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September 17, 2019

VIA EMAIL AND ONLINE SUBMISSION

Planning and Land Use Management Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **Protected Tree Ordinance**
CPC-2016-4520-CA / City Council File 13-1339
PLUM Sept. 17, 2019 agenda item #8

Argyle Civic Assn.
Beachwood Canyon NA
Bel-Air Assn.
Bel-Air Hills Assn.
Bel Air Knolls Property Owners
Bel Air Skycrest Property Owners
Benedict Canyon Association
Brentwood Hills Homeowners
Brentwood Residents Coalition
Cahuenga Pass Property Owners
Canyon Back Alliance
Crests Neighborhood Assn.
Doheny-Sunset Plaza NA
Franklin Ave./Hollywood Bl. West
Franklin Hills Residents Assn.
Highlands Owners Assn.
Hollywood Dell Civic Assn.
Hollywood Heights Assn.
Holmby Hills Homeowners Assn.
Kagel Canyon Civic Assn.
Lake Hollywood HOA
Laurel Canyon Assn.
LFIA (Los Feliz)
Mt. Olympus Property Owners
Mt. Washington Homeowners All.
Nichols Canyon NA
N. Beverly Dr./Franklin Canyon
Oak Forest Canyon HOA
Oaks Homeowners Assn.
Outpost Estates HOA
Residents of Beverly Glen
Save Coldwater Canyon!
Shadow Hills POA
Sherman Oaks HOA
Silver Lake Heritage Trust
Studio City Residents Assn.
Sunset Hills HOA
Tarzana POA
Torreyson Flynn Assn.
Upper Mandeville Canyon Assn.
Upper Nichols Canyon NA

Honorable Chairperson Harris-Dawson and Committee Members:

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations was founded in 1952 and represents 42 resident and homeowners associations spanning the Santa Monica Mountains. The Federation previously submitted letters to the record in general support of the proposed amendments to the Protected Tree Ordinance (“PTO”) to add the Toyon and Mexican Elderberry as protected species.

We write today to specify that the criteria for these species to receive protection under the PTO should be a 4-inch cumulative measurement taken at a height of 4 feet 6 inches, and *not* the measurement criteria recommended in the staff report. Use of the staff proposed measurement criteria is grossly insufficient to protect the special habitat and historic / cultural value of these native species, because it would include far too few individual plants under the amended PTO.

We urge the PLUM committee to adopt the ordinance with an amended measurement criteria making a 4 inch cumulative measurement at 4 feet 6 inches height.

Sincerely,

Charley Mims, President

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