



DELANO & DELANO

September 23, 2019

VIA E-MAIL

City Council
c/o City Clerk
City of Carlsbad
1200 Carlsbad Village Drive
Carlsbad, CA 92008

All Receive - Agenda Item # 8
For the Information of the:
CITY COUNCIL
Date 9/23/19 CA CC
CM COO DCM (3)

Re: City Council Meeting September 24, 2019, Agenda Item No. 8: Proposed Community Forest Management Plan Update

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

This letter is submitted on behalf of North County Advocates (“NCA”) in connection with the proposed Community Forest Management Plan (“CFMP”) Update. NCA supports the City of Carlsbad’s (“City”) efforts to improve the health and environment of the City by enhancing the community forest and urban tree canopy. NCA believes that an important revision to Community Forest Management Program Goal & Strategy (“Goal & Strategy”) 2.A. is necessary to ensure success of the City’s CFMP Update.

Moreover, on March 14, 2017 the City and NCA entered into a settlement agreement as part of the resolution of the lawsuit, *North County Advocates v. City of Carlsbad*, San Diego Superior Court Case No. 3 7-2015-00035458-CU-WM-NC. Among other things, the settlement agreement requires the CFMP Update “include provisions for protection and enhancement of the urban tree canopy.” As currently proposed, the language of Goal & Strategy 2.A. is inconsistent with the intent of the settlement agreement.

A goal of the CFMP under Goal & Strategy 2 is to: “Expand the community forest in areas with lesser tree canopy density and maximize its benefits.” To achieve this, Goal & Strategy 2.A. proposes to: “Add an average of 500 trees per year to the city’s tree inventory or affect an increase in Carlsbad’s Total Tree Canopy by 5% (whichever occurs first) through the end of calendar year 2025, so as to further enhance the community forest.”

NCA urges the City to revise Goal & Strategy 2.A. accordingly: “Add an average of 500 trees per year to the city’s tree inventory ~~or~~ and affect an increase in Carlsbad’s Total Tree Canopy by 5% (~~whichever occurs first~~) through the end of calendar year 2025,

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