

## Questions from Venice Arbor Committee – Urban Canopy, Tree Health, Green Space and Street Scape

1. After this election, we are in a unique situation – there will be a new mayor, 2 new council people (perhaps more), and a new chief sustainability officer –in the middle of a budget cycle. What do you think are the highest budget allocation priorities for the maintenance of tree canopy, one of our greatest cooling infrastructures, and for green space?
2. 90% of our urban canopy is on private land. Would you be open to more restrictions on tree cutting on private property – like requiring all trees to be reflected on demolition plans and the developer must show necessity for such trees to be torn down?
3. Present legal structures. There are several city codes meant to increase canopy on private land. For example, code says – there should be 50% canopy cover for parking lots, one tree in every front yard. What would you do to foster enforcement or to entice compliance with the tree-protection laws already on the books? Would you support an overhaul of building code to lessen some requirements and stiffen codes that are geared toward environmental benefits and fighting climate change?
4. Budget – Large cities like Los Angeles typically spend 1% of their overall budget on growing and maintaining their urban canopy. LA spends only .25%. Would you support an increase to 1% of budget?
5. What are your views on the need for green space in Venice in light of the fight against heat and it's beneficial effect for biodiversity? For instance, bluebirds have recently returned to the Westside because of placing of birdhouses in Penmar golf course. What is your policy about green space in light of the misuse of designated green space at Jefferson adjacent to Ballona Creek?
6. How do you plan to clean and re-landscape the medians and parkways in our district? Would you support a major beautification of Lincoln that would open up the concrete parkways, plant undergrowth, plant larger trees, plant the medians, and installing irrigation for that?
7. Pen Mar Rose Path – The city is in the last throws of going forward with a plan to put in a concrete sidewalk where once a dirt path had run on the south side of the Penmar Golf Course. Many in the community came together to propose a DG path, green space, many larger trees and a median with trees. The city has foisted on us a substandard plan. If you are elected council person, would you go back to the drawing board and try to improve this project?