

PUBLIC WORKS AND GANG REDUCTION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) appeal by United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles and the Eastside Nature Alliance of a tree removal permit request under the Sidewalk Repair Program for removal of 18 Indian Laurel Fig trees located at 1225-1254 North Cherokee Avenue.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. DENY the appeal by United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles and the Eastside Nature Alliance of a tree removal permit request under the Sidewalk Repair Program for removal of 18 Indian Laurel Fig trees located at 1225-1254 North Cherokee Avenue.
2. DETERMINE, based on the whole of the administrative record, that North Cherokee Avenue between Lexington and Fountain Avenues, Sidewalk Repair Program Site Nos. 1267, 1276 and 1450 (Project) is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section No. 15301, and there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that any exception to the categorical exemptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section No. 15300.2 applies.
3. DETERMINE, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines, Article III, Section 1, Class a, Category 1 (existing facilities), subpart (3) (operation, repair, maintenance or minor alteration of sidewalks) not subject to any exception.
4. INSTRUCT the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) to file a CEQA Notice of Exemption based upon the exemption determinations stated above at Recommended Action Nos. 2 and 3.
5. SUSTAIN the Board of Public Works' July 18, 2018 action approving a tree removal permit request to remove 18 trees located on North Cherokee Avenue between Lexington and Fountain Avenue for the reconstruction of an off-grade sidewalk, and the planting of 36 replacement trees.
6. INSTRUCT the BSS to report to the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee with an alternative solution for sidewalk design, with the intent of preserving as many trees on Cherokee Avenue as possible.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the BSS. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

## SUMMARY

At the meeting held on October 17, 2018, your Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee considered a BSS relative to the CEQA appeal by United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles and the Eastside Nature Alliance of a tree removal permit request under the Sidewalk Repair Program for removal of 18 Indian Laurel Fig trees located at 1225-1254 North Cherokee Avenue. After an opportunity for public comment was held, the Committee moved to deny the

appeal, as detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC WORKS AND GANG REDUCTION COMMITTEE

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>VOTE</u></b>
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
BUSCAINO:	YES
MARTINEZ:	YES
RYU:	YES
RODRIGUEZ:	ABSENT

ME 10/17/18

**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**