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[www.hillsidefederation.org](http://www.hillsidefederation.org)



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Board of Public Works  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 361  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

October 2, 2018

Re: October 3, 2018 Hearing, BPW-2018-0773  
Formerly BPW-2018-0475; ENV-2017-3314-CE

Dear President James and Honorable Commissioners:

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc., founded in 1952, represents 42 homeowner and resident associations with approximately 250,000 constituents spanning the Santa Monica Mountains. At its meeting of July 18, 2018, the Hillside Federation voted to urge the Board of Public Works to consider requiring the analysis of a polyphagous shot hole borer (“PSHB”) expert before approving the proposed extensive tree removal at 10768 West Bellagio Road. The Federation also asserts that a Categorical Exemption is an inappropriate environmental document for a project with obvious significant impacts to 85 trees, including almost two dozen protected trees, and with impacts to more than 260 trees.

Subsequent to the Federation’s action but before the City approved the removals, the applicant and City both admitted the applicant had already removed the vast majority of trees associated with the project without first obtaining the required permits. This is highly unusual and clearly improper, particularly where no determination on the adequacy of the proffered Categorical Exemption has been made by any City agency.

As our letter of August 24 noted (regarding the former case number), community members identified numerous shortcomings in the proposal and project documents. In light of the admitted illegal removals and failure to follow the process mandated by the Los Angeles Municipal Code, the Board of Public Works must consider available remedies to compensate the community for the harm caused by the improper tree removals.

Sincerely,

*Charley Mims*  
Charley Mims

Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood  
Bel-Air Association.  
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  
CASM-SFV  
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.  
Los Feliz Improvement Assn.  
Mt. Olympus Property Owners  
Mt. Washington Homeowners All.  
Nichols Canyon Assn.  
N. Beverly Dr./Franklin Canyon  
Oak Forest Canyon Assn.  
Oaks Homeowners Assn.  
Outpost Estates Homeowners  
Residents of Beverly Glen  
Save Coldwater Canyon!  
Shadow Hills Property Owners  
Sherman Oaks HO Assn.  
Silver Lake Heritage Trust  
Studio City Residents Assn.  
Sunset Hills Homeowners Assn.  
Tarzana Property Owners Assn.  
Torreyson Flynn Assn.  
Upper Mandeville Canyon  
Upper Nichols Canyon NA  
Whitley Heights Civic Assn.

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