



Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>

Sidewalk repairs

1 message

Patrick <bigaub@sbcglobal.net>

Thu, Oct 20, 2011 at 10:55 AM

Reply-To: Patrick <bigaub@sbcglobal.net>

To: Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org

Cc: Ray/Roxie Holm <RHolm24654@aol.com>, Ellen Bagelman <eplus3@socal.rr.com>

If the city does not want to repair sidewalks and curbs with damage caused by CITY Parkway Trees, They should remove the trees. At least permit homeowners to remove problem causing trees without a permit. Then there is no longer a problem.

Patrick Aubuchon

Lake Balboa



Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>

Oppose this ordinance

1 message

Esther Glaze <estherglaze@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 19, 2011 at 9:37 PM

To: Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org

My name is Esther Glaze, a homeowner in South Los Angeles and I am oppose to the city transferring the responsibility of repairing sidewalks, curbs, and driveways damaged by tree roots and if we do not repair them the city will have it done. Why are we paying taxes? Is it no more we have Public Works to take care of our streets, curbs and sidewalks? We pay for city services. There is \$9 billion dollars that has been set aside for public works in Sacramento. Get some of that \$9 billion for sidewalks, driveways and curbs in south Los Angeles and put some people to work.

Esther Glaze



Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>

Re: URGENT: Sidewalk Repair Issue In Committee Today 2 pm

2 messages

pamela goldfinger <pkgoldfinger@verizon.net>

Wed, Oct 19, 2011 at 11:21 AM

To: Bernard.C.Parks@lacity.org, RICHARD ALARCON <richard.alarcon@lacity.org>, Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org
Cc: "Rosales, Dan" <dan.rosales@lacity.org>, Brad Klimovitch <brad@nvamc.com>, david91340@yahoo.com, manny figueras <manny.figuera@lacity.org>, no1leyblondeangel@yahoo.com, Joe Lozano <jl_pinoy@msn.com>, Elizabeth Marx <ElizabethM@gmail.com>, Richard & Ruth Arroyo <rarroyo@mwdh2o.com>

Gentlemen:

Following Paper was taken from Good Cities, 'Walking in L.A.: Street Trees as Vandals.'

"There are 6,500 miles of streets in Los Angeles; 10,000 miles of sidewalks. Planted along them are 670,000 city-managed trees—crape myrtles, fan palms, American sweetgums, Southern magnolias, Indian laurel figs. All the trees here, except for the palms, seem to grow outward rather than upward—a nice metaphor for a city synonymous with sprawl, sure, but it's hell on the sidewalks. Los Angeles spends \$3 to \$5 million a year getting sued for trips and falls on street cracks, and 90 percent of sidewalk damage is caused by tree roots.

In "Street Trees of Los Angeles," a boringly titled but fascinating paper put out by researchers from the UC Davis School of Urban Forestry and Los Angeles's public works department, the authors suggest this solution: root pruning. It is, basically, lifting the sidewalk and going at the delinquent roots with a chainsaw. Los Angeles still plants about 16,500 trees a year, and the paper suggests that "selecting tree species that are well-suited to their sites" will cause a lot less damage. Will this mean only palm trees? Will everywhere look a little like Beverly Hills? (Later I learn that this is impossible, that even though Beverly Hills is lined with palms it doesn't have many sidewalks.)"

Most of the street trees planted though out our City were selected and planted by the City and housing developers. The Cities lack of maintenance of street trees, regular trimming and root pruning, has been notoriously lacking for more than a decade. For the City of Los Angeles to now choose to hold property owners responsible for the damage that occurs to sidewalks from street trees when said property owners had no authority or control of the selection and/or planting of said trees would seem a grossly unreasonable and unfair burden.

Finally, since I cannot state it better, I will quote Mr. Klimovitch, "Proposals that fly under property owners radar like this just add fuel to the disdain felt towards our elected officials at city hall!"

Pamela Goldfinger, Mission Hills

----- Original Message -----

From: Brad Klimovitch
To: Figueras, Manny ; Goldfinger, Pam ; Guzman, David
Cc: Rosales, Dan
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2011 12:11 PM
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Sidewalk Repair Issue In Committee Today 2 pm

Good morning gentlemen,

I oppose this proposed ordinance and hope with my Mr Alarcons and Mr Englanders wisdom that this measure is defeated. Proposals that fly under property owners radar like this just add fuel to the disdain felt towards our elected officials at city hall!

Sincerely,

Brad Klimovitch C.A.M.F
Managing Director
North Valley Anger Management Consultants
(888)992-6479
(818)606-7531

—Original Message—

From: Glenn Bailey [mailto:glennbaileysfv@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2011 12:55 PM
To: 'Glenn Bailey'
Subject: URGENT: Sidewalk Repair Issue In Committee Today 2 pm

SIDEWALK REPAIR ISSUE IN COMMITTEE TODAY 2 PM

The controversial proposal to transfer the responsibility of repairing sidewalks, curbs, and driveways damaged by tree roots from the City to the adjoining property owner will be considered this afternoon at a 2:00 p.m. special joint meeting of the City Council's Public Works and Budget and Finance Committees at City Hall Room 1010. As Neighborhood Councils know, special meetings only require 24 hour posting notice and apparently that's all that was provided.

A Bureau of Street Services report dated October 19, 2011 lists seven options with six sub-options, including a "no change" option. The full report is available here:

http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2005/05-1853_rpt_boss_010-019-11.pdf

The original 2005 motion was to have a point of sale requirement; last year the City Council directed instead that the City Attorney draft an ordinance (included with report above) that required property owners to commence the necessary repairs within 90 days of being "cited" from a list of City-approved contractors. If the repairs were not made during this time frame, the City would do them, add a 40% "administrative fee," and then collect by a property lien and/or legal action which could include garnishing wages, bank accounts, etc.

Many NCs have voted to oppose the ordinance as drafted and some have filed Community Impact Statements, which appear on today's agenda (see below).

If you are unable to attend the meeting, email and/or telephone the committee members: Huizar, Parks, Englander, Cardenas, Koretz, and Rosendahl.

Comments for the official file should be emailed to: Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org and include the Council File numbers 05-1853 and 05-1853-S1.

Thank you.

Glenn Bailey
Area 1 Representative
Encino Neighborhood Council

Office/Voicemail: 818-453-3407

Here is the meeting agenda text:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE and
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2011
ROOM 1010, CITY HALL - 2:00 PM
200 NORTH SPRING STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
COUNCILMEMBER JOSE HUIZAR, CHAIR
COUNCILMEMBER MITCHELL ENGLANDER
COUNCILMEMBER BERNARD C. PARKS

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
COUNCILMEMBER BERNARD C. PARKS, CHAIR
COUNCILMEMBER TONY CARDENAS
COUNCILMEMBER MITCHELL ENGLANDER
COUNCILMEMBER PAUL KORETZ
COUNCILMEMBER BILL ROSENDAHL

(Eric Villanueva - Legislative Assistant - 213-978-1077 or e-mail Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org)

Note: For information regarding the Committee and its operations, please contact the Committee Legislative Assistant at the phone number and/or email address listed above. Upon 72-hour advance notice, assistive listening devices, and other accommodations, such as sign language interpretation and translation services are available at the meeting. Contact the Legislative Assistant listed above for the needed services.

FILE NO. SUBJECT

(1)

05-1853

CONTINUED FROM 2-20-08, 5-20-09, 4-15-10 AND 7-20-11

Bureau of Street Services (BOSS) and City Attorney reports and revised draft Ordinance relative to amending the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) in connection with a point of sale plan for sidewalk repair and related matters.

Fiscal Impact Statement Submitted: No

Community Impact Statement: Yes
Against Proposal:
Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council
Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council
Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council
Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
Northridge East Neighborhood Council
Studio City Neighborhood Council

(2)

05-1853-S1 CONTINUED FROM 2-20-08, 5-20-09, 4-15-10 AND 7-20-11

BOSS and City Attorney reports and draft Ordinance relative to amending LAMC Section 62.104, Subsection (e) to repeal the "Exception" that established City liability for repair of curbs, driveways and sidewalks due to tree root damage and related matters.

Fiscal Impact Statement Submitted: No

Community Impact Statement Submitted: Yes

Against Proposal:

Northridge East Neighborhood Council

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC INTEREST WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office at 200 North Spring Street, Room 395, City Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90012 during normal business hours.

Brad Klimovitch <brad@nvamc.com>

Wed, Oct 19, 2011 at 6:20 PM

To: Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org, "Hooey, Bill" <wildguyguyla@earthlink.net>, "Figueras, Manny" <Manny.Figueras@lacity.org>

Cc: "Goldfinger, Pam" <pkggoldfinger@verizon.net>, "Guzman, David" <David91340@yahoo.com>

Mr Villanueva,

Who is the responsible city official for notifying stakeholders in the Granada Hills North and Mission Hills area regarding such an underhanded assessment process? We never heard a thing about this until today. This smells almost like the REAP scandal surrounding the LA Housing Department. Let us pray that our city council does not sell out the stakeholders that pay their checks. Please reply with the results of our city council vote on the proposal noted below.

Sincerely,

Brad Klimovitch
Community Outreach Chair
Mission Hills Neighborhood Council
(818) 606-7531

-----Original Message-----

From: pamela goldfinger [mailto:pkgoldfinger@verizon.net]

Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2011 02:21 PM

To: Bernard.C.Parks@lacity.org, 'RICHARD ALARCON', Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org

Cc: 'Rosales, Dan', 'Brad Klimovitch', david91340@yahoo.com, 'manny figueras',
no1leyblondeangel@yahoo.com, 'Joe Lozano', 'Elizabeth Marx', 'Richard & Ruth Arroyo'

Subject: Re: URGENT: Sidewalk Repair Issue In Committee Today 2 pm

[Quoted text hidden]
