

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Greater Valley Glen Neighborhood Council

Name: Walter Hall

Phone Number: (818) 766-0888

Email: [whall@greatervalleyglencouncil.org](mailto:whall@greatervalleyglencouncil.org)

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(15) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(1) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 04/01/2019

Type of NC Board Action: Against

#### Impact Information

Date: 04/22/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 18-0600-S84

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Greater Valley Glen Council is against conducting a tree inventory of Los Angeles street trees that utilizes volunteers and non-professionals as described in the tree-trimming report by Controller Ron Galperin. While we agree that a tree inventory and maintenance software is absolutely vital to the function of Urban Forestry and these are badly needed quickly, this non-professional enterprise could be a huge waste of time and money unless it is conducted by an outside professional inventory company employing certified arborists who do an "in person" evaluation of the City's street trees -- trees which sometimes, but not always, have been subjected to invasive insects, often over-pruned, and can be mistaken for dead during certain times of the year unless inspected by a pro. We are losing our urban forest at a rapid rate due to many factors, and we cannot afford the mistakes of a non-professional identifying the large number of species (many that look nearly the same but have different ecosystem services), as well as trying to assess the widely varying and complicated conditions of the City's trees. Urban Forestry Division can acquire the same Davey software as Recreation and Parks but must follow the good example of the County of Los Angeles and populate the software using unbiased professionals to determine the species and condition of each tree. Anything less would be pennywise and pound foolish.