

**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 10:14 PM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Soo, Christine; Ashikyan, Elizabeth; Padilla, Adrian  
**Subject:** FW: Update Pasadena Tree Ordinance

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**From:** gfoster  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 10:13:50 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Subject:** Update Pasadena Tree Ordinance

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Please add an update to the Pasadena Tree Ordinance to one of the remaining June City Council agendas.

Trees make it pleasant to walk in our neighborhoods, they cool our homes, lower our utility bills, absorb greenhouse gases and make our city greener and more beautiful. In addition to planting more new trees, there must be better care of newly planted trees which need good staking and adequate water until they reach a sustainable size. I am horrified to see the sad condition of many struggling new trees which are not properly cared for by the city. New trees should be native California species, especially oaks which are better suited to our climate and more able to withstand difficult conditions, once established. Finally, tree pruning must be done with greater care. I see many mature street trees which have been "butchered" by careless trimming and will never recover. Tree service contracts should not be issued to the lowest bidder or tasks to untrained city staff. Crews must be supervised by qualified arborists to ensure survival of existing trees.

**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**


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**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2025 11:18 AM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Soo, Christine; Ashikyan, Elizabeth; Padilla, Adrian  
**Subject:** FW: Pasadena's Tree Ordinance

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From: Mishele Myers  
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2025 11:17:38 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: cityclerk  
Subject: Pasadena's Tree Ordinance

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Hello,

I'd like to request that you agendize an update for Pasadena's Tree Ordinance. Our trees are very important and need more attention.

Thank you,  
Mishele Myers


Pasadena CA 91104

**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** Andrew Lin  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 31, 2025 8:33 AM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; Reyes, David; Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Disrepair of PWP DCFC EV Chargers in Pasadena

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Please submit and include this in the upcoming council meeting public comments and confirm that this was received.

The state of EV Charging in Pasadena has reached a new low. So few of the PWP EV DCFC work, and the ones that do are unreliable. The PowerFlex app is not accurate and difficult to use. This email to is to express frustration and disappointment in the non-Tesla PWP DCFC in Pasadena. Millions have been spent and very few DCFC work. Why? And when will they be fixed?

Thank you,  
Andrew

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 4:27 PM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Soo, Christine; Ashikyan, Elizabeth; Padilla, Adrian  
**Subject:** FW: Pasadena Tree Ordinance

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**From:** Teresa Parsekian  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 4:26:42 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Subject:** Pasadena Tree Ordinance

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Dear City Council,

As residents and homeowners in Pasadena, we support the planting of 400 young trees every year in Pasadena, knowing how much in provide shade, cools the city and cuts down on energy costs. We support increasing that number as well.

We also support the protection of existing older trees, knowing first hand the disappointment of the city cutting down a oak tree in from of our house that was 50 + years, that we feel could have been saved. The tree has sustained damage from winds the day of the fire in January but we had been told by the Forest Service with some expert care, the tree could be saved. Instead, the weekend we were out of town for our daughter's wedding, the tree was cut down. With an expert team from the city of Pasadena, perhaps that tree would have been saved. We support a team of arborists that work for the city that determine whether or not a tree needs to be destroyed or saved.

Thank you so much.

Richard and Teresa Parsekian




**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** jenny yu  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 9:44 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; Reyes, David; Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Disrepair of PWP DCFC EV Chargers in Pasadena

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Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

SONJA K. BERNDT  
Pasadena, CA

RECEIVED  
2025 JUN -2 AM 8:18  
CITY CLERK  
CITY OF PASADENA

June 2, 2025

Mayor Victor Gordo  
Members of the Pasadena City Council  
Pasadena, CA  
(By Email)  
(By Email [correspondence@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:correspondence@cityofpasadena.net))

Re: City Council Meeting June 2, 2025, Agenda Item #12: The Recommended FY 2026 Housing Department Operating Budget

Dear Members of the City Council:

A. Introduction

I am a long-time resident of Pasadena and a longtime advocate for the unsheltered residents of our City. This letter is to express my deep concern about the FY 2026 Recommended Housing Department Operating Budget. Year after year, the Housing Department receives *de minimus* General Fund appropriations while the Pasadena Police Department (PPD) receives a grossly disproportionate level of General Fund appropriations. Critical services for our unhoused and especially our unsheltered residents are vastly underfunded because our Housing Department receives only “crumbs” from City-generated sources to serve our most vulnerable residents.

B. Critical Problems with the Housing Department’s Budget

1. Inadequate Funding from City-Generated Sources, Including the City’s General Fund

The Recommended FY 2026 Operating Budget shows the following appropriations from the General Fund:

- Police Department: \$111,285,954 (91.7% of its total proposed FY2026 appropriations)
- Housing Department: \$2,638,887 (2.4% of its total proposed FY2026 appropriations)

The Pasadena Homeless Count has not improved per Point-in-Time Homeless Counts (which the department recognizes is an undercount as compared to the annual homeless count).

- 2022 - total = 512; unsheltered = 280
- 2024 – total = 556; unsheltered = 321

Year after year our City fails to move the needle in the right direction because it fails to provide funding for any meaningful interim and permanent housing to end homelessness in our City.

## 2. Extreme and Imprudent Reliance on Federal Grant Funding to Fund Programs for Our City's Unhoused Residents

While the Housing Department receives grant funding from county, state, and federal governments, Housing Department staff has already warned the City Council that federal grant funding is currently substantially at risk due to proposed cuts in the federal budget and the policies of the Trump administration. At the City Council meeting May 5, 2025, City Manager Marquez specifically referenced the draconian cuts currently in the proposed federal budget for services for our most vulnerable residents. Additionally, Housing Department staff told the City Council at its May 19, 2025 meeting that all of the City's Measure A Local Solutions Funding will have to be used to continue to fund Emergency Housing Vouchers (currently funded by the federal government) because the federal government will stop funding those vouchers at the end of this year. These funds, which could have strengthened our homelessness programs, are now unavailable for our unsheltered residents.

YET, the proposed FY2026 Housing Department Operating Budget notes 76% of its \$48,814,656 Operating Budget as coming from the federal government! This shows a clear lack of planning and preparation for expected challenges.

Thankfully, some City Council members support creating an emergency fund to be used if the federal government makes good on its promise to cut funding for the poor. That needs to be done on an urgent basis.

## 3. The Court's Decision in the *Grants Pass* Case Requires Greater Funding to House Our Unsheltered Neighbors

The Supreme Court's *Grants Pass* decision permits cities to arrest and cite persons for sleeping on public property even if, as in Pasadena, there are a grossly



insufficient number of beds/units to provide them with shelter. Some on the City Council have stated that unhoused persons will not be arrested in our City for sleeping on public property. However, the City's proposal for a Homeless Court would have allowed citations and required unsheltered folks to go through a court process in order to receive interim housing. This is nonsensical. If you provide the housing FIRST, there is no need for PPD calls for service, citations, prosecutors, defense counsel and court staff. Simply provide local funding for the housing sorely needed by our unsheltered residents without the court process.

C. The City Has the Money Now to Urgently and Substantially Increase Funding for Additional Interim and Permanent Housing for Our Unhoused Residents

- General Fund
  - Cost savings can be achieved by decreasing the number of PPD officers while maintaining public safety in our City. In FY 2021, there were 5,766 PPD calls for service listed as “transient-related.” I once asked former Chief of Police John Perez how many calls for service PPD received from Centennial Place, a City housing site that houses formerly unhoused individuals. He said, “almost none.” Instead of incurring the huge expense of responding to calls for service related to unhoused individuals, PROVIDE HOUSING FOR THEM.
- Additional revenue from FY2025
  - At the May 5<sup>th</sup> opening of the public hearing on the proposed FY2026 Operating Budget, Director of Finance Hawkesworth gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Council with slides showing many one-time expenditures proposed to be funded with a total of \$10.6 million in additional revenue received in FY2025. Housing for our unhoused was not on that list of proposed expenditures but clearly should be.
- City's Operating Reserve (5% of annual expenditures).
  - The City has a \$16.184 million Operating Reserve for FY2026. Given the urgent need for more interim and permanent housing, funding from the Operating Reserve is required.
  - Significantly, in FY2020 and 2021, the City approved \$21.5 million (total) to cover the Rose Bowl debt because the Rose Bowl Operating Company could not make the annual debt payments related to the

massive remodel of the Rose Bowl years ago. All of those funds were from the City's General Fund AND GENERAL FUND RESERVES.

- City's Emergency Reserve (15% of annual expenditures)
  - The City has a \$48.552 million Emergency Reserve for FY2026. Given the urgent need for much more interim and permanent housing for our unhoused, funds from the City's Emergency Reserve for FY2026 should be allocated to the Housing Department for that purpose.

D. Conclusion

In conclusion, our City has chronically underfunded the Housing Department's programs to provide housing for our unhoused residents and, in particular, our unsheltered residents. The City Council *as a whole* needs to undertake a serious examination of the proposed FY2026 Operating Budget to find additional General Fund funding for the Housing Department to develop the interim and permanent housing desperately needed to house our unhoused residents. The Council also needs to approve additional funding for this purpose from the FY2026 Operating Reserve, the FY2026 Emergency Reserve and from the \$10 million in additional revenue from FY2025.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

/s/

Sonja K. Berndt, Esq. (retired)



## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Monday, June 2, 2025 4:20 PM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Soo, Christine; Ashikyan, Elizabeth; Padilla, Adrian  
**Subject:** FW: Please make our urban forest a priority  
**Attachments:** unnamed(2).jpg; unnamed(4).jpg; IMG\_0743.jpg; IMG\_0736.jpg; IMG\_0738.jpg; IMG\_0727.jpg; IMG\_0720.jpg; IMG\_0719.jpg; 309876045\_864657347811608\_4071996899080741070\_n.jpg; unnamed (20).jpg; 309543032\_509439974346930\_5048892047185779036\_n.jpg

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**From:** cheryl auger  
**Sent:** Monday, June 2, 2025 4:16:55 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Lyon, Jason <jlyon@cityofpasadena.net>; Cole, Rick <rcole@cityofpasadena.net>; Rivas, Jessica <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Subject:** Please make our urban forest a priority

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Dear Councilmembers and Mayor and City Manager,

Please agendize an update to Pasadena's Tree Ordinance. We need to plant as many trees as possible. Planting trees will help reduce emissions through carbon absorption and reduced temperatures. A Los Angeles study found that trees absorbed up to 60% of CO2 emissions in the spring and summer. This would greatly help Pasadena reduce emissions from vehicles and small off road engines with internal combustion engines.

Sincerely,  
Cheryl Auger,  
District 6 Resident  
District 7 Business Owner  
2022 Clean Air grant recipient to plant trees at New Horizons on Cyprus Avenue (See Photos)

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Cheryl Auger  
[www.myzerowastestore.com](http://www.myzerowastestore.com)





















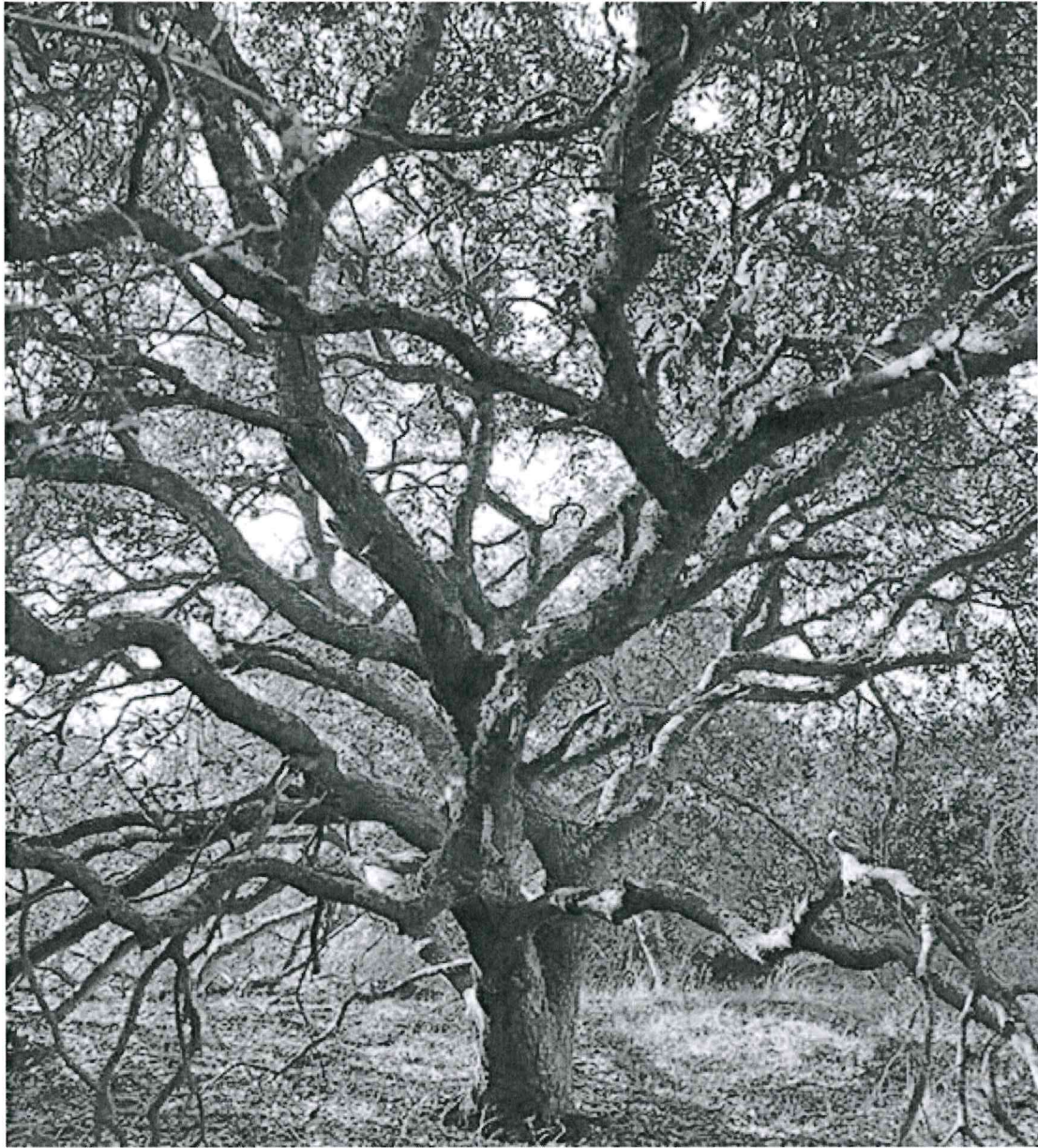
















October 5, 2022

# Clean Air Day

Were planting trees in Pasadena!

On Cypress Avenue near Orange Grove Blvd.

Take the Clean Air Pledge go to [cleanairday.org](https://cleanairday.org)

Donate to plant more trees at

[pasadenaaudubon.org/donate](https://pasadenaaudubon.org/donate)

