

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ron Bitzer  
**Date Submitted:** 08/09/2019 10:07 AM  
**Council File No:** 18-0634-S1  
**Comments for Public Posting:** See attachment please

**Public Comment of Ron Bitzer  
6245 Gentry Ave.  
North Hollywood  
(490 Feet from NoHo West)**

**April 9, 2019**

**The NoHo West Sign District Ordinance (CF-18-0634-S1)** provides for a community benefit plan in lieu of a sign reduction plan, called the Visual Environment Improvement Program "... to improve the visual environment in the North Hollywood area within one mile of the (NoHo West) property," p. 24. This proposed program includes improvements to parkways (p. 24).

Private funding to respond to visual and safety environmental issues ---- issues normally within the purview of City government --- is a fact of life in North Hollywood. Therefore, I support the Visual Environment Improvement Program and offer the following fact pattern as a compelling reason for such private funding.

**Bureau of Street Services and Dead Trees (Priority Level 3 Removal)**

Regarding 6249 Gentry Ave. (less than one mile from NoHo West)  
I submit the following facts pertaining to (a) two dead trees in the City parkway, (b) the failure of City services to address this safety as well as visual problem over a 5 month period and ( c ) outright mendacity by a Bureau of Street Services inspector here.

- **April 2, 2019** --- City closes my request for parkway tree inspection by claiming falsely that "tree was removed." **See Attachment A.**
- **May 20, 2019** --- I file a California Public Records Act request with Mr. Fernando Campos for all City documents for Service Request #1-294409361.

- **July 3, 2019** --- I ask Mr. Campos for an update on my CPRA request.
- **July 10, 2019** --- Board of Public Works acknowledges my CPRA request and states that the Urban Forestry Division will respond.
- **July 25, 2019** --- Vanessa Martin responded to my phone call and provided City paperwork for this Service Request. Document dated April 2, 2019 shows that Crew 22 had removed a dead tree at the 6249 Gentry Ave. location and a “closeout” for this request made.
- **July 31, 2019** ---- The Urban Forestry Division of the Bureau of Street Services (818-756-8755 between 7 am and 9 am) issues a “No Fee Permit” for a private party to remove dry-dead trees at 6249 Gentry Ave.

Other dead parkway trees exist on this street and within one-half mile of NoHo West. The Visual Environment Improvement Program may serve as one resource to pay for private removal of dead City trees --- before dead trees fall to the ground ---- sometimes creating a liability issue for the City.



Ron Bitzer &lt;ronbitzer49@gmail.com&gt;

**MyLA311: Closed - Street Tree Inspection - 6249 N GENTRY AVE, 91606**

1 message

311@lacity.org <311@lacity.org>  
To: ronbitzer49@gmail.com

Tue, Apr 2, 2019 at 8:57 AM

*Quality • Timeliness • Efficiency*

Your Street Tree Inspection request was updated on 04/02/2019 8:57 AM.

Service Request # 1-1294409361

Location: [6249 N GENTRY AVE, 91606](#)

✓ Status: Closed

✓ Tree was removed

Recent comments:

F/1 sycamore 16" X 15 ' dry.

You can check the status of your request by

1. Visiting <https://myla311.lacity.org>
2. Using the mobile app from [Google Play](#) or the [Apple Store](#)
3. Contacting Bureau of Street Services with your service request number

BSS Call center hours: M-F 7:00 am - 3:55 pm  
Telephone / TTY: dial (800) 996-CITY or (800) 996-2489