



SF Environment
Our home. Our city. Our planet.
A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Deborah O. Raphael
Director

**City and County of San Francisco
Department of the Environment
Urban Forestry Council**

Meeting Minutes Draft

**Friday, December 9, 2016, 8:30 a.m.
City Hall, Room 400
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place
San Francisco, CA 94102**

Council Members: Dan Flanagan (Chair), Carla Short (Vice Chair) (Department of Public Works), Nicholas Crawford, Malcolm Hillan, Rose Hillson, Dan Kida, Igor Lacan, Meg Lowman, Andrew Sullivan, Michael Sullivan, Zachary Taylor (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department), Tom Carter (San Francisco Port), Yolanda Manzone, (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission), Jon Swae (San Francisco Planning Department), and Golden Gate National Recreation Area (Vacant)

Order of Business

Public comment will be taken before the Council takes action on any item.

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

Members present: Flanagan, Short, Carter, Crawford (joined the meeting at 8:41a.m.), Kida, Lacan (left the meeting at 10:33 a.m.), Lowman, Andrew Sullivan, Swae and Taylor. Members excused: Hillson and Michael Sullivan. Members absent: Manzone.

- 2. Adoption of Minutes of the October 25, 2016 Urban Forestry Council Regular Meeting.** (Explanatory Document: October 25, 2016 Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action)

Member Hillson moved to adopt the minutes and Member Lacan seconded. Meeting minutes were adopted without objection.

There was no public comment.

- 3. Public Comment:** Members of the public may address the Council on matters that are within the Council's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda.

Chair Flanagan limited all public comment to two minutes.

Dee Seligman discussed the legality of Item #5.

Mei Ling Hui, Urban Forest and Urban Agriculture Coordinator, discussed meeting procedures.

4. **Hearing on nomination for Landmark Tree Status of the Coast Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), located at 4 Montclair Terrace, San Francisco, CA 94109; Assessor's Block 1067, Lot 032.** The Council will hold a hearing to determine whether the tree nominated at the above location meets the criteria for designation as a landmark tree to forward findings to the Board of Supervisors. (Explanatory Documents: Resolution File 2016-05-UFC, Nomination Form, Arborist Report, Excerpt of History of Russian Hill, Staff Evaluation, Hillan Evaluation, Kida Evaluation, Short Evaluation, Swae Evaluation, Landmark Tree Committee Chair's Report, October 6, 2016 Landmark Tree Committee Meeting Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action)

Member Kida provided the Landmark Tree Committee Chair's report indicating support for landmark tree status based on rarity, physical attributes and environmental benefits.

Mei Ling Hui, Urban Forest and Urban Agriculture Coordinator, provided clarification on the various arborist reports.

Member Flanagan read a statement from Member Hillan who was unable to attend the meeting but supported landmark tree status.

Member Lowman requested a summary of the various arborist reports.

Member Kida discussed no findings that the tree was a hazard to the neighborhood.

Member Short discussed the health of the tree and a lack of hazard.

Member Lacan discussed that from reading the arborist reports found no hazard.

Member Carter asked what the implications would be if the tree grew large.

Member Lacan said that the tree should be evaluated regularly.

Member Short discussed the Public Works code and the requirements for regular maintenance even for landmark trees and discussed the fact that the tree is already protected by significant tree status by Public Works because of its proximity to a public path.

Member Hillson noted the cultural significance of the tree.

Public Comment:

Kermit Kubitz asked about the penalties about removing a landmark tree versus a significant tree.

Kassabian discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Liz Dollar discussed the importance of healthy trees.

Heidi Bioski discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Nathan Allen discussed verification of the facts provided by Ms. Jaye.

Kathy Hoang discussed the opinions of neighbors and concerns for safety.

James Hickman discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Carson Block discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Christina Zimbardo discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Hartley Kravens discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Mall Knox discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Name indistinguishable discussed support for landmark tree status.

Joan Carr discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Roland Jardve discussed support for landmark tree status.

Ryan Miller discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Nadine Wiel discussed support for landmark tree status.

Vance Vanier discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Joe Butler discussed support for landmark tree status.

Kevin Kilty discussed an arborist report that was performed on the tree.

Roy Leggitt discussed an arborist report that was performed on the tree.

Kathleen Bernum supported landmark tree status.

Meri Jaye discussed support for landmark tree status.

Kassabian discussed opposition to landmark tree status.

Robert Laws discussed support for landmark tree status.

Corey Lingren discussed support for landmark tree status.

Pricilla Wheeler discussed support for landmark tree status.

Member Kida discussed hazard of the tree and neighborhood sentiments.

Member Lowman discussed interest in learning more about the tree and possibly postponing the decision.

Member Hillson discussed the landmark tree status process and the criteria established by the Landmark Tree Ordinance.

Member Flanagan asked if the tree can be postponed to the January meeting.

Mei Ling Hui, Urban Forest and Urban Agriculture Coordinator, provided clarification on the various arborist reports.

The Council discussed the landmark tree process and timeline.

Member Andrew Sullivan discussed the weight of support from the public on the landmark tree process.

Member Short moved to continue the item to the January meeting and was seconded by Member Lacan. The motion passed. (Ayes: Flanagan, Short, Kida, Lacan, Lowman, Andrew Sullivan, Taylor and Swae. Nos: Crawford, Hillson and Carter. Absent: Hillson, Manzone and Michael Sullivan)

5. **Presentation on the Natural Resource Areas Management Plan.** The Recreation and Park Department will present an update on the Natural Resource Management Plan. Speakers: Lisa Wayne, Natural Resources Manager, San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (Explanatory Document: UFC Draft Resolution on the NRAMP) (Discussion and Action)

Lisa Wayne, Natural Resources Manager, San Francisco Recreation and Park Department discussed the San Francisco Natural Resources Management Plan, the plan history, the management areas covered by the plan, the plan's biodiversity objectives, tree and urban forest values, the number of trees that are in the natural areas, the condition of blue gum eucalyptus in natural areas, the plan's tree and forestry recommendations, tree and urban forest preservation, forestry management recommendations, thin trees in biologically diverse areas, impacts of the blue gum eucalyptus, proposed tree thinning, San Francisco Natural Resource Areas Management Plan EIR Impact Assessment.

Member Andrew Sullivan asked about the calculation for the square foot basal coverage, MA3 areas, replacement of trees, the Urban Forestry Council's ability to provide ongoing comment on the plan and whether or not the EIR includes funding information.

Member Flanagan asked about tree removal in Sharp Park, tree removal in San Francisco and dieback of eucalyptus in Mount Davidson.

Member Lowman asked about what trees will be replaced in the dieback areas and the composition of the areas where there will be intervention.

Member Crawford asked about the ability to coopt the usefulness of the eucalyptus.

Member Swae asked about resprouting and how the trees would be removed.

Member Short asked about the frequency of reassessment.

Member Hillson asked about maintenance of trees, the negative declaration of the EIR and unhealthy and safety issues trees.

Member Carter asked about how density can be reduced if there is a 1 to 1 replacement of trees and how annual funding for long-term planning is decided.

Member Swae asked about the average cost for planting a tree in their program.

Public Comment:

Unidentified speaker discussed opposition to the Natural Resource Areas Management Plan.

Unidentified speaker discussed support for the Natural Resource Areas Management Plan.

Kermit Kubitz discussed an amendment to the proposed resolution.

Zara Kelly discussed support for the Natural Resource Areas Management Plan.

Amber Hasselbring discussed support for the Natural Resource Areas Management Plan.

Denise Louis discussed support for the Natural Resource Areas Management Plan.

Lisa Dollar discussed the use of herbicides and carbon sequestration

Nadine Wile discussed opposition to the Natural Resource Areas Management Plan.

Vic Milhoun discussed maintenance and data collection in the Natural Resource Areas.

Ron Proctor discussed opposition to the Natural Resource Areas Management Plan.

Greg Gaar discussed support for the Natural Resource Areas Management Plan.

Stopped at 249.

Planning & Funding Committee. Chair's Report.

Landmark Tree Ad Hoc Committee. Chair's Report.

6. **Staff Report.** (Discussion)
7. **Chair's Announcements:** Chair, Urban Forestry Council (Discussion)
8. **Urban Forestry Council Member Announcements.** (Discussion)
9. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.** (Discussion)
10. **Adjournment.**

The next meeting of the Urban Forestry Council is scheduled for Friday, January 27, 2017 at 8:30 a.m., City Hall, Room 400, San Francisco, CA 94102.

Copies of explanatory documents are available at (1) the Department of the Environment office, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, California, 94103 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Photo identification is required for entry to the building. (2) on the Urban Forestry Council's website <http://sfenvironment.org/ufc>; (3) upon request to the Commission Affairs Manager, at telephone number 415-355-3709, or via e-mail at anthony.e.valdez@sfgov.org within three business days of a meeting. If any materials related to an item on this agenda have been distributed to the Council after distribution of the agenda packet, those materials are available for public inspection at the Department of the Environment, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94103 during normal office hours or will be made available on the Commission's website <http://sfenvironment.org/ufc> as attachments to the agenda or meeting minutes.

Public Comment

At this time, members of the public may address the Committee on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee but are not on today's agenda. Public comment will be taken following each agenda item. Each member of the public may address the Committee for up to three minutes, unless otherwise announced by the Chair. If it is demonstrated that the comments by the public will exceed 15 minutes, the Chair may continue Public Comment to another time during the meeting.

The Brown Act forbids the Committee from taking action or discussing any item or issue not appearing on the posted agenda. This rule applies to issues raised in public comment as well. In response to public comment, not on an agenda item, the Committee is limited to:

1. Briefly responding to statements made or questions posed by members of the public, or
2. Request staff to report back on a matter at a subsequent meeting, or
3. Directing staff to place the item or issue on a future agenda (Government Code Section 54954.2(a).)

Disability Access

The Urban Forestry Council meetings will be held in City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA. The Committee meeting rooms are wheelchair accessible. The closest accessible BART station is the Civic Center Station at United Nations Plaza and Market Street. Accessible MUNI lines serving this location are: #42 Downtown Loop, and #71 Haight/Noriega and the F Line to Market and Van Ness and the Metro Stations at Van Ness and Market and at Civic Center. For information about MUNI accessible services call (415) 923-6142. There is accessible curbside parking adjacent to City Hall on Grove Street and Van Ness Avenue and in the vicinity of the Veterans Building at 401 Van Ness Avenue adjacent to Davies Hall and the War Memorial Complex.

The following services are available on request 48 hours prior to the meeting; except for Monday meetings, for which the deadline shall be 4:00 p.m. of the last business day of the preceding week: For American sign language interpreters or the use of a reader during a meeting, a sound enhancement system, and/or alternative formats of the agenda and minutes, please contact Anthony Valdez at (415) 355-3709 to make arrangements for the accommodation. Late requests will be honored, if possible.

In order to assist the City's efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City accommodate these individuals. Individuals with chemical sensitivity or related disabilities should call the Mayor's Office on Disability at (415) 554-6789 or (415) 554-6799 (TTY) for additional information.

Know Your Rights Under the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code)

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils, and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact the Sunshine Task Force Administrator, City Hall, Room 409, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102-4683 at Phone No.: (415) 554-7724; Fax No.: (415) 554-7854; E-mail: sotf@sfgov.org. Copies of the Sunshine Ordinance can be obtained from the Sunshine Task Force Administrator, the San Francisco Public Library and on the City's website at www.sfgov.org.

Lobbyist Registration and Reporting Requirements

Individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance [SF Campaign & Governmental Conduct Code §2.100, et. seq] to register and report lobbying activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the Ethics Commission at: 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 220, San Francisco, CA 94102; telephone (415) 252-3100, fax (415) 252-3112; web site at www.sfgov.org/ethics.

Other Important Information

The ringing of and use of cell phones, pagers and similar sound-producing electronic devices are prohibited at this meeting. Please be advised that the Chair may order the removal from the meeting room of any person(s) responsible for the ringing or use of a cell phone, pager, or other similar sound-producing electronic devices.

Anthony Valdez, Commission Affairs Manager
TEL: (415) 355-3709; FAX: 415-554-6393

Posted: December 5, 2016