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USC Interest
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Representative

May 8, 2022

RE: CF 15-0499-S2 Tree Equity Motion

Via email: Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
LA, CA 90012

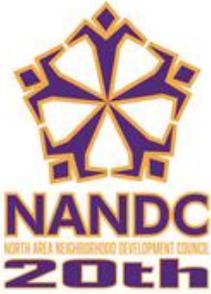
Gentlepersons:

On behalf of the Empowerment Congress North Area Neighborhood Development Council (NANDC), we would like to express our support for the PLUM Tree Equity Motion of April 8, 2022, by Councilmembers Marqueece Harris-Dawson. after the appeal date deadline.

The NANDC Policy Committee considered this motion at its Policy Committee on April 26 and by a vote of 7-0-0 moved this request to the full Board for consideration at its Board meeting of May 5. The Board unanimously voted to support the tree motion raising concerns about the lack of a tree canopy and open space in south Los Angeles and other less affluent communities.

NANDC agrees as the motion states: *. Trees are not being effectively protected or prioritized in policy, development, or enforcement. Instead, neighborhoods in every Council District are systematically deprived of the very natural resources that are the path to a sustainable built environment and enduring community health. This proves especially true for low-income communities, which already face a vast array of environmental inequities including increased exposure to adverse environmental conditions and their resulting negative health outcomes.*

NANDC supports the motion *that the Council instruct the Planning Department, the Department of Building and Safety, the Bureau of Street Services, the City's Community Forest Advisory Committee, and the Board of Public Works Forest Office, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to: (1) prepare a report with recommendations relative to ongoing tree and biodiversity planning, strategies and/or efforts to protect and grow the City's urban canopy, as instructed by the Council on August 12, 2020 (CF 15-0499-S I);*



and (2) provide recommendations to require the placement of trees, and timing of any tree removals, at an earlier phase in the land use/environmental review, and permitting review process, and thereby maximize City efforts to grow tree canopy coverage; and (3) prepare and present an ordinance to effectuate these directives.

The lack of public open space and trees canopies in our NANDC areas which are being overbuilt lot line to lot line causes concern for the health of our community. This motion is a step forward.

NANDC is a self-governed, self-directed, and independent organization empowered by the Los Angeles City Charter. This charter offers neighborhood councils a role in the City's decision-making process. NANDC was certified by the City of Los Angeles on April 27, 2002 and was the 24th neighborhood council formed under the guidelines of the City Charter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thryeris Mason".

Thryeris Mason, President
Empowerment Congress North Area Development Council (NANDC)
www.NANDC.org