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MOTION

The City's Urban Forest is a public resource with increasing value as Southern California has become hotter and dryer. The Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee (Committee) has pending various motions relative to street trees, tree trimming, the Urban Forest and best tree management practices. These interrelated motions combined with the forth coming citywide sidewalk repair program has increased legislative focus on the relationship between the Urban Forest and quality of life issues for our communities and neighborhoods. Given the number of tree related motions pending before the Committee, there is a need for City staff to comprehensively review and report on pending street tree issues and concerns.

During City Council discussions on the 2015-16 Budget, various street tree issues were also voiced, including:

- Quality of work from City tree trimming crews vs. contractors;
- Using multi-year contracts and/or pre-qualified "on call" contractors to ensure timeliness and flexibility;
- Consolidating City tree trimming activities conducted by various City departments;
- Establishing combined street lighting, tree and sidewalk repair assessments districts for long-term maintenance of these resources; and,
- Updating the list of approved trees.

The diversity and breadth of the street tree motions pending before the Committee warrant an integrated and comprehensive review by the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and other City staff. A single reporting document, with a set of linked recommendations, could provide the framework for productive policy formation and best practices relative to the preservation and enhancement of the City's Urban Forest. Some of these matters are already under review by the CAO.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the City Administrative Officer, with the cooperation and assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst, the Department of Public Works and the City Attorney, be instructed to undertake a comprehensive review and reporting regarding the various City Street Tree issues and concerns, including but not limited to, motions currently pending before the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee.

PRESENTED BY: Joe Buscaino  
JOE BUSCAINO  
Councilmember, 15<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: Mark D. Zandall

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OCT 16 2015