



# COASTAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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February 3, 2021

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Dear Representatives:

At a recent public meeting of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council, the following resolution was passed by the Board of Directors:

**Urban forestry and street tree planning should be based on San Pedro Urban Greening Plan.**

**Whereas** the City of Los Angeles has launched a program — StreetsLA — to encourage planting of street trees, citing aesthetic, economic, and environmental benefits; and

**Whereas** San Pedro has a formally adopted urban greening plan encouraging the use of locally native plant species and citing their more efficient adaptation to local climate and soil conditions, their reduced water demand compared to most non-natives, and their superior habitat value for native species of birds, butterflies, bees, and other wildlife; and

**Whereas** San Pedro has a strong aversion to replacing distinctive local features with generic substitutes that erase the history, heritage, and character of the area; and

**Whereas** the City's StreetsLA Urban Forestry Summary for Coastal San Pedro documents the fact that the five most common street tree species currently found in Coastal San Pedro are all non-natives, including Mexican fan palm, king palm, queen palm, Canary Island date palm, and Indian laurel fig; and

**Whereas** the same Urban Forestry Summary's list of Coastal San Pedro's top four "unique and distinct" trees also consists entirely of non-native species, including Indian laurel fig, carrotwood, jacaranda, and bottle tree; and

**Whereas** local suppliers including the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy, the South Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, among others, can provide locally-native plant stock (as distinct from related plant stock adapted to, and taken from, other areas such as the Central Valley or the Coachella Valley);

**Therefore Be It Resolved that** the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council strongly encourages the City of Los Angeles to base its local urban forestry and street tree planning on the existing San Pedro Urban Greening Plan, and to give priority to locally native species, including California sycamore, Catalina cherry, coast live oak, toyon, laurel sumac, and lemonade berry, that provide the greatest ecological, environmental, and economic advantages.

Please contact Robin Rudisill, Chair of the CSPNC Planning Committee; at 310-721-2343 should you have any questions related to this letter and resolution.

Sincerely,



Doug Epperhart, President  
On behalf of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board

CC:

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