## **PSOMAS**

Balancing the Natural and Built Environment

September 6, 2024

Mir Fattahi, MsCE, PE Acting City Engineer City of Lynwood 11330 Bullis Road Lynwood, California 90262 VIA EMAIL mfattahil@lynwoodca.gov

Subject: Tree Survey Report for the Lynwood City Park Stormwater Capture Project in the

City of Lynwood, California

Dear: Mir Fattahi

This Letter Report documents the results of a tree survey in support of the Lynwood City Park Stormwater Capture Project (Project) in the City of Lynwood (City), County of Los Angeles, California. The survey area for this assessment was defined by the Project Boundary plus an additional 20-foot buffer area to document all trees that may be affected by the Project (Exhibit 1).

#### PROJECT LOCATION

The Project is located within the northeastern portion of Lynwood Park, at 11301 Bullis Road within the City of Lynwood. Within a regional context, the Project site is located approximately 0.4 miles north of Interstate 105, 1.5 miles west of Interstate 710, 4.4 miles east of Interstate 110, and 1.7 miles south of State Route 42.

More specifically, the Project site is located in a portion of Lynwood Park and is bound on the north by Cesar E. Chavez Lane and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, on the east by Bullis Road and the Lynwood City Hall, on the south and southeast by Hosier Middle School and Spruce Street, and on the west by Birch Street and multi-family residential properties, as shown on Exhibit 1. Primary vehicular access to the Project site is provided at multiple ingress points, including Bullis Road located east of the site, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard located northeast of the site, and Spruce Street, located south of the site.

### **METHODS**

Psomas Certified Arborist Trevor Bristle (International Society of Arboriculture WE-10233A) visited the Project site on June 3, 2024, to document the type, quantity, and condition of trees present within the survey area. Each tree was individually numbered and assigned a metal tag, and the trunk, branches, and foliage were carefully examined. During the survey, the following data were recorded: tree species, number of trunks, trunk diameter at standard height (dsh), tree height, canopy diameter, and

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qualitative assessment ratings of aesthetics and health. Tree locations were recorded on an aerial photograph that was uploaded onto a hand-held tablet device.

#### **REGULATORY AUTHORITY**

Chapter 13-2 of the Lynwood Municipal Code addresses protection of trees within the City of Lynwood and defines the following regulated tree categories:

- **Public trees** are those located in a place or area under ownership or control of the city including streets, parkways, open space, and parkland areas.
  - Street trees are a subset of public trees whose trunks are located primarily within any parkway, street median, traffic island, or other right-of-way under the ownership of the City.
- Native trees include coast live oak (Quercus agrifolia), canyon oak (Quercus chrysolepis), Engelmann oak (Quercus engelmannii), California walnut (Juglans californica), and Brisbane box (Tristania conferta) with a trunk more than 8 inches in dsh.
- **Specimen trees** include any tree meeting the criteria established by the City council to be an outstanding specimen of a desirable species.
- **Landmark trees** include any tree designated as a landmark under subsection 13-2.10 as a tree of historic or cultural significance and of importance to the community.

#### **RESULTS**

A total of 127 trees were documented in the Project survey area. Tree locations are numbered from 101 to 221 with one location containing seven giant bird of paradise (*Strelitzia nicolai*) within a single concrete planter. This includes 83 on-site trees (i.e., within the boundaries of the Project area) and an additional 44 off-site trees. Off-site trees were documented because their roots and/or canopies are immediately adjacent to the boundary and may be subject to impacts including trimming, pruning, root disturbance, or removal during construction activities.

The various on-site trees are all located either in Lynwood park or along adjacent streets (within the public right-of-way). Therefore, all trees documented during this survey are regulated as either Public or Street trees by the City. No trees are present in the survey area that meet the City's definition of Native, Specimen, or Landmark trees.

A summary of trees included in the survey and their regulated status is provided in Table 1. Locations are shown on Exhibit 2.

# TABLE 1 SUMMARY OF TREE SPECIES IN THE SURVEY AREA

Tree Species			Regulation Status					
Common Name Scientific Name			Public	Street*	Native	Specimen	Landmark	
Trees Within Proj	iect Boundaries					-		
eastern redbud	stern redbud Cercis canadensis		6	-	-	-	-	
red ironbark	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	2	2	-	-	-	-	
Shamel ash	Fraxinus uhdei	3	3	-	-	-	-	
jacaranda	Jacaranda mimosifolia		12	-	-	-	-	
American sweetgum	Liquidambar styraciflua	1	1	-	-	-	-	
southern magnolia	Magnolia grandiflora	2	2	-	-	-	-	
olive	Olea europaea	1	1	-	-	-	-	
Canary Island pine	Pinus canariensis	3	3	-	-	-	-	
Aleppo pine	Pinus halepensis	3	3	-	-	-	-	
western sycamore	Platanus racemosa	1 1		-	-	-		
London plane tree	Platanus x hispanica	26	26	i	-	-	-	
holly oak	Quercus ilex	2	2 2 -		-	-	-	
queen palm	Syagrus romanzoffiana	3	3	2	-	-	-	
tipu tree	Tipuana tipu	13	13	-	-	-	-	
Chinese elm	Ulmus parvifolia	5	5	-	-	-	-	
	Subtotal		83	2	0	0	0	
Trees Adjacent to	the Project Boundaries		ı					
king palm	Archontophoenix cunninghamiana	1	1	-	-	-	-	
Shamel ash	Fraxinus uhdei	1	1	-	-	-	-	
Arizona cypress	na cypress Hesperocyparis arizonica		1	-	-	-	-	
jacaranda	da Jacaranda mimosifolia		4	-	-	-	-	
American sweetgum	Liquidambar styraciflua	1	1	-	-	-	-	
southern magnolia	Magnolia grandiflora	1	1	ı	-	-	-	
avocado	ocado Persea americana		1	-	-	-	-	
pygmy date palm	gmy date palm Phoenix roebelenii		1	-	-	-	-	
Canary Island pine	Pinus canariensis	1	1	ı	-	-	-	
Aleppo pine	leppo pine Pinus halepensis		1	-	-	-	-	
western sycamore	I Plataniis racemosa		2	-	-	-	-	
London plane tree	Platanus x hispanica	8	8	1	-	-	-	
guava	Psidium guajava	1	1	-	-	-	-	
evergreen pear	Pyrus kawakamii	1	1		_	-	-	

TABLE 1
SUMMARY OF TREE SPECIES IN THE SURVEY AREA

Tree Species			Regulation Status				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Total	Public	Street*	Native	Specimen	Landmark
giant bird of paradise	Strelitzia nicolai	7	7	-	-	-	-
queen palm	Syagrus romanzoffiana	9	9	2	-	-	-
tipu tree	Tipuana tipu	2	2	-	-	-	-
Chinese elm	nese elm Ulmus parvifolia		1	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	44	44	2	0	0	0
Total			127	4	0	0	0

<sup>\*</sup> Street trees are a subset of public trees so that the total of public and street trees are not to be added together.

#### DISCUSSION

Trees within the survey area are generally mature individuals that have been planted in a landscaped park setting along sidewalks, parking lots, and recreation areas. Additional documented trees are in hardscape areas along Birch Street to the west and Bullis Road to the east.

The majority of the trees are in good to fair health with minor signs of stress or decay, such as cavities, wounding on the trunk or branches, canopy dieback, anthracnose, or general lack of vigor. Trees with good to fair health are expected to improve or maintain their health for the foreseeable future. Several exceptions are present where trees are in poor health. These include three London plane trees (No. 107, 129, and 196) with moderate canopy dieback and anthracnose observed on the leaves; one tipu tree (No. 120) with poor structure and branch attachments, and one eastern redbud (No. 201) with rot down the main trunk. The conditions of these trees are expected to continue their health decline without additional care and/or maintenance.

Construction activities are expected to require the removal of five trees, consisting of three tipu trees and two London plane trees. These trees are mature individuals that are poor candidates for relocation due to their size, except for one of the London plane trees which is a sapling, likely planted within the last several years. Though this tree is smaller, it exhibits significant canopy dieback and anthracnose which also makes it a poor candidate for relocation and it is better replaced by appropriately sized nursery stock. A summary of trees to be removed for Project implementation is provided in Table 2.

TABLE 2
SUMMARY OF TREES TO BE REMOVED FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Tree No.	Tree Species		Trunk	Height	Canopy	1114-	A4141
	Common Name	Botanical Name	DSH (in)	(ft)	Diameter (ft)	Health	Aesthetics
114	tipu tree	Tipuana tipu	27.0	60	40	3	4
116	London plane tree	Platanus x hispanica	15.1	55	35	3	4
118	tipu tree	Tipuana tipu	21.0	55	45	4	4
120	tipu tree	Tipuana tipu	15.7	25	25	2	2
154	London plane tree	Platanus x hispanica	2.5	15	6	3	3

DSH: diameter at standard height; in: inches; ft: feet Aesthetics/Health Rating: 1=Very Poor, 2=Poor, 3=Fair, 4=Good, and 5=Excellent

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Trees planted within the Project site occur in landscaped areas of the park or in areas with hardscape which limit root growth or canopy potential. The following measures are recommended for tree protection and maintenance during construction: Tree impacts (pruning, removal, dripline encroachment, etc.) should be identified as early in the design process as possible to allow for design updates, if necessary.
- Protective fencing should be placed at the dripline of the trees to be preserved within or adjacent to the construction area to minimize their disturbance during construction or grading activities.
- Any approved development, including grading or excavation, that encroaches within the dripline of trees to be preserved should be reviewed prior to implementation by a Certified Arborist.
- Place a four to six-inch layer of chip mulch over the soil surface within the dripline of trees to be protected to reduce compaction, improve aeration, enhance moisture retention, and reduce temperature extremes.
- Provide ongoing watering of trees to be protected during construction, either through hand watering or irrigation systems.
- Avoid heavy equipment, materials placement, spoils piles, or foot traffic within the tree dripline to prevent soil compaction.
- Avoid pruning or fertilizing trees until construction is completed as this may negatively affect a trees' ability to respond to any incidental impacts.
- Any tree(s) with impacts due to Project related activities should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by a Certified Arborist. Further recommendations may be provided at that time.

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The following measures are recommended for tree establishment at the conclusion of Project activities:

- A Certified Arborist should be responsible for monitoring the health and establishment of replacement trees that may be required as part of the Project.
- The largest possible planting basin that the Project site can accommodate should be provided for new trees. Larger planting basins are correlated with longer-lived trees, greater tree stability, and less hardscape damage.
- Once the new planting basins are constructed, soil samples should be collected from all planting locations and sent to a qualified soil laboratory for analysis. From each sampling location, one sample should be collected that represents the top 12 inches of the soil, along with a second sample that represents the soil from 12 to 24 inches deep. Any recommended soil amendments or treatments from the laboratory report should be implemented.
- Once planted, a one- to two-inch layer of mulch should be placed within the planting basin of each new tree. Mulch should not be allowed to be placed in contact with the trunk of the tree as this can lead to rot.

Psomas appreciates the opportunity to assist with this Project. If you have any questions please contact Trevor Bristle at 626.204.6538 or Trevor.Bristle@Psomas.com.

Sincerely,

**PSOMAS** 

Jessica Hitchcock

**Project Manager** 

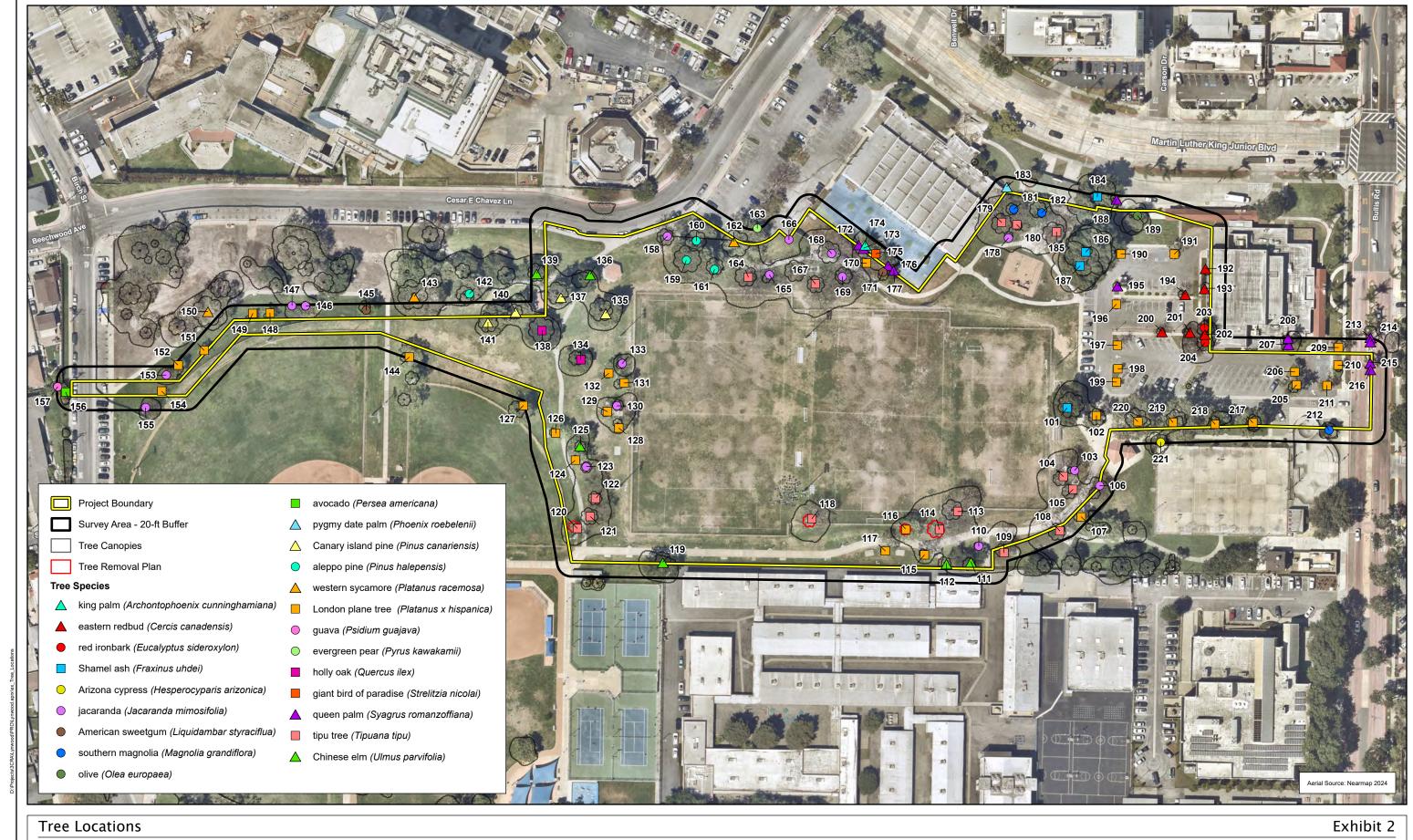
Trevor Bristle

Certified Arborist WE-10233A

Registered Consulting Arborist #746

Attachments: Exhibit 1

Exhibit 2



Tree Inventory - Lynwood City Park Stormwater Capture Project





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