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August 2, 2019
Board of Public Works
c/o Dr. Fernando Campos
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring Street, Room 361
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Request for Permit Denial BPW-2019-0508, located at 11472 West Laurelcrest Dr

Dear President James and Honorable Commissioners:

The Studio City Residents Association (SCRA) is the primary advocate for Studio City with over 2000 members. As such, it joins the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Sunshine Hill Residents in opposing the removal of 6 Interior Live Oaks on the hillside located at 11472 West Laurelcrest Drive as the basis as is stated in the said Santa Monica Conservancy position e.g. the entirety of the subject property is located within the Santa Monica Mountains Zone (established in Section 33105, California Public Resources Code), an environmental resource of critical concern. CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2(a), which lists Exceptions to Categorical Exemptions makes it clear that the subject project is ineligible for a Categorical Exemption due to its location.

Los Angeles has a tree protection ordinance for the purpose of making an informed judgement about native habitat, both plant and animal, and the overall social benefits in keeping the character of our neighborhoods. The proposed tree removal and destruction of a verdant hillside in the Santa Monica Mountains zone would be a significant biological impact that must be addressed in a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).

The Studio City Residents Association's position is that the subject tree removal permit be denied, or continued until further environmental review has been conducted by the City, and a MND has been circulated for public comment.

Alan Dymond, president

Alan Symond

Studio City Residents Association