has faced. It calls for nothing less than a complete transformation of how we produce, consume, and move about. The energy sector is the source of around three-quarters of greenhouse gas emissions today and holds the key to averting the worst effects of climate change. Replacing polluting coal, gas and oil-fired power with energy from renewable sources, such as wind or solar, would dramatically reduce carbon emissions.

### Is there a global effort to reach net zero?

Yes, a growing coalition of countries, cities, businesses and other institutions are pledging to get to net-zero emissions. More than 140 countries, including the biggest polluters – China, the United States, India and the European Union – have set a net-zero target, covering about 88% of global emissions. More than 9,000 companies, over 1000 cities, more than 1000 educational institutions, and over 600 financial institutions have joined the Race to Zero, pledging to take rigorous, immediate action to halve global emissions by 2030.

### How do we ensure commitments are turned into action?

The growth in net-zero pledges has been accompanied by a proliferation of criteria with varying levels of robustness. To develop stronger and clearer standards for net-zero emissions pledges by non-State entities such as businesses, investors, cities and regions, and speed up their implementation, UN Secretary-General António Guterres in March 2022 established a High-Level Expert Group on the Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities. The Expert Group presented its recommendations at COP27 on 8 November 2022.

### Are we on track to reach net zero by 2050?

No, commitments made by governments to date fall far short of what is required. Current national climate plans – for 195 Parties to the Paris Agreement taken together – would lead to a sizable increase of almost 9% in global greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, compared to 2010 levels. To keep global warming to no more than 1.5°C – as called for in the Paris Agreement – emissions need to be reduced by 45% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050. Getting to net zero requires all governments – first and foremost the biggest emitters – to significantly strengthen their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and take bold, immediate steps towards reducing emissions now.



## Planting trees vs protecting old forests: Which stores more carbon right now?

<https://thekidshouldseethis.com/post/trees-carbon-storage-forest-conservation-climate-beverly-law-video>

To more effectively fight climate change, climate scientist [Dr Beverly Law](#) recommends protecting the old-growth forests of the [Pacific Northwest](#), up through [Southeast Alaska and Tongass National Forest](#).

“Let them grow. Set them aside as carbon reserves. I call it strategic carbon reserves,” she explains. Why?

Law put carbon monitoring stations in a mature forest and a young forest to compare them. From the measurements, she discovered that young forests aren’t taking up as much carbon as mature forests. In fact, young forests are emitting more carbon than they can absorb. [Maiya May](#), host of [PBS Terra’s Weathered series](#), explains:

“There’s nothing wrong with young forests. Eventually, after 10 to 20 years, newly planted forests will become carbon sinks. But the problem is we don’t have 20 years to address climate change. Planting trees now might help in the long run, but those old forests are really the key to storing carbon before we hit tipping points for climate change.”

“Forests pull about one-third of all human-caused carbon dioxide emissions from the atmosphere each year. Researchers have calculated that ending deforestation and allowing mature forests to keep growing could enable forests to take up twice as much carbon.”

Read more about Dr Beverly Law’s groundbreaking research on the global carbon cycle: [Keeping trees in the ground where they are already growing is an effective low-tech way to slow climate change.](#)

<https://theconversation.com/keeping-trees-in-the-ground-where-they-are-already-growing-is-an-effective-low-tech-way-to-slow-climate-change-154618>

Mature trees that have reached full root, bark and canopy development deal with climate variability better than young trees. Older trees also store more carbon.

City of Los Angeles

Recreation and Parks Commission

Dear Commissioners:

I urge you not to approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project being proposed by Pasadena and South Pasadena. The project will not benefit City of Los Angeles residents who will not receive any water from the project. It will instead hurt residents by removing open space, flora and fauna.

It is not fair that the wealthier communities of South Pasadena and Pasadena which have many resources and more park land are going to use our San Pascual Park land east of the Los Angeles channel to water the South Pasadena Golf course.

It is also not fair that they never conducted any meaningful outreach within our community. Most residents are unaware of this project. As a result of the poor outreach only two residents commented on the MND – one resident from Los Angeles and one from Pasadena. That there was so little participation shows how poor the outreach was.

Residents from Highland Park use the east side of San Pascual park daily. They jog, hike and ride horses on the Highland Park part of the park. Additionally, during hot days, some residents who live in the nearby apartments take chairs and sit under the trees because it is significantly cooler. Other residents observe wildlife in the area.

The project will use fencing to prevent residents from accessing a significant part of the east side of San Pascual park. They will no longer be able to sit under the trees to cool off, nor wander through the trees to observe birds, toads, desert cottontail rabbits, bats, and other wildlife.

The project will remove 15 mature trees including 4 protected Coast Live Oak and 5 protected Mexican Elderberry. These trees protect residents from the impacts of the nearby Arroyo Seco Parkway. Replacing mature trees with young trees will not provide any benefit for 10 to 20 years. We need these mature trees as we face a climate emergency.

The project will also remove a historic Arroyo Stone hitching post on site.

Finally, we are concerned that the Gabrieleno Kizh Tribe of Indians was not consulted about this project. Native American remains have been found in San Pascual Park and at San Pascual Elementary School.

Thank you,



Address:

Email:

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

Please do not approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project until and unless Highland Park resident's and Native American tribe, concerns about the project are acknowledged, cured, and incorporated into the plan and residents are allowed to participate in a real outreach process. After input is received, the City of Los Angeles should negotiate to incorporate community concerns in the project. San Pascual Park land should not be removed as open space with City of Los Angeles residents receiving no meaningful benefits.

There was no meaningful outreach or engagement to users of the park, residents of the San Pascual Valley, Native American tribes, Equestrian users of the park, City of Los Angeles residents, or to the Highland Park Neighborhood council. A Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was mailed to just 98 Highland Park residents within 500 feet of the park. Most of these residents do not recall the notice which was mailed between the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays in 2023. In the whole of Pasadena, South Pasadena and Los Angeles only two residents submitted comments on the MND. This lack of participation shows that the community was largely unaware of the project and its impacts on their community.

The San Pascual Neighborhood is unique. It is largely a bowl which is bordered by the hillside of Avenue 66, the York street bridge, South Pasadena and the 110 freeway/ Arroyo Seco Parkway. Most residents live from across the street from the freeway to within half a mile of the freeway. Thousands of vehicles pass by each day. Because of its topography residents are susceptible to heat which settles in the community and pollution from the I-110 freeway. Fortunately, the area has had an abundance of mature trees which have protected residents from heat and pollution. This tree canopy in the past decade has been reduced by development.

( ✓ ) I am concerned that this project will remove 136 mature trees out of 166 trees (82 percent) from the San Pascual site. Thirty-six of these trees are protected. More than a quarter of the tree removals will be of protected trees. The 166 trees that are adjacent to the Arroyo Seco channel make up a small green belt forest that is a haven for area wildlife. This destruction of this small forest will be felt as it protects San Pascual residents from pollution, noise and heat. It provides protection from the I-110 freeway.

( ✓ ) I am concerned that 15 mature trees will be removed from the east side of our San Pascual Park in Highland Park. Nine (9) of these trees are protected. Four (4) mature coast live oaks and five (5) Mexican elderberries will be removed. We need the trees as we face unprecedented climate change impacts. The replacement of trees will not provide any benefit to the community for 10 to 20 years in terms of shade or protection from air and noise pollution.

( ✓ ) I oppose the removal of any protected trees from our open space/green space on the San Pascual Park property which is in Highland Park and is located east of the Arroyo Seco channel and south of San Pascual bridge.

( ✓ ) The San Pascual stables until recently allowed run-off from the stables including manure to run into the Arroyo Seco channel. The water should be retested.

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( ✓ ) The huge concrete pad which will cover the Pumping Station should be on South Pasadena property, not Highland Park's San Pascual Park property.

( ✓ ) Water resources should be shared with the City of Los Angeles.

( ✓ ) Wildlife should be protected.

( ✓ ) I have used this part of San Pascual Park on the east side of the park.

( ~~scribble~~ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Israel Moore

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

Please do not approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project until and unless Highland Park resident's and Native American tribe, concerns about the project are acknowledged, cured, and incorporated into the plan and residents are allowed to participate in a real outreach process. After input is received, the City of Los Angeles should negotiate to incorporate community concerns in the project. San Pascual Park land should not be removed as open space with City of Los Angeles residents receiving no meaningful benefits.

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(  ) Water resources should be shared with the City of Los Angeles.

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(  ) I have used this part of San Pascual Park on the east side of the park.

(  ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Lyannic Train

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

Please do not approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project until and unless Highland Park resident's and Native American tribe, concerns about the project are acknowledged, cured, and incorporated into the plan and residents are allowed to participate in a real outreach process. After input is received, the City of Los Angeles should negotiate to incorporate community concerns in the project. San Pascual Park land should not be removed as open space with City of Los Angeles residents receiving no meaningful benefits.

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(  ) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Name: Kevin Vennemann Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_



To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

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(  ) I have used this part of San Pascual Park on the east side of the park.

(  ) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Name: Tomas Junge

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, a joint project between Pasadena and South Pasadena

Please do not approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project (the Project) until and unless Highland Park resident's and Native American tribe, concerns about the project are acknowledged, cured, and incorporated into the plan and residents are allowed to participate in a real outreach process. After input is received, the City of Los Angeles should negotiate to incorporate community concerns in the project. San Pascual Park land should not be removed as open space with City of Los Angeles residents receiving no meaningful benefits.

The Project will use San Pascual Park land which is located in Highland Park to build a water filtration project. They claim this is necessary to clean the water from the Arroyo Seco channel. The San Pascual park land that will be used is currently located on the east side of the channel and is a virtual small forest. The Project will fence in Highland Park land and make it inaccessible to City of Los Angeles residents and other users of the park. This land is currently used by area residents for hiking, running, bird and wildlife watching, equestrian use, and by local residents who come to sit by the water on hot days because it is approximately 10 degrees cooler in the forest.

There was no meaningful outreach or engagement to users of the park, residents of the San Pascual Valley, Native American tribes, Equestrian users of the park, City of Los Angeles residents, or to the Highland Park Neighborhood council. A Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was mailed to just 98 Highland Park residents within 500 feet of the park. Most of these residents do not recall the notice which was mailed just before the Thanksgiving Holidays in 2023. In the whole of Pasadena, South Pasadena and Los Angeles only two residents submitted comments on the MND. This lack of participation shows that the community was largely unaware of the project and its impacts to their community.

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Name:

Claras Solis

Signature

Claras Solis

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

:mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, a joint project between Pasadena and South Pasadena

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( ✓ ) I want the city of LA to refuse to sign-off unless planning is reworked to include Highland Park and Malibu residents voice.

Name: Jeffrey Hernandez

Signature



Address:

Email Address:

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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(  ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Joel Elias

Signature 

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
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(  ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Edwin Huiza

Signature

Edwin Huiza

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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( Y ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Angelica Carrillo

Signature

Angelica Carrillo

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Vashti Windich Signature 

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: Jesus Rivas Signature: J. Rivas

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: VICTOR MARISCAL Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Gilberto Ortiz Signature Gilberto Ortiz

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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( / ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Rosa Rivas

Signature: Rosa Rivas

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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( / )

Name: Maria E Ruiz

Signature



Address: \_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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( / )  
Name: Luciano Ruiz Signature: [Signature]  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: Raul Reza Signature 

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: Armando Lopez Signature Armando Lopez

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14 *Councilmember, kevindeleon@lacity.org*  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles

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Name: Adriana Guarderas

Email Address:

Address:

Kevin De Leon, CD 14 email: [councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org)

Information: <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/planning/arroyo-seco-water-reuse-project/>

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

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(  )

WILLIAM LUCAS

Name:

William Lucas

Email Address:

?

Address:



To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14 councilmember kevindeleon@lacity.org  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

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(  ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Alexander, Sara, Jude, Doug Rynerson Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

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Name: RAMIRO GUARDERA.

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Kevin De Leon, CD 14 email: [councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org)

Information: <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/planning/arroyo-seco-water-reuse-project/>

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Kevin De Leon, CD 14  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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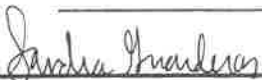
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Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Kevin De Leon, CD 14  
City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

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Name: Elizabeth Kerns

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Elizabeth Kerns*

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Information: <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/planning/arroyo-seco-water-reuse-project/>

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
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City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles

Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

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Name: Nancy Manzanares

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Kevin De Leon, CD 14 email: [councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org)

Information: <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/planning/arroyo-seco-water-reuse-project/>

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, a joint project between Pasadena and South Pasadena

Please do not approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project (the Project) until and unless Highland Park resident's and Native American tribe, concerns about the project are acknowledged, cured, and incorporated into the plan and residents are allowed to participate in a real outreach process. After input is received, the City of Los Angeles should negotiate to incorporate community concerns in the project. San Pascual Park land should not be removed as open space with City of Los Angeles residents receiving no meaningful benefits.

The Project will use San Pascual Park land which is located in Highland Park to build a water filtration project. They claim this is necessary to clean the water from the Arroyo Seco channel. The San Pascual park land that will be used is currently located on the east side of the channel and is a virtual small forest. The Project will fence in Highland Park land and make it inaccessible to City of Los Angeles residents and other users of the park. This land is currently used by area residents for hiking, running, bird and wildlife watching, equestrian use, and by local residents who come to sit by the water on hot days because it is approximately 10 degrees cooler in the forest.

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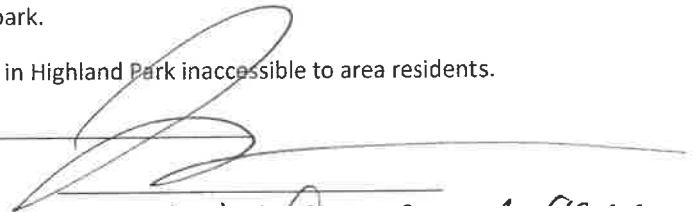
Wildlife should be protected.

I have used this part of San Pascual Park on the east side of the park.

I am concerned that the Project will make San Pascual Park Land in Highland Park inaccessible to area residents.

Name: JUDITH GOLDSTEIN

Signature



Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, a joint project between Pasadena and South Pasadena

Please do not approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project (the Project) until and unless Highland Park resident's and Native American tribe, concerns about the project are acknowledged, cured, and incorporated into the plan and residents are allowed to participate in a real outreach process. After input is received, the City of Los Angeles should negotiate to incorporate community concerns in the project. San Pascual Park land should not be removed as open space with City of Los Angeles residents receiving no meaningful benefits.

The Project will use San Pascual Park land which is located in Highland Park to build a water filtration project. They claim this is necessary to clean the water from the Arroyo Seco channel. The San Pascual park land that will be used is currently located on the east side of the channel and is a virtual small forest. The Project will fence in Highland Park land and make it inaccessible to City of Los Angeles residents and other users of the park. This land is currently used by area residents for hiking, running, bird and wildlife watching, equestrian use, and by local residents who come to sit by the water on hot days because it is approximately 10 degrees cooler in the forest.

There was no meaningful outreach or engagement to users of the park, residents of the San Pascual Valley, Native American tribes, Equestrian users of the park, City of Los Angeles residents, or to the Highland Park Neighborhood council. A Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was mailed to just 98 Highland Park residents within 500 feet of the park. Most of these residents do not recall the notice which was mailed just before the Thanksgiving Holidays in 2023. In the whole of Pasadena, South Pasadena and Los Angeles only two residents submitted comments on the MND. This lack of participation shows that the community was largely unaware of the project and its impacts to their community.

The San Pascual Neighborhood is unique. It is largely a bowl which is bordered by the hillside of Avenue 66, the York street bridge, South Pasadena and the 110 freeway/ Arroyo Seco Parkway. Most residents live from across the street from the freeway to within half a mile of the freeway. Thousands of vehicles pass by each day. Because of its topography residents are susceptible to heat which settles in the community and pollution from the I-110 freeway. Fortunately, the area has had an abundance of mature trees which have protected residents from heat and pollution. This tree canopy in the past decade has been reduced by development.

( ) I am concerned that this project will remove 136 mature trees out of 166 trees (82 percent) from the San Pascual site. Thirty-six of these trees are protected. More than a quarter of the tree removals will be of protected trees. The 166 trees that are adjacent to the Arroyo Seco channel make up a small green belt forest that is a haven for area wildlife. The destruction of this small forest will be felt as it protects San Pascual residents from pollution, noise and heat. It provides protection from the I-110 freeway.

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( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Stuart Kennedy

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: Brian Wilson

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: Maria Schover

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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Name: MARK FORBES

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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Address: 0

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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Please do not approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project until and unless Highland Park resident's and Native American tribe, concerns about the project are acknowledged, cured, and incorporated into the plan and residents are allowed to participate in a real outreach process. After input is received, the City of Los Angeles should negotiate to incorporate community concerns in the project. San Pascual Park land should not be removed as open space with City of Los Angeles residents receiving no meaningful benefits.

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Name: Rebekah Ring

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

J u

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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( X ) PLEASE DO NOT USE OR TRANSFER WATER TO THE GOLF COURSE

Name: DANIEL JORANVELLI Email Address:

Address: \_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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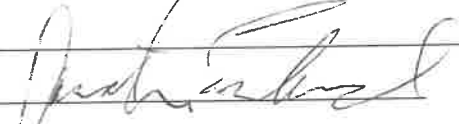
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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: Stewart Lozano

Signature

Stewart Lozano

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, a joint project between Pasadena and South Pasadena

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Name: Elizabeth Nieto-Lozano Signature



Address:

Email Address:

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name:

STELLA CHU

Signature



Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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Name: INDALECIO OROZCO  Email Address:

Address:

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( ✓ ) *Saving the trees is MOST important for the people, wildlife, and quality, noise prevention & heat prevention.*

Name: SUZANNE GERO Signature: Suzanne Gero

Address: L Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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(  ) I have used this part of San Pascual Park on the east side of the park.

(  ) I am concerned that the Project will make San Pascual Park Land in Highland Park inaccessible to area residents.

(  ) Please keep this treasure intact.

Name: Brent D Batchelor Signature Brent D. Batchelor

Address: \_\_

Email Address: \_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, a joint project between Pasadena and South Pasadena

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(  ) Our local natural habitats are being destroyed.

Name: Ken Batchelor

Signature

Ken Batchelor

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
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(  ) So much of our "LOCAL" natural habitat is being destroyed!

Name: Sherry Batchelor

Signature

Sherry Batchelor

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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(  ) *The community should have input on decisions affecting our trees & water.*

Name: Amy Ludwig Signature: [Signature]

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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(JL) Water resources should be shared with the City of Los Angeles.

(JL) Wildlife should be protected.

(JL) I have used this part of San Pascual Park on the east side of the park.

(JL) Golf courses are a waste of resources and pollute the water table and provide no habitat.

Name: Jessica Cerutti

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
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( CC ) Draft make LA park's Pumping grounds for south pasadena

Name: Charles Cerutti Signature Charles Cerutti

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: Patricia Cavato

Signature: 

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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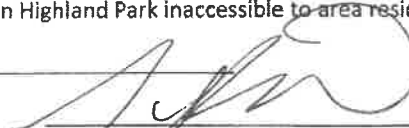
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( )

Name:

Tistan Cavato

Signature



Address:

Email Address:

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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Name: Laela Cavato

Signature: Laela Cavato

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Melody Cavato Signature: Melody Cavato

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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( )

Name: Scarlette Cavato Signature

Scarlette Cavato

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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( )  
Name: Lucia C. Vasquez Signature: [Signature]  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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Name: Linda Cavato

Signature: Linda Cavato

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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(  ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Yolanda Vera

Signature Yolanda Vera

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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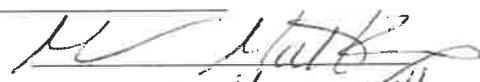
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\_\_\_\_\_

Name: MARTHA MATTHEWS

Signature



Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, a joint project between Pasadena and South Pasadena

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(DC)

Name: DAVID COREY

Signature



Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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( )  
Name: Melissa Corey Signature:   
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
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(X) SAVE THE TREES! They Bring Oxygen! The Birds Homes!

Name: Michelle Mendoza Signature: 

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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all of The Above

Name: Gilbert P. Mendoza

Signature

Gilbert P. Mendoza

Address:

\_\_\_\_ Email Address:



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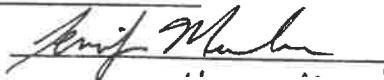
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Name: Jennifer Mendoza

Signature



Address:

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Name: Alex Zuno

Signature

Email Address:

Address:

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The San Pascual Neighborhood is unique. It is largely a bowl which is bordered by the hillside of Avenue 66, the York street bridge, South Pasadena and the 110 freeway/ Arroyo Seco Parkway. Most residents live from across the street from the freeway to within half a mile of the freeway. Thousands of vehicles pass by each day. Because of its topography residents are susceptible to heat which settles in the community and pollution from the I-110 freeway. Fortunately, the area has had an abundance of mature trees which have protected residents from heat and pollution. This tree canopy in the past decade has been reduced by development.

(A3) I am concerned that this project will remove 136 mature trees out of 166 trees (82 percent) from the San Pascual site. Thirty-six of these trees are protected. More than a quarter of the tree removals will be of protected trees. The 166 trees that are adjacent to the Arroyo Seco channel make up a small green belt forest that is a haven for area wildlife. The destruction of this small forest will be felt as it protects San Pascual residents from pollution, noise and heat. It provides protection from the I-110 freeway.

(A3) I am concerned that 15 mature trees will be removed from the east side of our San Pascual Park in Highland Park. Nine (9) of these trees are protected. Four (4) mature coast live oaks and five (5) Mexican elderberries will be removed. We need the trees as we face unprecedented climate change impacts. The replacement of trees will not provide any benefit to the community for 10 to 20 years in terms of shade or protection from air and noise pollution.

(A3) I oppose the removal of any protected trees from our open space/green space on the San Pascual Park property which is in Highland Park and is located east of the Arroyo Seco channel and south of San Pascual bridge.

(A3) The San Pascual stables until recently allowed run-off from the stables including manure to run into the Arroyo Seco channel. The water should be retested.

(A3) The historic Arroyo Seco stone hitching post located on Highland Park land in San Pascual park to the east of the Arroyo Seco Channel south of the San Pascual park should be not be removed. It should be preserved in place.

(A3) The huge concrete pad which will cover the Pumping Station should be on South Pasadena property, not Highland Park's San Pascual Park property.

(A3) Water resources should be shared with the City of Los Angeles.

(A3) Wildlife should be protected.

(A3) I have used this part of San Pascual Park on the east side of the park.

(A3) I am concerned that the Project will make San Pascual Park Land in Highland Park inaccessible to area residents.

(A3) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Amanda Zuno Signature

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: 

To: Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, a joint project between Pasadena and South Pasadena

Please do not approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project (the Project) until and unless Highland Park resident's and Native American tribe, concerns about the project are acknowledged, cured, and incorporated into the plan and residents are allowed to participate in a real outreach process. After input is received, the City of Los Angeles should negotiate to incorporate community concerns in the project. San Pascual Park land should not be removed as open space with City of Los Angeles residents receiving no meaningful benefits.

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(RS) I am concerned that the Project will make San Pascual Park Land in Highland Park inaccessible to area residents.

(RS)

Name: Tennifer Zuno

Signature

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: Yunfeng

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**From:** robin fox  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2024 9:55 PM  
**To:** Clara Solis  
**Subject:** letter for rec & parks 7 / 18 meeting

**To:** Recreation and Parks Commissioners:  
Kevin De Leon, CD 14, Los Angeles City Council and Mayor of Los Angeles  
**Re:** Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, a joint project between Pasadena and South Pasadena

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( YES ) Water resources should be shared with the City of Los Angeles.

( YES ) Wildlife should be protected.

( YES ) I have used this part of San Pascual Park on the east side of the park.

( YES ) I am concerned that the Project will make San Pascual Park Land in Highland Park inaccessible to area residents.

( YES ) I worry that the noise of the pumping operation will shatter the calm provided by the plants & paths.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Sylva Blackstone

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### **ELYSIAN PARK CUTTING OF PROTECTED SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BLACK WALNUTS**

Recreation and Parks personnel either directed or did not properly supervise a contractor at the park. The contractor literally clear cut a children's area of many protected Southern California Black Walnuts and other native plants.

A Takaape' Waashut / SoCal Black Walnut woodland full of various native trees and shrubs including Toyon, Elderberry, Catalina and Holly Leaf Cherry and Lemonade Berry were cut and mutilated under the guise of brush clearance in and surrounding the Children's Arboretum in Elysian Park.

Parks & Rec and Urban Forestry should ONLY use city staff knowledgeable of our native species and the rules under the tree protection ordinance, INCLUDING the CUMULATIVE diameter specification. Protocols must be set up so that a city arborist or ecologist reviews the site and tags native and protected species that aid in fire resilience before any brush clearance is performed.



Public comment – Jessica Hernandez Solis

As an LA resident who grew up with a foot in Pasadena, I've got to enjoy your beautiful, vibrant cities with character and charm. Sadly, character and charm require resources to maintain. It was just accepted that Pasadena kids got nicer things than kids in LA. Better services, better schools, trees and animals for those whose parents earn more. It's a microcosm of course; everywhere else is designed like this; but that doesn't make it good or right.

I wish an invisible line didn't determine where our responsibilities for each other begin and end; because the idea that what happens on one side can be kept on that side is more naive and idealistic than thinking we'll fix all our problems from people asking nicely. However, that doesn't mean it can't save this oasis for the kids on both sides of this line.

Please don't approve the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project.

Clara Solis Comment:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the trustee agency for this project did not submit a comment letter. This area is prime habitat for the Western Yellow Bat and other wildlife of concern including the Great Blue Heron which frequently hangs out at San Pascual Park. CDFW's input on this project must be included.

A full Environmental Impact Report must be prepared. This is probably a sensitive natural habitat. There are wildlife of concern. The impacts to residents who live by the Arroyo Seco Parkway have not been fully addressed. The removal of a virtual small forest can have, air, noise and heat impacts which will effect the health of our residents.

I am concerned about impacts and CEQA should be followed and has not been.

Thank you