

VENICE ARBOR COMMITTEE MOTION

RE: DESTRUCTION OF FOUR PUBLICALLY-OWNED MATURE TREES
At Venice Blvd. and Lincoln Blvd. 90291

Whereas trees reduce Carbon Dioxide in the environment, eliminate dust in the atmosphere, reduce traffic noise, retain and filter water in the soil, provide shade which cools the city, provide homes to the myriad birds and creatures essential to biodiversity and beautify our urban environment; and

Whereas the owner and or developer/contractor/construction company of the House of Pies construction site has removed and destroyed 4 mature trees from City of Los Angeles property at the southwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevard, which constitutes a prominent entry into the Venice Neighborhood, **without obtaining a permit and in contradiction to representations made to the VNC;**

Whereas these trees were 30 years old, of substantial size and installed, tended and watered by Venice community members in conjunction with the City, State and non profit organizations including Tree People with our tax dollars and grant funding;

THEREFORE:

The Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the city cause the proper enforcement agencies, including but not limited to the Department of Public Works, the Department of Building and Safety, the California Coastal Commission, the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff, any other relevant agency, to levy fines against this developer that are sufficient to replace the trees 2 to 1 with 48" box Sycamores, including removal of stumps, enlargement of the tree wells, widening of the sidewalk and maintenance of the trees to maturity (10 years). We further ask that this owner and developer's Certificate of Occupancy and building permits be withheld until the completion of the planting of the new trees is accomplished.

Venice Neighborhood Council shall distribute this motion to the following offices:

Mayor

Deputy Mayor

The Los Angeles City Attorney

Traci Park – CD11

The Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety Department

The California Coastal Commission

LA County Sheriff

The Department of Public Works

Los Angeles Police Department – Pacific Division

Letter:

The valuation of such trees, exclusive of necessary installation labor, can be found in the Guide for Plant Appraisal by the International Society of Arboriculture. These trees are 16" at the base which is left at the site. We cannot determine the DBH of the trees because they have been wholly removed. At 16", each of the 4 trees is valued at