



**ECOS Land Use Committee Meeting Agenda
Monday January 11th, 2016
Mogavero Architects, 2012 K Street
6:00 – 7:30 pm**

6:00 p.m. – Welcome, Introductions, Check-Ins, and Changes to Agenda

Attendees: Ron Maertz, Alex Kelter, Brandon Rose, Alexandra Reagan, Charissa Morningstar, Robert Meagher, Robert Coplin, Jude Lamare, Jim Pacht, Molly Basinger, Jonathan Sampson, Veronica Beaty, Andy Sawyer, John Deeter, Ralph Propper; Telephonically: Genna Yarkin

6:05 p.m. - City of Sacramento Tree Ordinance Update
Trees Sacramento representatives, including Jude Lamare and Jim Pacht

The Proposed Tree Ordinance revisions are bad for our community because they:

- Conflict with General Plan policies for the Urban Forest
- Degrade existing standards for tree removal
- Remove the right of citizens to appeal removals of city-owned trees; and
- Will result in more frequent removal of healthy trees and their public benefits to residents.

Right now the only trees protected are 100 inches in circumference and a small number of smaller native trees, and city-owned trees that border streets – aka “street trees”.

The Trees Sacramento Coalition would like to see *all* City-owned trees protected from removal (only “street trees” are).

In March 2015, an ordinance revision went before the Law and Legislation Committee of the City Council and it was “sent back” because of community concerns. It was then rewritten and rescheduled for law and legislation committee for Jan 12 (tomorrow) but it has now been postponed to an undetermined date for further rewrite.

Council member & member of law and leg Jeff Harris texted saying he will meet with the coalition in a couple of weeks. Staffer Greg Smith will be speaking with Luree Stetson and Jim this week for “clarifications only”.

Trees Sacramento (including ECOS) would like to see more tree canopy monitoring and reporting – added canopy language to general plan. The community is interested in enhancing the canopy.

Ron Martz says that the city has been removing large trees and replacing them with small “lollipop trees”. This is a problem for fighting climate change and retaining water as well.

The Tree Foundation mitigates and replaces trees – not necessarily fighting for existing trees that are threatened.

In Portland, there is a Tree Project Oversight Advisory Committee that has helped protect the trees in the city.

Changes to the ordinance that will allow removal of more trees are perhaps being promoted as “infill incentives” – allowing developers to remove large old trees to create denser developments.

Maximizing the shade from trees is also in the City Climate Action Plan.

Large trees are also good for increasing property values.

In Natomas, the wrong trees were planted in the wrong places and foundations were damaged – it was the developer’s error.

What the city lacks is a master tree planting plan. - Barry Wasserman
Jude says there is already a huge document dedicated to urban forestry planning in Sacramento but it does not appear to be followed by staff or referenced in planning. Director of Urban Forestry says we need an urban forestry plan. But stakeholders do not want to get a weak ordinance and have the rest come later.

The Urban Forestry Management Plan (1994) does not appear to be followed now anyway.

The fact sheet and the Jan 4 letter that ECOS signed on to are now both on the ECOS site for public education.

6:45 p.m. - Project Updates – Connector, Housing Elements, Elk Grove SOI, Mather Field Project, SACOG's MTP/SCS, City General Plan Update, Eastview Specific Plan and Annexation - Galt, Other Projects
Ron Maertz, Rob Burness, Alex Kelter, Molly Basinger and Others

Housing Ordinance – City has created a Responsible Banking group – Veronica Beaty will get us more info.

Broadway project by I-5 – CV circle update: There will be more housing than there was before. There will be the same amount of affordable housing as before, but it will be integrated throughout development. The new development will be a mix of home

ownership and apartments. Tenants will be relocated temporarily and compensated, but will still be disruptive to their lives.

Elk Grove is in process of updating their general plan. Workshops coming up. See Lynn Wheat. The update is being driven by developers and those seeking to expand the Sphere of Influence.

6:55 p.m. – Update on CEQA Revisions
Andy Sawyer

7:00 p.m. – Project Monitoring – Review Robert Meagher’s changes to Project Monitoring spreadsheet. Discuss criteria for project importance.

Please review:

https://www.cubbyusercontent.com/pl/ECOS+Project+List/_1b05859a14244240b38a93db8d940d94

7:25 p.m. – Other Business and Announcements

SacTown VegFest is on January 30th. Learn more here:

<http://www.ecosacramento.net/2016/01/sactown-vegfest/>

7:30p.m. – Adjourn