

# Tree Ordinance

Amendment to Title 12 of the Monrovia Municipal Code  
Chapter 12.44 Related to Street Trees

# Urban Forest Overview

- ▶ Monrovia boasts an urban forest with more than 8,000 City owned and maintained trees of various species and sizes.
  - ▶ These trees are planted in parks, medians, and along parkways
- ▶ These trees are in addition to the thousands of additional trees planted on private properties of residences and businesses throughout the City.
- ▶ The Monrovia Municipal Code contains a list of trees that are approved for planting within the streets and parkways
  - ▶ Staff was asked to review the list of approved trees and look for opportunities to include more native species on the list.

# Objective:

- ▶ To amend the Monrovia Municipal Code, update the approved permitted tree species list
- ▶ Based upon the review by Staff and West Coast Arborist, the list is being adjusted by
  - ▶ Removing Three (3) Species:
    - ▶ Evergreen Pear, Holly Oak, American Sweet Gum (Liquidambar)
  - ▶ Adding Fourteen (14) Species
    - ▶ Native Trees: Blue Palo Verde, Island Ironwood, Incense Cedar, Big Leaf Maple, California Sycamore, Canyon Live Oak, Engelmann Oak, Torrey Pine, Fremont Cottonwood, Valley Oak
    - ▶ NonNative: Marina Strawberry Tree, Weeping Bottlebrush, Peruvian Pepper, Pink Flame Tree, Chilean Mesquite

# Street Tree Species List

- ▶ This list was developed by Staff and Consulting Arborists from WCA - West Coast Arborist
- ▶ The list takes into consideration native and nonnative trees and their compatibility with our existing tree stock and the environmental conditions within the area
- ▶ The ordinance provides discretion to staff to approve species not on the list, when appropriate
- ▶ The underlying approach is the Right Tree in the Right Place
- ▶ The Tree Species List will include:
  - ▶ 50 Approved Species of Tree
  - ▶ 15 Species Native to Southern California

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Native to Southern California?</u>
▶ Redbud	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	Yes
▶ Blue Palo Verde	<i>Parkinsonia florida</i>	Yes
▶ White Alder	<i>Alnus rhombifolium</i>	Yes
▶ Island Ironwood	<i>Lyonothamnus floribundus</i>	Yes
▶ California Fan Palm	<i>Washingtonia filifera</i>	Yes
▶ Incense Cedar	<i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	Yes
▶ Big Leaf Maple	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	Yes
▶ California Sycamore	<i>Platanus racemosa</i>	Yes
▶ Canyon Live Oak	<i>Quercus chrysolepis</i>	Yes
▶ Engelmann Oak	<i>Quercus engelmannii</i>	Yes
▶ Torrey Pine	<i>Pinus torreyana</i>	Yes
▶ Fremont Cottonwood	<i>Populus fremontii</i>	Yes
▶ Valley Oak	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	Yes
▶ Marina Strawberry Tree	<i>Arbutus 'Marina'</i>	No
▶ Weeping Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	No
▶ Peruvian Pepper	<i>Schinus molle</i>	No
▶ Pink Flame Tree	<i>Brachychiton discolor</i>	No
▶ Chilean Mesquite	<i>Prosopis chilensis</i>	No

# New Native Trees to be Approved:



Redbud  
*Cercis occidentalis*



Blue Palo Verde  
*Parkinsonia florida*



White Alder  
*Alnus rhombifolium*



Island Ironwood  
*Lyonothamnus floribundus*



California Fan Palm  
*Washingtonia filifera*



Incense Cedar  
*Calocedrus decurrens*





Big Leaf Maple  
*Acer macrophyllum*



California Sycamore  
*Platanus racemosa*



Canyon Live Oak  
*Quercus chrysolepis*



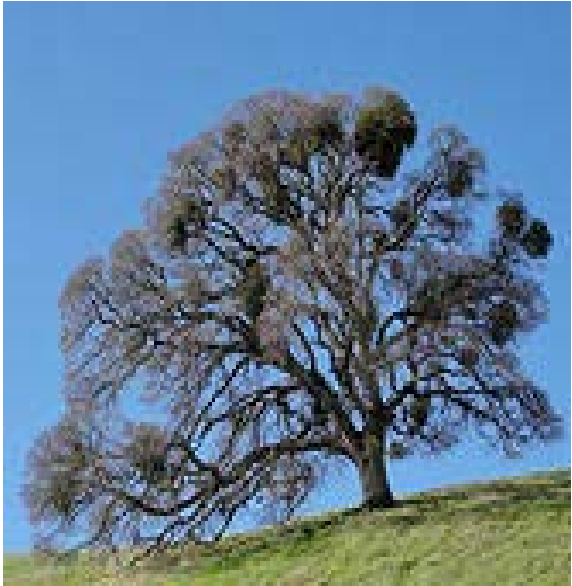
Engelmann Oak  
*Quercus engelmannii*



Torrey Pine  
*Pinus torreyana*



Fremont Cottonwood  
*Populus fremontii*



Valley Oak  
*Quercus lobata*



Marina Strawberry Tree  
*Arbutus 'Marina'*



Weeping Bottlebrush  
*Callistemon viminalis*



Peruvian Pepper  
*Schinus molle*



Pink Flame Tree  
*Brachychiton discolor*



Chilean Mesquite  
*Prosopis chilensis*

# Protection of Specific Trees

- ▶ As a part of the management of the urban forest, staff does our best to preserve healthy and viable trees as appropriate
- ▶ Currently, the only species of tree protected by code within the City of Monrovia area Oak Trees
- ▶ There have been requests to expand the protection of trees to include Ash and Sycamores as well. Within the City's tree stock, we presently have:
  - ▶ 215 Ash Trees
  - ▶ 70 Sycamore Trees
- ▶ It is likely that there are far greater amounts of these particular trees within private property throughout the City.
- ▶ Protection of these specific species would likely be more appropriate within the Zoning Code, as is Oak Tree Preservation
- ▶ Staff is seeking feedback on pursuing codifying the protection of additional tree species.

# Options for the Council

- ▶ Introduce, waive further reading, and read by title only Ordinance No. 2020-08.
- ▶ Provide direction to staff for additional review and consideration prior to approving this Ordinance
- ▶ Provide feedback to staff regarding the protection of additional species of trees.