



**COMMUNITY FOREST ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, July 9, 2025

10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library 5148
Market St, San Diego, CA 92114

Members in Attendance: Frank Buncom IV (Chair, D8), Brian Bagnall (D3), Wes Janssen (D4), Alyssa Way (D6), Terrell Rackley (D9), Ami Young (Artist) Leon Cassel (Horticulturist)

Members Not in Attendance: Morgan Justice Black (D2), Chris Tiffany (Landscape Architect), Jim Smith (D1), Michael Ackerman (D7)

Staff Liaison: Brian Widener, Olivia Mabee

Item 1: Call to Order and Roll Call

- Meeting called to order at 10:20 a.m.

Item 2: Announcements and Updates

- Terrell Rackley appointed to fill District 9 seat.
- Brian Bagnall announced resignation from the board.
- Brian Widener and Olivia Mabee filmed a short selfie style video to highlight the Community Forest Advisory Board for a reel to be posted on City social media accounts.

Item 3: Approval of Minutes

- June 11th, 2025, minutes approved. Motion to approve by Leon Cassel, seconded by Alyssa Way. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 4: Non-Agenda Public Comment

- Karen Valdizno-Amps shared details about the July 15 Oak Park forum: "Ready, Set, Grow San Diego".

Item 5: City Staff Report

- Presentation of the full City tree inventory map: Presented by John Ide, Urban Forestry Program Coordinator.

- John encouraged feedback from the Board to provide input on what they would like to see on a City tree inventory map
- Urban Tree Canopy Fee: presented by Brian Widener, City Forester.
 - Urban Forestry manages the fund but does not handle collection of fees which is collected by DSD.
 - Encouraged feedback on spending of funds for new trees.

Item 6: Discussion Items

- Urban Forestry FY26 Priorities: Presented by Brian Widener, City Forester
 - Priorities include: Work with CFAB on their workplan for the FY. Data and mapping of our street trees, including next remote sensing. Future funding for tree planting, grants, and general funding. Tree Maintenance teams: ensuring proper resources for public safety. Code Policy Updates and New 5-year Forestry Plan. Tree planting quality. Tree stewardship and volunteer activities.
- Figg Fund Update: Presented by Brian Widener.
 - Funds can be used for planting and watering jacaranda trees.
 - Urban Forestry will be exploring options to use this fund in fiscal year 2026.
- Safety Concerns & Funding Support:
 - Frank Buncom asked how CFAB can help push maintenance/planting funding.
 - This topic will be revisited at future meetings.
- Vacancies & Tree Nursery Advocacy:
 - District 3 and 5 seats still vacant.
 - Nursery stock needs active support.
 - Frank Buncom suggested someone take over the responsibility of tree nursery advocacy – Leon Cassel volunteered.
- Bylaw Review:
 - Frank Buncom Legal reviewed bylaws; minor changes made.
 - No vote required at this meeting.

Item 7: Proposed Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- None submitted.

Item 8: Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Leon Cassel, seconded by Brian Bagnall.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.