



Friend—

Happy 2020, everyone! It is going to be a busy year....read on to learn more!

Help engage restaurants in your neighborhood on reducing single-use plastics

The NCSA is part of the **Reusable LA** coalition, which is working to reduce plastic pollution. Reusable LA is hosting a training **Thursday** evening (February 6) at USC on collecting survey data from restaurants that will inform future policy. This is something you can do in your own neighborhood! Learn more and RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/reusable-la-volunteer-training-tickets-90909953117?fbclid=IwAR2I1EPQ-1IOP014MTT19419liHEwGzt5-8D27wyhJCoJggiN9-lxpT6gM>. And email ncsa@empowerla.org or call Lisa at 323.660.2780 if you want to get involved with the coalition.

An online training should be available at a later time; this effort is a great local way for neighborhood councils to support LA's Green New Deal.

Sidewalk repair program Draft EIR

A sidewalk repair program (SRP) called Safe Sidewalks LA began 3 years ago, and as a result, hundreds of large trees have already been removed, although an environmental impact report (EIR) had not been prepared. On December 26, 2019, the Sidewalk Repair Program Draft EIR was finally released. Here is a link: sidewalks.lacity.org/environmental-impact-report. The NCSA Trees Committee has serious concerns that the report ignores the City's own biodiversity goals and its Dudek report, which cites tree preservation as critical for the health of our city and its inhabitants. We all want our sidewalks repaired, but we cannot afford to lose our urban tree canopy. The good news is that alternatives to tree-removal exist!

We are now in a critical public comment period, but it ends on February 24, and we are asking you to take action and request a 60-day extension. To find out how, please go to ncsa.la/trees_sidewalkrepairprogram.

Green New Year, LA's Green New Deal

On January 11, about 90 of us gathered to talk with each other as well as with staff from the City of LA about how neighborhood councils can support LA's Green New Deal. There was a lot of energy and excitement; now we get to turn that into action. The City is developing a toolkit with resources to help neighborhood councils with this. Let us know what you're doing, what you're thinking of doing, or what help you need; we are compiling and sharing your plans and want to support you. Email ncsa@empowerla.org or call Lisa at 323.660.2780.

Decarbonizing LA

We, as a society, are reaching a social tipping point where renewable energy is normal, and

fossil fuels aren't ok anymore. As Wall Street analyst Jim Cramer said to a surprised audience on Friday, "[I'm done with fossil fuels. They're done. They're just done.](#)" In the coming months, we'll be asking you to support a number of City Council actions to gradually move the city away from fossil fuels and toward the future. Some will be big, others will be small. But make no mistake: each step away from fossil fuels is a step towards clean air and a livable climate.

This is a fast-moving topic, so for more details, visit ncsa.la/advocacy.

LA Business Council's Sustainability Summit March 27 at USC

Want to learn more about what's happening on the sustainability front? The Los Angeles Business Council will hold its 14th Annual LABC Sustainability Summit Friday, March 27th at USC's Bovard Auditorium. Learn more and register at <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=owtezvvab&oeidk=a07egt3x085492ad3dc>.

Join us on our [facebook page](#), [facebook group](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA)
<http://www.ncsa.la/>

