

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Markanday Ravi

**Date Submitted:** 03/07/2023 10:51 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0167

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, LA does not do a good job of maintaining its sidewalks; it has led to many expensive lawsuits for pedestrian injuries and poses serious mobility-equity problems. Street trees are a major cause for this, but the trees are also very helpful and provide vital urban canopy. Please consider coming up with a system that preserves the trees but allows the City to make sidewalk repairs. Federal funding can take the burden of this off the City's shoulders as well. Thank you, Markanday

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jeanne McConnell/Casey Maddren

**Date Submitted:** 03/07/2023 09:05 PM

**Council File No:** 23-0167

**Comments for Public Posting:** Angelenos for Trees and United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles would like to submit the attached letter in support of the motion to explore best practices for preserving mature trees and other sustainable solutions.



**Angelenos forTrees/United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles**

March 6, 2023

Councilmember John Lee  
Councilmember Traci Park  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N. Spring St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Motion Re Sidewalk Repair Program/Preservation of Mature Street Trees  
Council File: 23-0167

Dear Councilmembers Lee and Park,

We're writing on behalf of Angelenos for Trees and United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles to thank you for introducing your motion in response to the recent court decision regarding the Sidewalk Repair Program EIR. We're encouraged that the City of Los Angeles is ready to explore sustainable solutions and best practices used by other cities with the goal of preserving mature street trees. We were especially pleased to see that the motion refers to our urban forest as infrastructure, and identifies a number of its benefits, including stormwater capture, fighting urban heat, and providing habitat for wildlife.

In 2018 the City commissioned Dudek Consulting to prepare a [report](#) which sets forth the first steps to implementing an Urban Forest Management Plan. Dudek found that Los Angeles scored a 2 out of a possible 109 in sustainable urban forest management. Small steps have been taken to implement the plan, but four years later many of the report's findings have not been addressed and recommendations have not been implemented. We hope this motion represents the first step toward implementing Dudek's recommendations.

Sidewalks and street trees are both important components of our infrastructure, and we must maintain both for the well-being of the people of LA. We want to let you know that we're ready and willing to engage with the City regarding the issues identified in the court's decision, and look forward to a swift resolution that will allow the Sidewalk Repair Program to advance.

Thanks again for putting this motion on the table. We hope that the other members of the City Council will act quickly to approve this important first step.

Sincerely,

Jeanne McConnell  
Angelenos for Trees

Casey Maddren  
United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles (UN4LA)

CC: Members of the LA City Council  
City Attorney's Office