

Policy 9.4 – Adequate Open Space: Provide an adequate total quantity and equitable distribution of public or publicly accessible open spaces throughout the City.

Policy 9.5 – Stewardship of the Natural Environment: Encourage and promote the stewardship of Pasadena’s natural environment, including water conservation, clean air, natural open-space protection, and recycling. Encourage the use of native, water-conserving, and regionally appropriate landscaping.

City of Pasadena Draft Tree Protection Amendment

The City has drafted a proposed tree protection ordinance to preserve Pasadena’s tree cover. This ordinance would amend the existing 1987 tree ordinance, which provides limited protection for trees located on public property. The proposed ordinance would increase the protection for trees on public property (street trees), and it would create new protection for trees located on private property (single and multifamily residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial).

The following trees are recommended for protection:

- Landmark trees, which are the oldest or the largest of a species in Pasadena, trees that have historical significance, or a tree with an outstanding feature for a neighborhood;
- Specimen trees, which are trees of more than 25 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) that possess a distinctive form, size, age or location, or an outstanding tree of a desirable specimen; and
- Native trees, which are trees of more than 8 inches dbh and are native to the area, including coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), canyon oak (*Q. chrysolepis*), California sycamore (*Plantanus racemosa*), Engelmann Oak (~~*Quercus engelmannii*~~) (***Quercus engelmannii***).

By regulating tree removal, requiring mitigation when appropriate, and preventing unwarranted removal, the proposed tree ordinance would increase the protection of individual and groups of trees for canopy cover. The preservation of trees must be considered with regard to engineering requirements in development projects. The proposed tree ordinance would involve an appeal process for decisions made at the permit level and penalties would be assessed for any noncompliance with the tree ordinance.

3.3.2 Existing Conditions

This description of biological resources is based on field surveys, a review of published and unpublished literature, and consultation with persons knowledgeable about the biology of the area. The California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB)¹ was consulted for information related to

¹ California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), 2001. *RareFind2: A Database Application for the use of Arroyo Seco Master Plan Project* Final Master Environmental Impact Report
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federally- and state-listed endangered, threatened, proposed, candidate, and sensitive wildlife, plants, and habitat resources that potentially occur within the project vicinity in addition to consultation with the USFWS.² Data were compiled for the USGS topographic quadrangle in which the project is located (Pasadena), as well as all adjacent quadrangles (Sunland, Burbank, Condor Peak, Chilao Flat, Mt. Wilson, Hollywood, Los Angeles, and El Monte). The USGS 7.5-minute series Pasadena topographic quadrangle and the

the California Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Database. Sacramento, CA: California Department of Fish and Game. 2 CDFG, 2001.