

Urban Forest Task Force Applicant

Andrew Hoyer

Application Date: 06/14/21

INTERESTS AND EXPERIENCE

Current or prior service on city boards/commissions:

I have served one term on the UFTF and was able to participate in all of four meetings before Covid-19 shut everything down. We have now had one virtual meeting and are not scheduled to have another until September. I would like the opportunity to continue contributing to the mission of generating an Urban Forest Conservation Ordinance for the next term.

Community activities:

I have been actively involved with Santa Monica Mid City Neighbors since January of 2011 serving first as Vice-President. I served as the President from April of 2013 until May of 2016 during which time I established a regular place and time for our monthly board meetings that now routinely include 1-2 speakers of interest to the community. During that time SMMCN also achieved their 401(c)4 status and became a city recognized community neighborhood organization. I still serve on the board as the Vice-President and also as the Government Affairs Officer. I regularly attend City Council, Planning Commission, Task Force on the Environment and other meetings as needed. I was also involved with the creation of the 11th Street Historic District which involved several meetings of the Landmarks Commission.

Qualifications, experience, education, and technical or professional requirements:

I grew up in southwestern Ohio where I was surrounded by acres and acres of trees. To say that I have a deep appreciation for trees would be an understatement. Spending my afternoons after the school day playing in the woods instilled a great reverence for nature in me that parlayed into going to school to get a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science. My emphasis (and my minor) was in biology and I served as an aide to the botany professor while attending so I have a good background for this position.

Goals:

To preserve as much of the existing canopy in our fine city as is possible. At SMMCN we have had the Urban Forester speak on a few occasions and recently had another speaker on the slow decline of the urban forestscape. With the battles raging over landmarking trees on private property to save them from destruction by developers, our city council has decided that there is a need for new rules regarding this and has put the onus on this task force to create them. I would very much like to be heavily involved in that task.

Vision:

This task force will have one major goal for the immediate future and that is the creation of rules regarding saving trees on private property. When not focusing on that this task force should be focused on filling the current empty planter spaces throughout the city and encouraging new plantings for all ensuing development projects. Some current projects planned have no intention of keeping existing 40-60 year-old trees in place. This sort of short-term thinking needs to be re-wired.

Personal Qualities:

As mentioned above, I have led Santa Monica Mid City Neighbors for a three-year period that saw significant expansion of our membership and the actual expansion of our territory. During my tenure, the board finally attained full membership (seven members) and has seen the crowds at our annual meetings grow.

In my current profession as an Asbestos Consultant, I am often on job sites monitoring the abatement process. This process can be a bit tricky sometimes while trying to set up a containment properly to suit the needs of the workers while still abiding by the regulations. Creative thinking and a spirit of collaboration are often required to achieve all that is required. I am always willing to listen to a supervisor's suggestions on how to set-up the containment and to see how we can make that work for a particular job-site.

Will you be able to commit the necessary time to perform your duties if appointed to the board?

yes

How did you learn about the vacancy in this board or commission? (select all that apply)

Word of Mouth- Council or Board/Commission member, City Staff, neighborhood groups, etc.

BUSINESS INFORMATION

Occupation: Industrial Hygienist

Business name: Ninyo & Moore

Business address: 1111 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 206

Monterey Park, CA 91754

Business phone: (323) 318-2660