

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Wilshire Center Koreatown Neighborhood Council represented by E. Isralowitz

**Date Submitted:** 11/19/2020 04:42 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0894-S1

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles City Council PLUM Committee members, On November 18th, 2020 the Wilshire Center Koreatown Neighborhood Council voted to oppose the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and Tree Removals at 3432 - 3470 W Wilshire Blvd; 659 - 699 S Mariposa Ave; 3265 - 3287 W 7th St; and 666 - 678 S Irolo St. Please see the attached for more information regarding our opposition and concerns. Sincerely, Elizabeth Isralowitz representing the WCKNC



WILSHIRE CENTER  
KOREATOWN  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



November 19, 2020

COUNCILMEMBER MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON, CHAIR

COUNCILMEMBER BOB BLUMENFIELD

COUNCILMEMBER CURREN D. PRICE, JR.

COUNCILMEMBER GILBERT A. CEDILLO

COUNCILMEMBER JOHN S. LEE

Councilmember Herb Wesson

Leyla Campos

Los Angeles City Council

200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, California 90012

**Re: Letter of Objection to the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and Tree Removals at 3432 - 3470  
W Wilshire Boulevard; 659 - 699 South Mariposa Avenue; 3265 - 3287 W 7th Street; and 666 - 678 S Irolo Street**

Dear Los Angeles City Council Planning and Land Use Committee, Leyla Campos, and Councilmember Herb Wesson,

We, the Wilshire Center - Koreatown Neighborhood Council (WCKNC) of the City of Los Angeles, are deeply concerned about the environmental impact of the removal of 33 healthy, mature trees. The tree canopy is an essential first line of defense against extreme heat days, which will become more frequent during the next 30 years, and localized tree loss will result in a dangerous increase in local temperatures, especially on extreme heat days. Loss of tree canopy also means reduced air quality, loss of habitat, loss of stormwater filtration, and loss of aesthetics and property values.

Wilshire Center-Koreatown is one of the most diverse areas in Los Angeles, with 91% of our residents identifying as people of color and a large percentage of low-income households. Unlike our neighboring areas, which have large parks or swaths of residential trees, the Wilshire Center - Koreatown neighborhood is densely populated with little green space and a shrinking number of mature trees. The unnecessary destruction of these trees is a significant environmental justice issue that will have long-term ramifications on the neighborhood's environment and the health of the nearby residents of this densely populated area and the 4,000 students who attend the nearby Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools.

**The WCKNC asks that the City Council PLUM committee to deny this Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and the associated removal of 33 healthy, mature trees. We request that any material staging occur off site, that any dedications be provided without street improvements, the curb be left where it is, and the dedication be used to create an expanded parkway area allowing for the trees to remain and additional trees and greenery to be planted.** In addition, we ask that the developer ensure the health and longevity of these trees by protecting them with netting and using the street or sidewalk to store any relevant equipment. At no time during the planning process was our council given specific information regarding these tree removals nor were we consulted by urban forestry or the City Planning Commission regarding the devastating impact these tree removals will have on our community. The removal of these trees without the engagement of this developer with the community is abhorrible. They do not own the trees and they should have no right to take these vital resources from us. **We ask that we be given time to work with the developer, City Planning Commission, Street Services, and Urban Forestry representatives to ensure our neighborhood does not lose these scarce and invaluable resources.**

Sincerely,

The Wilshire Center - Koreatown Neighborhood Council

PNB 400

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CC: Director Adel Hagekhalil, Streets LA  
Martin Schlageter, Streets LA  
Jamie Hwang, CD 10  
Deron Williams, CD 10  
Timothy Tyson, Chief Forester

Brent Green, CD 10 CFAC Representative