

ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND RIVER COMMITTEE REPORT relative to instructing City Departments who engage with trees to report on the best practices for long-term tree maintenance and cost impact analysis due to water scarcity.

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Blumenfield - Koretz - Krekorian - O'Farrell):

1. INSTRUCT the City's Chief Forest Officer to partner with Bureau of Streets Services, Urban Forestry Division, the Department of Recreation and Parks, Bureau of Sanitation and its Biodiversity Expert panel, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), and other City departments who engage with trees, to report on:
 - a. Best practices for the long-term maintenance of the City's street trees and trees in City parks in light of persistent and worsening water scarcity conditions.
 - b. A cost impact analysis of City trees that are lost due to water scarcity conditions.
 - c. A proactive strategy to mitigate heat impacts on the City's trees, including but not limited to an updated planting schedule, prioritizing the receipt of tree planting in-lieu fees during sub-optimal planting seasons, mulching, holistic organics-first integrated pest management and disease prevention strategies, and prohibiting the trimming of live growth, except to address public safety issues.
 - d. A concerted plan to address tree maintenance at public facilities (i.e. public housing facilities and parks) that are relied upon for cooling, recreation and enjoyment, and where trees in our region have the opportunity to grow the largest and provide the most benefits.
 - e. On the feasibility of developing a robust outreach and education campaign to encourage city residents to responsibly and appropriately maintain trees on private property.
2. REQUEST the LADWP to report on a public messaging strategy emphasizing that the City is in a new era of long-term "water scarcity" and should plan accordingly for future scarcity exacerbated by an unpredictable heating climate.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For:

Chatsworth Neighborhood Council

Westside Neighborhood Council

Summary:

On September 1, 2022, your Committee considered Motion (Blumenfield - Koretz - Krekorian - O'Farrell) relative to instructing City Departments who engage with trees to report on the best practices for long-term tree maintenance and cost impact analysis due to water scarcity. The Motion attached to the Council file includes some background on the matter.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations reflected above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND RIVER COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
O'FARRELL:	YES
KORETZ:	ABSENT
CEDILLO:	YES
DE LEON:	YES
KREKORIAN:	YES

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-