

November 21, 2002

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District, Los Angeles County

Fax: 213-974-1010

Re: Please Save the Pico Canyon Oak Tree In Place

Dear Supervisor Antonovich,

The participants in a forum held on November 21, 2002, at Metropolitan Water District headquarters to discuss the value of restoring native plants in Southern California's outdoor spaces, urge you to preserve in place this 400 year old heritage Valley Oak.

As leaders in our many fields, we feel that conservation and preservation are the most beneficial options for fostering healthy communities. The educational value of such a tree is undeniable. The historical, cultural and environmental value of this majestic specimen far outweighs any economic impact on this development.

The preservation of this tree in place would honor the past, present and future residents of the region, and provide a lasting example of the healing power of nature. Californians have a unique and wonderful heritage to be proud of, and our actions towards our heritage trees should reflect our values. Please save this tree in place. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Southern California Heritage Landscape Forum Participants

Rene Russo, Actress

Tom Ash, Horticulturist, Irvine Ranch Water District*

Sylva Blackstone, Certified Arborist

Stephanie Blanc, Landscape Designer

Daniel Carney, Landscape Architect, City of San Diego Water Department*

Marvin Ellenbecker, Landscape Development Associate, City of Santa Ana*

Linda Eremita, Certified Arborist

Mike Evans, Tree of Life Nursery*

Bob Galbreath, Water Resources Specialist, City of Santa Monica*

Luis Generoso, City of San Diego Water Dept.*

William Granger, Water Conservation Manager, Otay Water District*

Abby Harned, Tree of Life Nursery*

Joseph Kissinger, Horticultural Consultant/Certified Arborist

Ron LaFond, Horticulturist, Horticulture Instructor, Fullerton College Horticulture

Ellen Mackey, Senior Ecologist, Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council

Bart O'Brien, Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens*

Adan Ortega, Vice President, External Affairs, Metropolitan Water District*

Dug Popovich, Business Development Manager, Bitterroot Restoration*

Claire Robinson, Executive Director, North East Trees*

Cathy Templeton, Water Conservation Coordinator, Anaheim Public Utilities Dept.*

Allison Shilling, California Native Plant Society*

Meena Westford, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation*

Additional Arborists supporting saving the tree in place

Rosi Dagit, Arborist, Sr. Conservation Biologist, Resource Cons. Dist. of Santa Monica Mnts*

Martin Stoner, Ph.D., Plant Pathologist, Mycology, Cal Poly Pomona*

Kay Greeley, Arborist

*Organizations listed for identification purposes only.