



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**A G E N D A
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030**

South Pasadena Commission Statement of Civility

As your appointed governing board, we will treat each other, members of the public, and city employees with patience, civility and courtesy as a model of the same behavior we wish to reflect in South Pasadena for the conduct of all city business and community participation. The decisions made today will be for the benefit of the South Pasadena community and not for personal gain.

NOTICE ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & ACCESSIBILITY

The South Pasadena Natural Resources and Environmental Commission Meeting will be conducted in-person from the Council Chambers, Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena.

The meeting will be available:

- In Person – City Council Chambers, 1424 Mission Street
- Via Zoom – **Webinar ID: 880 7206 2700**

To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can observe the meeting via Zoom in one of the three methods below.

1. Go to the Zoom website, <https://zoom.us/join> and enter the Zoom Meeting information; or
2. Click on the following unique Zoom meeting link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88072062700>; or
3. You may listen to the meeting by calling +1-669-900-6833 and entering the Zoom Meeting ID.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Michael Siegel

ROLL CALL:

Chair	Michael Siegel
Vice Chair	Emily Ng
Commissioner	Rona Bortz
Commissioner	Liam R. de Villa Bourke
Commissioner	Amy Davis Jones
Commissioner	Casey Law
Commissioner	Richard Tom

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Michael Siegel

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES *(Public Comments are limited to 3 minutes)*

The City welcomes public input. Members of the public can comment on a non-agenda subject under the jurisdiction of the City Council or on an agenda item, you may participate **by one of the following options:**

Option 1:

Participate in-person at the City Council Chambers.

Option 2:

Public Comment speakers have three minutes to address the Commission, however, the Chair and Commission can adjust time allotted as needed. Participants will be able to “raise their hand” using the Zoom icon during the meeting, and they will have their microphone un-muted during comment portions of the agenda to speak.

Option 3:

Email public comment(s) to NRECPublicComment@SouthPasadenaCA.gov.

Public Comments received in writing will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be part of the meeting record. Written public comments will be uploaded online for public viewing under Additional Documents. There is no word limit on emailed Public Comment(s). Please make sure to indicate:

- 1) Name (optional), and
- 2) Agenda item you are submitting public comment on.
- 3) Submit by no later than **12:00 p.m., September 24, 2024**

PLEASE NOTE: The Chair may exercise the Chair's discretion, subject to the approval of the majority of the Commission to adjust public comment(s) to less than three minutes.

NOTE: Pursuant to State law, the Commission may not discuss or take action on issues not on the meeting agenda, except that members of the Commission or staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising public testimony rights (Government Code Section 54954.2). Staff may be asked to follow up on such items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. GENERAL (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

PRESENTATIONS

2. STAFF INTRODUCTION – PHILLIP TRAN, MANAGEMENT ANALYST

3. MARENGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

TREE HEARING

4. TREE HEARING: 1022 BRENT AVE.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission review and provide a decision of the removal of one 29-inch palm tree at 1022 Brent Avenue.

DISCUSSION**5. PLASTICS REDUCTION AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE****ACTION****6. REVIEW OF CHARGING RATES FOR CITY-OWNED EV CHARGERS**Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission make recommendations to the City Council regarding charging rates for the city-owned electric vehicle chargers located at the Public / City Hall employee parking lot (Mound Ave. and Hope St.).

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 27, 2024 NREC MEETINGRecommendation

It is recommended that the Commission review and approve the August 27, 2024 Meeting Minutes.

COMMUNICATIONS**8. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS****9. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS****10. STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS****11. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Compost and Mulch Giveaway – September 28, 9am-12pm
South Pasadena Middle School Parking Lot
- Senior Citizen Dumpster Week – October 14-18
- Dumpster Day – October 19, 2024, 8am-11am
South Pasadena High School Parking Lot
- Nature Park Volunteer Day – October 19, 2024, 9am-12pm
South Pasadena Nature Park (weedingwildsuburbia.com/nature-park)
- LA County Smart Gardening Webinars
(<https://www.ladpw.org/epd/sq/webinars.cfm>)
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars
(<https://greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation/>)

ADJOURNMENT

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

FUTURE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETINGS

October 22, 2024	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
November 26, 2024	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
December 24, 2024	CANCELLED	

PUBLIC ACCESS TO AGENDA DOCUMENTS AND BROADCASTING OF MEETINGS

Commission meeting agenda packets, any agenda related documents, and additional documents are available online for public inspection on the City’s website:

<https://www.southpasadenaca.gov/government/boards-commissions>

Meeting recordings will be available for public viewing after the meeting. Recordings will be uploaded to the City’s YouTube Channel no later than the next business day after the meeting.


The City’s YouTube Channel may be accessed at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnR169ohzi1AlewD_6sfwDA/featured

AGENDA NOTIFICATION SUBSCRIPTION

If you wish to receive an agenda email notification please contact the Sustainability Division via email at NRECPublicComment@SouthPasadenaCA.gov or call (626) 403-7240.

ACCOMMODATIONS

 The City of South Pasadena wishes to make all of its public meetings accessible to the public. If special assistance is needed to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk’s Division at (626) 403-7230 or CityClerk@southpasadenaca.gov. Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

*I declare under penalty of perjury that I posted this notice of agenda for the meeting to be held on **September 24, 2024**, on the bulletin board in the courtyard of City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030, and on the City’s, website as required by law, on the date listed below.*

9/19/2024



Date

Arpy Kasparian, Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager

ITEM 3

Marengo Elementary School
Active Transportation Program



1

WHAT IS ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION?

Active transportation is human-powered mobility, such as biking or walking.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Walking and biking to school provides a whole host of advantages for children and the community, from reducing congestion and air pollution around schools, to improved mental and physical health for children, improved test scores, sleep, attentiveness, independence, resourcefulness, resilience and social skills.

The CA PTA officially recognizes the importance of Active Transportation via the Safe Routes to School Partnership

50 years ago, half of all children walked or cycled to school. Today it is only 11% and declining.

2

WHY MARENGO?

Marengo is uniquely situated where a majority of its student population lives within one mile of campus, a distance very suitable for elementary-aged children to walk and bike.

Walking and bicycling are good for children, yet surveys show that active transportation has become less prevalent. With this decline, students of this generation are missing the opportunity to explore the world through diverse means and build up those needed skill sets.

We should be encouraging more daily physical activity for our children. Walking to school is one of the simplest, most effective, and most affordable strategies for kids AND adults to build physical activity into their lives. One mile of walking translates to 2/3rds of the recommended physical activity each day.

We can promote this behavior shift through a series of small initiatives designed to make active transportation fun.



“Walking is one of the most powerful tools we have to increase physical activity and emotional well-being for kids,”
– former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy



3

PROGRAMS

BIKE BUS / CLINICS

Every Tuesday morning, parents lead a safety-in-numbers bike ride to school from the North and South of Marengo. Participants can ride from the beginning of the route or join at any point along the way.

Marengo Elementary will also host a series of bike clinics designed to provide a safe environment for children to learn how to ride a bicycle.

WALK TO SCHOOL

Every Friday, parents/teachers lead a walking group to school from three locations.

Activity Zones with giveaways and special appearances will be set up on random days along the way to school.

4

BIKE BUS / BIKE CLINICS



2023-2024 Bike Bus Ridership = 1,421



Marengo has two routes:
• South = Maple/LaFrance
• North = Hope/Stratford



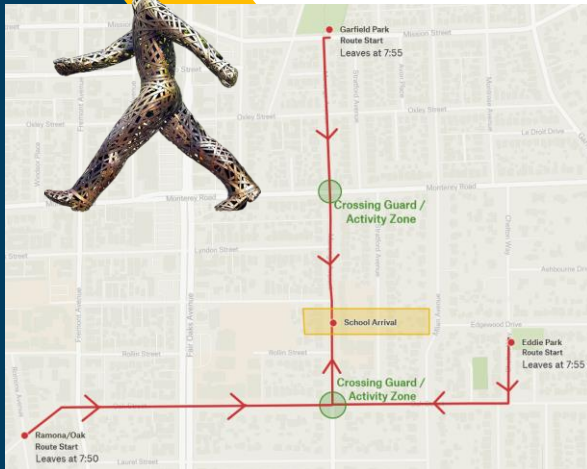
Bike Clinics: October and April



Teach and grow skills for independence.



WALK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM HOW IT WORKS - HIGH LEVEL



EVERY FRIDAY

Gather at 7:45 - 7:50
Leave at 7:50 - 7:55
Arrive at School at 8:05

Routes from:

- 1) Garfield Park
- 2) Eddie Park
- 3) Ramona/Oak

Teachers, Staff and Parents join the walk each week. On select Fridays, volunteers at activity zones hand out prizes



WALK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM HOW IT WORKS

1 SCHEDULE

Unknown to the children, one random day during Walking Bus days, volunteers will be posted with 2 separate crossing guards to cheer on walkers and handout giveaways (books/pencils)

2 ENTICEMENTS

Beyond giveaways, entertainment will be provided (jugglers, drummers) or special guests will be on-hand (Mango the Lion, Police/Fire).

3 EXCITEMENT

Creating excitement in children and their parents is key to success, building each week on word of mouth.

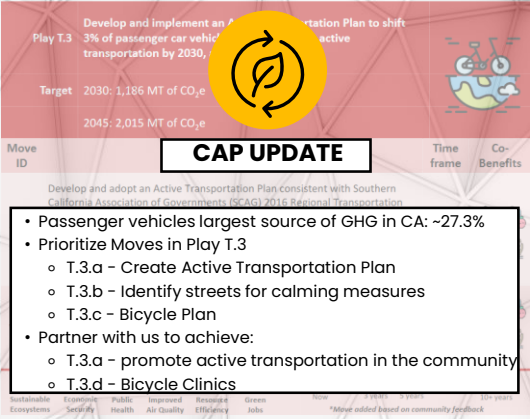
School Communications/Media, Teachers and more will remind children of the program and highlight the fun being had each week.

4 INVOLVEMENT

The success of the program cannot happen without the full community. Teachers, school admin, parents, local non-profits, and city employees will need to play a part.


7

INVOLVEMENT OUR ASK TO YOU



CAP UPDATE

- Passenger vehicles largest source of GHG in CA: ~27.3%
- Prioritize Moves in Play T.3
 - T.3.a - Create Active Transportation Plan
 - T.3.b - Identify streets for calming measures
 - T.3.c - Bicycle Plan
- Partner with us to achieve:
 - T.3.a - promote active transportation in the community
 - T.3.d - Bicycle Clinics



INVOLVEMENT


Active involvement from everyone in the community is essential to our success. Whether its walking with children, handing out/donating prizes, activating parents to join, or advocating for better active transportation, we need your help.

8

1st Walking Bus - August 30, 2024




9



MARENGO ELEMENTARY

Active Transportation Program



WALKING BUS
Dedicated meeting spots to walk to school with teachers and staff

ENTERTAINMENT AND PRIZES
Pop-ups with giveaways and special appearances happen at least once a month. In addition, prizes for class participation happen throughout year.

BIKE BUS / BIKE CLINIC
Every Tuesday morning, parents lead a safety-in-numbers bike ride to school. Bike clinics are also offered to teach riding skills.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
Teachers, parents and community non-profits partner each week to celebrate our walkers and bikers.

While healthy kids are our goal, active transportation also leads to better attentiveness, test scores, air quality, reduces traffic risks near campus, and many more positive outcomes.

THANK YOU!

activetransportation@marengopta.org

marengopta.org/program-events-year
✉ activetransportation@marengopta.org

10

ITEM 4

Tree Hearing
1022 Brent Ave



Natural Resources & Environmental Commission Agenda Report

ITEM NO. __4__

DATE: September 24, 2024

FROM: H. Ted Gerber, Public Works Director
Michael Vartanians, Principal Engineer

SUBJECT: **Proposed Removal of One Twenty-Nine Inch Palm Tree at 1022 Brent Avenue**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission review and provide a decision of the removal of one 29-inch palm tree at 1022 Brent Avenue.

Background

On July 8th, 2024, the applicant submitted a private property tree removal/replacement permit application (Attachment 1). The applicant identified one 29-inch palm tree for removal which would be considered a significant tree per South Pasadena Municipal Code (SPMC). The applicant's tree removal application describes the reason for removal as "Hardship to homeowner due to bees in crown which cause difficulty to prune tree". On July 25th, 2024 the city arborist recommended denial of the removal application as the criteria for approving tree removal permits has not been met stating the 29-inch palm tree is healthy and the presence of bees is not a valid reason for removal per SPMC.

On August 4th, 2024 an appeal of the denial decision was received by the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission's staff liaison (Attachment 2). The applicant believes the proposed removal meets the fourth criteria of SPMC 34.11 because the proposed replacement fruit trees and native drought tolerant yard will be of greater value or provide greater benefits than the palm tree. The applicant has also expressed concerns of fronds falling and causing damage to the property or potentially harming someone and explained that the tree does not provide shade and blocks their solar panels from receiving sunlight. As a result of the removal of the tree the applicant will be required to replant three twenty-four-inch box trees to satisfy the replacement requirement. A draft landscaping plan has not been provided but should the commission decide to approve the removal application staff could continue with the application process and require a tree removal and replacement plan prior to issuance of a permit. A public notice was mailed to owners and tenants within a 100-foot radius of the subject property to receive comments and the City did not receive objections during the notification period.

Discussion/Analysis

Per SPMC 34.9(a), staff has been provided a all information required to complete a tree removal permit application except a tree removal and replacement plan. Should the commission decide to

1022 Brent Avenue Tree Removal

September 24, 2024

Page 2 of 2

approve the removal staff would proceed with the tree removal permit process and require a tree removal and replacement plan prior to issuance of a permit.

Per SPMC 34.11, the criteria for approving tree removal permit applications have not been met, unless the commission determines that “the proposed replacement tree(s) are of greater value or greater benefits than the tree proposed for removal.”

Fiscal Impact

The applicant has paid the initial tree removal inspection fee of \$141.00 and will be required to pay any permit fees for the permit.

Attachments

1. Tree Removal Application
2. Applicant Appeal Letter

ATTACHMENT 1
Tree Removal Application

**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING DIVISION**

1414 Mission Street - South Pasadena - CA 91030 - 626-403-7240

PRIVATE PROPERTY TREE REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT PERMIT APPLICATION

Please submit site plan if more than three (3) trees are involved.

Inspection Fee: **\$141**

PERMIT NO. _____

Permit Fee: **\$364**; 4 or more **\$504**

All fees are nonrefundable

Job Site: 1022 BRENT AVE. SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030

Property Owner's Name(S): MISHA LEI Phone: 323-252-3566

Address: 1022 BRENT AVE. SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030

Contractor's Name: BARTLETT TREE EXPERTS

Address: 841 E. MISSION RD. SAN GABRIEL, CA 91776 Phone: 626-320-0890

City Business License No: 26446

**Trees 4" in diameter or greater are Mature Trees - Include all conditions warranting the removal
Please Submit plan if more than three (3) trees are involved**

Tree(s) Diameter	Type of Tree(s)	Location of Tree	Reason for Removal
30"	CANARY ISLAND PALM	FRONT OF HOUSE	HARDSHIP TO HOME OWNER WITH BEE'S IN CROWN MAKING IT DIFFICULT TO PRUNE

Office Use Only:


Application Received: _____ Tree Removal and Replacement Plan: _____ Arborist Report: _____

Project Narrative: _____ Proposed Development Plan: _____ Site Plan: _____ NREC Hearing Date: _____

Comment Period Begins: _____ Comment Period Ends: _____ Permit Ready: _____

PRIVATE PROPERTY TREE REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT PERMIT CONDITIONS:

- (1) Conditions must exist to warrant the removal of any mature tree. Healthy trees which are not causing a hardship on the property owner shall not be approved for removal.
- (2) Tree removals will include complete removal of the stump and backfill of the hole.
- (3) For every tree approved for removal, multiple replacement trees must be planted anywhere on the owner's property or on City's property upon City's approval. For replacement tree(s) planted in the parkway, root barriers will be required to control the root system. The size of the replacement tree(s) is (are) based on the diameter of the trunk and the type of tree(s) for removal. The replacement tree(s) must be a minimum of 24" box size or as specified by the Engineering Division.
- (4) Replacement trees must be planted within 90 days of the issuance date on the permit.
- (5) Prior to planting the replacement trees, a final inspection must be conducted by the City inspector to verify conformance with tree replacement requirements. Please call to schedule an appointment at (626) 403-7370, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- (6) A 100-foot radius map and mailing labels shall be required to provide public notice of the tree removal. Residents within a 100-foot radius of the property shall be given 15-days to comment on the tree removal prior to issuance of the permit.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE:  DATE: 7-1-24

<i>City use only</i>	
1. Recommended for Approval or <u>Denial</u>	Type/Variety Inspected: <u>PHOENIX CANARIAS</u>
Size of Tree: <u>29"</u> Replacement Tree Size: _____ Qty: _____ Due by: _____	
Comments: <u>HEALTHY PALM. PRESENCE OF BEES IS NOT A VALID REASON FOR REMOVAL.</u>	
Inspected By: <u>P. Mejia SA WE2355B</u>	Date Inspected: <u>JULY 25, 2024</u>
2. Recommended for Approval or Denial	Type/Variety Inspected: _____
Size of Tree: _____ Replacement Tree Size: _____ Qty: _____ Due by: _____	
Comments: _____	
Inspected By: _____	Date Inspected: _____
3. Recommended for Approval or Denial	Type/Variety Inspected: _____
Size of Tree: _____ Replacement Tree Size: _____ Qty: _____ Due by: _____	
Comments: _____	
Inspected By: _____	Date Inspected: _____

ATTACHMENT 2
Appeal Letter

Arpy Kasparian – Commission Staff Liaison
City of South Pasadena
Natural Resources and Environmental Commission
1414 Mission Street
South Pasadena, CA 91030

To Arpy Kasparian

We are writing to appeal the decision to deny our application to remove a palm tree on our property at 1022 Brent Avenue. We believe that our initial application was incomplete in that it failed to mention the full reasons for our desire to remove the palm tree.

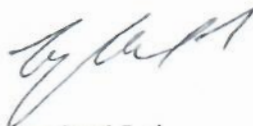
We are working on developing plans to plant a native drought tolerant yard and adding fruit bearing trees that we believe will benefit us and the environment, replacing our entire front yard. This should also satisfy criteria #4 for the acceptable reasons to remove trees in the city ordinance (34.11(a)(4)). I want to add that the palm tree grows large heavy fronds that drop during our frequent wind events that can damage roofs, cars, and in general pose a danger to the neighborhood. Keeping it trimmed to prevent this situation has been challenging recently as the tree seems to attract bees and many companies refuse to trim the fronds citing a danger to their workers.

We've lived in the residence for over 20 years and the tree does not provide any significant value. It doesn't provide significant shade to the main structure of the house and really only serves to block our solar panels.

We respectfully request that you reconsider your decision and grant us permission to remove the palm tree. We are willing to comply with any conditions or requirements that you may have, such as replacing the tree with a more suitable species. As mentioned, we are currently working on design plans to plant a more drought tolerant yard with more trees that would be of more benefit to us as homeowners.

We appreciate your attention in this matter. If you have any question, please don't hesitate to contact us at the below phone or email. We hope to hear from you soon and resolve this issue favorably.

Sincerely,



Raphael Lei
(626) 375-8829
rlei74@gmail.com



Misha Suksnguan
(323) 252-3566
msuksnguan@yahoo.com

ITEM 6

Review of Charging Rates
For City-Owned Ev Chargers



Natural Resources & Environmental Commission Agenda Report

ITEM NO. _6_

DATE: September 24, 2024

FROM: H. Ted Gerber, Director of Public Works
Arpy Kasparian, Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager
Phillip Tran, Management Analyst

SUBJECT **Review of Charging Rates for City Owned EV Chargers**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission make recommendations to the City Council regarding charging rates for the city-owned electric vehicle chargers located at the Public / City Hall employee parking lot (Mound Ave. and Hope St.).

Background & Discussion

The City recently completed the installation of nineteen (19) electric vehicle (EV) ChargePoint Level 2 chargers in the Police Department, Fire Department, and Public / City Staff parking lots at City Hall (Civic Center Complex) – a total of thirty-four (34) ports. The public safety dedicated chargers are currently in use by City patrol and administrative vehicles, however, the 14 charger ports in the Public / City Staff lot are currently de-energized. These 14 charger ports are the first City-owned, publicly available chargers in the entire City of South Pasadena, and there are a number of necessary steps before the charges can be energized for use. Because the chargers will be used by the public and not just City fleet vehicles, they needed to be calibrated and registered with the LA County Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures Bureau to dispense electricity for a fee – similar to how gas station pumps or grocery store produce scales need to be calibrated and regulated for consumer protection. This step has been completed, and City staff are now working to get the ChargePoint, SoCal Edison, and City financial accounts set up correctly so that the City can appropriately collect payments at the chargers from credit cards and smartphones, and also pay SoCal Edison for the electricity used – all while ensuring the process complies with government accounting standards.

Staff is seeking a recommendation from NREC on the payment configuration for the publicly available chargers to promote usage of EVs in the City. The primary criteria are implementing at least a cost-neutral rate for charging, while maintaining a pricing structure that incentives use from the public and City staff.

Current electricity *generation* rates are about \$0.38 / kWh for On-Peak periods, \$0.13 for Mid-Peak periods, and \$0.11/kWh for Off-Peak periods. See the below tables for an explanation of these periods. Current electricity *delivery* rates are about \$0.25 / kWh for On-Peak and Mid-Peak periods, while delivery Off-Peak rates are much lower at about \$0.13 per kWh. Considering the rates together yields about \$0.63 / kWh for On-Peak periods, \$0.38 for Mid-Peak periods, and \$0.23/kWh for Off-Peak periods. This does not include facilities demand charges that take effect when the system exceeds a certain energy rate (kW) for the billing

period. Nor does it include customer charges (currently about \$0.29/day) or other fees such as wildlife fund charges, fixed recovery charges, or State taxes (typically less than \$0.01/kWh).

For the Summer cost period (June 1 to September 30), On-Peak, Mid-Peak, and Off-Peak periods are as follows:

Period	Weekdays	Weekends & Holidays
On-Peak	4 pm – 9 pm	–
Mid-Peak	–	4 pm – 9 pm
Off-Peak	12 am – 4pm 9 pm – 12 am	

For the Winter cost period (October 1 to May 31), Mid-peak, Off-peak, and Super-Off-Peak periods are as follows:

Period	Weekdays, Weekends, & Holidays
Mid-Peak	4 pm – 9 pm
Mid-Peak	12 am – 8 pm 9 pm – 12 am
Super-Off-Peak	8 am – 4pm

Based on the data provided by ChargePoint, the *average* price per kilowatt-hour (\$/kWh) for EV charging in LA County is \$0.3261.

During the presentation of this item, staff will review the above charging information, discuss initial evaluation-period proposed charging rates of \$.24/kWh for staff during certain Monday-Thursday work hours, and a \$0.35/kWh and/or tired rate structure of the public during workday evenings and Friday-Sunday. The discussion will also solicit other Commissioner ideas, review the revenue opportunity provided through Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) credits, and gather feedback from the Commissioners to form a recommendation for future Council action.

ITEM 7

Approval of Minutes - Meeting of August 27, 2024



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Meeting of the South Pasadena Natural Resources and Environmental Commission was called to order by Vice Chair Emily Ng on August 27, 2024, at 7:05 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Vice Chair	Emily Ng
Commissioner	Liam R. de Villa Bourke
Commissioner	Casey Law
Commissioner	Richard Tom
Commissioner	Amy Davis Jones

ABSENT

Chair	Michael Siegel
Commissioner	Rona Bortz
Staff Liaison	Councilmember Michael Cacciotti

Management Analyst, Danielle Garcia, announced a quorum.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Ted Gerber, Public Works Director; Arpy Kasparian, Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager; Danielle Garcia, Water Conservation Management Analyst; and Michael Vartanians, Public Works Principal Engineer were present at Roll Call. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Law.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. PUBLIC COMMENT - GENERAL (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

None.

TREE HEARING

2. TREE HEARING: 1040 Orange Grove Avenue

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission review and provide a decision of the removal of two existing palm trees at 1040 Orange Grove Avenue.

City staff discussed receiving the 1040 Orange Grove Avenue application with a drafted landscaping plan that identified trees for replacement. The applicant discussed the reason for the tree removal and the intention to replant six trees to meet the required replacement ratio.

In Person Public Comments:

Angelo Gladding raised concerns regarding the impact that the removal of these trees will have.

Following further discussion, the commission requested the applicant resubmit application with an arborist report that can determine the status of the trees in question. Specifically requesting that the arborist report examine any needed restoration for the tree, its ability for carbon sequestering and overall shade considerations.

ACTION

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2024 NREC MEETING

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission review and approve the June 25, 2024 meeting minutes.

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Tom, seconded by Commissioner Law and approved by roll call vote to approve the June 25, 2024 Natural Resources and Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes. The motion carried 5-0-2, by the following vote:

AYES: Ng, Jones, Law, and Tom

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Siegel, Bortz

ABSTAINED: de Villa Bourke

COMMUNICATIONS

4. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS

City Council Liaison Cacciotti provided updates on the Gold Line and AQMD programs. Cacciotti thanked City staff for their work on the Police Fleet Electrification Project.

5. **COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Law spoke about the increased heat emergency, increased use of plastic bottles, and lack of water fountains at the local parks. Commissioner Jones requested more information on the roll out of organics recycling in the City. Commissioner de Villa Bourke encouraged staff to attend the LA Business Sustainability Conference for ideas on how to encourage business compliance. Vice Chair Ng mentioned that the City of Glendale has a Beyond Plastics fair for small businesses. Commissioner Tom had no comments.

6. **STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**

Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager, Arpy Kasparian, provided an update on SB 1383 implementation and reminded the Commission and residents of ongoing outdoor watering restrictions. Public Works Director, Ted Gerber, provided an update on the new EV chargers located at City Hall.

7. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Nature Park Volunteer Day – September 21, 2024, 9am-12pm
(weedingwildsuburbia.com/nature-park)
- LA County Smart Gardening Webinars
(<https://www.ladpw.org/epd/sq/webinars.cfm>)
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars
(<https://greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation/>)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters, Vice Chair Ng adjourned the meeting of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission at 7:54 P.M. PT to the next Regular Commission meeting scheduled for September 24th, 2024.

Respectfully submitted:

Arpy Kasparian
Staff Liaison, Environmental Services
& Sustainability Manager

APPROVED:

Emily Ng
Vice Chair

Approved at Commission Meeting:

ITEM 11

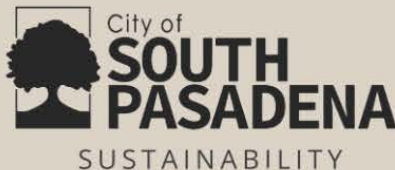
Upcoming Events

FREE COMPOST & MULCH

Saturday, September 28, 2024

9:00 am - 12:00pm

South Pasadena Residents ONLY



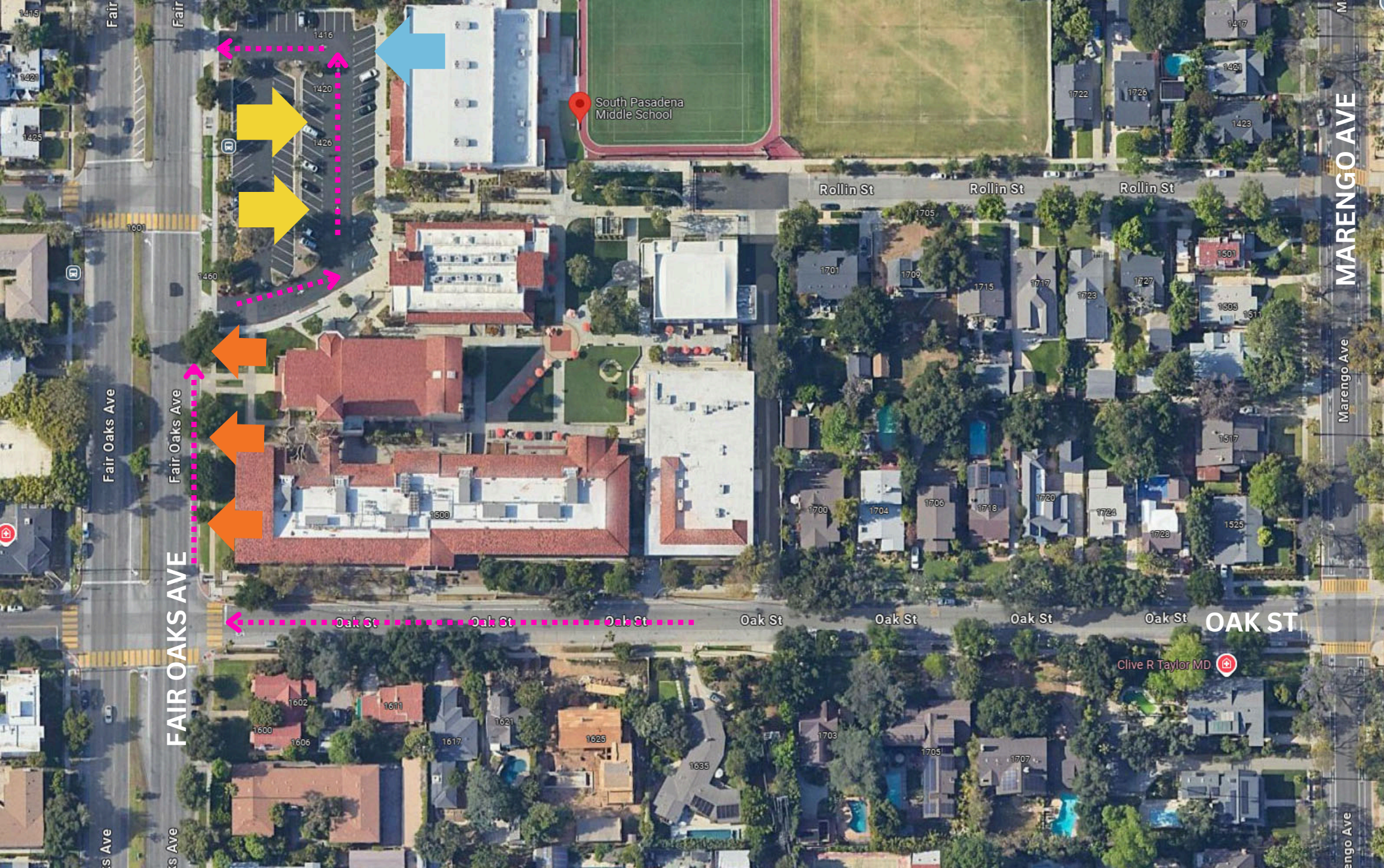
Compost (donated by Athens Services) is a mixture of decayed organic material, including food waste, and is used for enriching soil. Athens compost is certified organic under the USDA National Organic Program.

Mulch (donated by West Coast Arborist) is chipped tree trimmings or bark groundcover. It works as an insulator, maintaining the temperature of soil and roots to reduce evaporation and the formation of weeds.

- Bring a sturdy container and shovel | **PLEASE NOTE:** Compost and mulch will **NOT** be supplied in plastic bags or cardboard boxes
- Self serve, limited to 2 (two) 35 gallon containers per household
- Bring proof of residence (ID or utility bill)

South Pasadena Middle School Parking Lot
1500 Fair Oaks Ave

www.SouthPasadenaCA.gov/EnvironmentalPrograms



NO PARKING



COMPOST PICK UP



**RECOMMENDED
TRAFFIC ROUTE**



MULCH PICK UP



City of
**SOUTH
PASADENA**

SUSTAINABILITY

Dumpster Day

📍 South Pasadena High School
Fremont St. Parking Lot
★ Enter on Lyndon St.

October 19th
8AM to 11AM

FREE

Bulky Item Drop-off

for all South Pasadena Residents!



Accepted Items:

- Couches
- Refrigerators
- Rugs/Carpets
- Water heaters
- Washing machines
- Wood, pipes, or branches that are bundled
- Other large bulky items

Prohibited Items:

- Rubbish items that can be picked up with typical refuse items
- E-waste: TVs, DVD players, cellphones, computers, monitors, etc.
- Construction materials: concrete, bricks, roof shingles, tiles, etc.
- Household hazardous materials: paint, batteries, fertilizer, oil, cleaning supplies, etc.
- Landscaping materials: dirt, sand, gravel, large tree branches, stumps, etc.
- Automobile parts

