



Laurel Canyon Association

*A Community Organization Dedicated to Improving and Preserving
the Quality of Life in Laurel Canyon*

February 18, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Councilmember Joe Buscaino
Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo
Councilmember Curren D. Price, Jr.
Public Works & Gang Reduction Committee
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Council File Number 14-0019 - Street Tree Guidelines and Policies

Dear Chair Buscaino and Committee Members:

I am writing to express Laurel Canyon Association's ("LCA") support of the motion initiated by Councilmember Mike Bonin. The motion states that members of the westside community have experienced improper pruning procedures. LCA would like to note that we were faced with a similar experience over a year ago as part of the City's Tree Canopy Removal Program ("Program") overseen and supervised by the Los Angeles Fire Department ("LAFD").

Laurel Canyon's heritage tree population was greatly impacted by the Program when numerous trees (including large, native oaks) were either entirely removed or significantly cut back in a manner that threatened their survival. As you can imagine, the work was controversial and many residents were upset. While it is too late to undo the damage done to our community, LCA supports the efforts of Councilman Bonin and City Council to conform the City's Program to established City policies and guidelines that will ensure healthy tree life.

board@laurelcanyon.org
www.LaurelCanyon.org

Please don't hesitate to contact LCA if you have any questions or comments. Our organization may be reached at board@laurelcanyon.org.

Sincerely,

Cassandra Barrere

Cassandra Barrère

On Behalf of the Board of the Laurel Canyon Association

CC:

Councilmember Mike Bonin

David Graham-Caso

About Laurel Canyon Association

LCA is a neighborhood association serving the area of the Hollywood Hills known as "Laurel Canyon," one the most beautiful and environmentally important areas of Los Angeles. The hills in Laurel Canyon provide a scenic backdrop for the rest of Los Angeles. Further Laurel Canyon's forested valleys and chaparral-draped hillsides offer habit for native wildlife. Laurel Canyon also is home to a watershed and greenbelt for the vastly developed plains of Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley.

LCA was founded for the express purpose of preserving and improving the quality of life in Laurel Canyon. The goal of our community group is to promote the welfare of the residents of Laurel Canyon and to maintain the quality of life in the Hollywood Hills, by preserving its residential character, its quiet, privacy, natural beauty and safety. Moreover, LCA endeavors to encourage cooperation among all residents and to educate appropriate governmental bodies concerning changes in existing or proposed laws affecting Laurel Canyon or in anything that affects the local community.

LCA's jurisdiction includes Laurel Canyon Boulevard, its feeder streets and the Kirkwood, Stanley Hills, Lookout Mountain and Wonderland areas. The neighborhood is bounded on the north by Mulholland Boulevard and at the south by Hollywood Boulevard. The main streets are Laurel Canyon Boulevard, Mulholland Drive, Wonderland Avenue, Lookout Mountain Avenue, Kirkwood, and Stanley Hills. LCA is a residential stakeholder with membership in the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council system, specifically, the Bel-Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council ("BABCNC").