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June 5, 2020

via email

Shilpa Gupta, Environmental Supervisor I
City of Los Angeles Public Works, Bureau of Engineering
Environmental Management Group
1149 S Broadway, Suite 600, Mail Stop 939
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: SRPS DEIR City of Los Angeles Sidewalk Repair Program

Dear Ms. Gupta:

At a Special Meeting held June 4, 2020, the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council passed the following resolution.

RESOLUTION on Sidewalk Repair Program Draft EIR

WHEREAS: The Sidewalk Repair Program Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) proposes to allow the tree canopy to decrease over 1.5% during 30 years by removing 12,869 large trees, only reaching 2017 levels again in 2047, and

WHEREAS: The EIR proposes to mitigate tree loss at different ratios during different years of the project, only planting the minimum number of trees necessary to return to 2017 levels in 2047, and

WHEREAS: The EIR claims the project to have minimal environmental impacts, and

WHEREAS: An urban tree canopy is an essential first line of defense against extreme heat days, which will become more frequent during the next 30 years and localized tree loss will result in a dangerous increase in local temperatures, especially on extreme heat days, and

WHEREAS: The loss of tree canopy also means reduced air quality, loss of habitat, loss of stormwater filtration, and loss of aesthetics and property values.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council requests:

- 1) That every possible effort be made to redesign sidewalks around trees utilizing bulb-outs and meandering sidewalks, and

- 2) Only those trees necessary to be removed for sidewalk repair be removed, with no preemptive removal of trees not causing problems, and
- 3) That all trees removed for the sidewalk repair program be mitigated at a ratio of 4:1 with species of equal size at maturity and located in the same neighborhood as those removed, and
- 4) That the EIR be amended to consider tree removal a significant adverse impact with binding mitigation measures, and
- 5) That every tree removal continues to have the due process of notification through an Urban Forestry Division tree removal notice and that removal of 3 or more trees at a given site continue to have a Board of Public Works hearing, and
- 6) Equal funds be dedicated to a three-to-five year pruning program for all trees, and
- 7) Preference be given to California natives, and
- 8) Provide a 60-day extension in the scoping period be instituted to allow Neighborhood Councils the opportunity to review and submit motions, and
- 9) Please schedule additional public meetings beyond the seven city-wide meetings currently scheduled, in order to give stakeholders ample opportunity to provide public comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carrie Scoville". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Carrie Scoville
President