



**Mar Vista
Community Council**

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**Officers 2014-2015
Chair**

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Secretary

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**Board of Directors
2014-2015**

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Ken Alpern

Zone 2

Brad Wilhite

Zone 3

Bill Scheduling

Zone 4

Michael Millman

Zone 5

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Robin Doyno

Sherri Akers

Yvette Molinaro

Mitchell Rische

Melissa Stoller

Bill Scheduling

Community Director

John Kuchta



Certified Neighborhood Council
August 13, 2002

**July 16, 2015
VIA EMAIL**

TO: The Honorable Paul Koretz, Councilmember, 5th District of City of Los Angeles councilmember.koretz@lacity.org
The Honorable Jose Huizar, Councilmember, 14th District of City of Los Angeles councilmember.huizar@lacity.org
The Honorable Joe Buscaino, Councilmember, 15th District of City of Los Angeles <mailto:councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org>
The Honorable Nury Martinez, Councilmember, 6th District of City of Los Angeles <mailto:councilmember.martinez@lacity.org>
The Honorable Curren Price, Councilmember, 9th District of City of Los Angeles councilmember.price@lacity.org
The Honorable Mitch O'Farrel, Councilmember, 13th District of City of Los Angeles councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org
The Honorable David Ryul, Councilmember, 4th District of City of Los Angeles <mailto:councilmember.ryu@lacity.org>

CC: Adam Lid Adam.Lid@lacity.org
Andy Shrader andy.shrader@lacity.org

**Re: Council File 15-0467 (Health of Trees in Los Angeles)
Council File 15-0467-S1 (Accommodation of Trees in Sidewalk Repair and Construction)**

At its August, 2015 meeting, the Mar Vista Community Council unanimously passed the following policy motion:

The many mature trees that line Mar Vista's streets provide shade, beauty and habitat, making our sidewalks more inviting and pedestrian friendly. They decrease pollution and heat, while increasing our property values. But many are struggling during the current drought, and may be further threatened by sidewalk construction and repair. Ensuring the health of our existing trees and increasing the number of trees that provide urban shade canopies is crucial to our wellbeing.

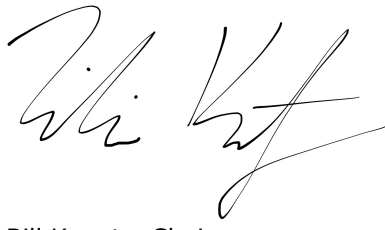
The Mar Vista Community Council therefore supports the following motions brought by Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Jose Huizar:

- Health of Trees in Los Angeles/Urban Forest Management Plan (Council File #15-0467—see Attachment A)
- Accommodation of Trees in Sidewalk Repair and Construction (Council File #15-0467-S1 — see Attachment B)

These motions mandate a study of the health of our city's trees and development of an urban forestry management plan to protect our existing trees and increase our shade tree canopy, and specifically address preservation of as many trees as possible when repairing sidewalks.

With regard to sidewalk repairs, we especially support engineering strategies such as enlarging sidewalk cutouts and tree wells, meandering sidewalks that curve around existing trees, sidewalk ramping, underground root guards that deter sidewalk lift, permeable sidewalk materials, reverse parkways, curb bump-outs and the removal of portions of lifted sidewalk to allow for a larger tree well where replacement of concrete is not necessary for access.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Koontz', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bill Koontz, Chair
Mar Vista Community Council