

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

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April 13, 2016

## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

FERNANDO CAMPOS  
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Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Room No. 305  
City Hall  
Attn: Mandy Morales

# 1 BPW/BSS  
(of 4/8/16)

Subject: REQUEST ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED TREE REPLACEMENT IN-LIEU CONCEPT AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TREE REPLACEMENT/PLANTING IN-LIEU FEE

As recommended in the accompanying report of the Executive Officer of the Board of Public Works and the Director of the Bureau of Street Services, which this Board has adopted, the Board of Public Works requests approval and forwarding to the City Council to:

1. Adopt the Proposed Tree Replacement In-Lieu Concept;
2. Approve to Establish a Tree Replacement/Planting In-Lieu Fee to act as a Non-Refundable Deposit for Private Development and Residential projects as an option to (a) satisfy the Department of Public Works' Tree Replacement Policy of "2 x 1" ratio (Tree Replacement: Tree Removal) and (b) provide the Department of City Planning with a permit alternative compliance option for Private Residential Development Projects to meet the City's Zoning Code requirements;
3. Request the Office of the City Attorney to Prepare and Present a draft Ordinance Amending the Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 62 to add a new sub-section as "Establishment of a Tree Replacement/Planting In-Lieu Fee (a Non-Refundable Deposit)";
4. Instruct the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services and Board of Public Works, to review on an annual basis the cost associated with the Tree Replacement/Planting In-Lieu Fee (a Non-Refundable Deposit), and seek City Council approval for future fee changes, if any;

5. Authorize the Department of Public Works to collect and deposit said Tree Replacement/Planting In-Lieu Fee (Non-Refundable Deposit) into the Public Works Trust Fund No. 834 to provide funding for related tree replacement, planting and establishment expenses;
6. Authorize the Director of Accounting, or designee, to (a) establish a new Department Revenue Source Code (DRSRC) and work with the Office of the Controller to create a new Appropriation Account within the Public Works Trust Fund No. 834 to collect and deposit the proposed receipts, and (b) on an interim basis but no less than once per fiscal year, reimburse the City's General Fund from the Public Works Trust Fund No. 834 for associated accounting services expenses incurred; and
7. Authorize the Board of Public Works to make technical corrections or clarifications that may be necessary to implement the intent of the proposed concept.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The proposed Tree Replacement and Planting In-Lieu Fee will act as a Non-Refundable Deposit to pay for the anticipated cost to plant a tree at an off-site location. At this time, it is difficult to forecast the exact amount that may be collected from the proposed In-Lieu Fee concept. However, based on a baseline review period (June 2015 – February 2016) for tree removal permits approved, the anticipated number of Tree Replacement and Planting In-Lieu receipts may range between 200 and 400 or an average of 300 trees with a 60%/40% mix of Private Development versus Residential applicants, respectively. Therefore, based on these assumptions, it is anticipated that the proposed concept will annually cost approximately \$755,000 with anticipated annual receipts of \$618,060 to defray cost. The General Fund is expected to pay the balance annual cost of \$138,140 as mandated by the L.A.M.C. for maintaining and establishing replacement trees for residential projects. A small portion of \$57,600 will help pay for accounting services (i.e. City's Salaries Account). This does not include potential impact from a reduced (sliding scale) "in-lieu" fee.

Respectfully submitted,



Fernando Campos, Executive Officer  
Board of Public Works

FC:mp