

COSUMNES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT PROCLAMATION

Honoring Sacramento Tree Foundation Executive Director Ray Tretheway

WHEREAS, since becoming the Executive Director of the Sacramento Tree Foundation in 1990, Ray Tretheway has instilled urban forests are a precious resource as healthy tree canopies provide cleaner air and cooler temperatures, replenishes groundwater, enhances public health, and creates vibrant, livable neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Ray Tretheway spearheaded the Greenprint Initiative providing guidance to cities and counties of the Sacramento Area Council of Governments region in developing urban forest initiatives. The primary elements of the Greenprint Initiative were the development of proper management of public trees, development of local government policies and ordinances that preserve and protect trees, development of community partnerships to support long-term sustainable urban forest solutions, and development of actions to secure new investors and resources to support the stewarding of five million new trees; and

WHEREAS, Ray Tretheway helped facilitate important research projects including a study to evaluate the effects of the urban forest on regional air quality which resulted in the proper tree species selection to help reduce the lowering of ground-level ozone; and

WHEREAS, Ray Tretheway was a part of a nationally represented expert advisory committee of public health, urban forestry, urban planning and design, and environmental professionals that provided feedback, guidance, and insight into a “Green Prescription” project that substantiated health-related justification for the need to maintain and increase the size and quantity of urban forests, street trees, and other urban vegetation; and

WHEREAS, Ray Tretheway forged a partnership with SMUD to establish the Free Shade Tree Program offering up to ten free shade trees to residents and business owners in the Sacramento region. The District continues to benefit from this program receiving thousands of free trees used in parks, streetscapes, and trails; and

WHEREAS, Ray Tretheway built greener neighborhoods throughout the Sacramento region connecting Community Foresters with neighborhood leaders to establish and expand neighborhood tree canopies, especially within underserved neighborhoods deficient of an adequate tree canopy; and

WHEREAS, Ray Tretheway reversed the negative impacts of healthy tree removal for infrastructure improvements or building purposes by developing a mitigation process that found places to plant new trees, securing healthy tree stock, educating community volunteers, and facilitating the planting and maintenance of newly planted mitigation trees; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Ray Tretheway, the Sacramento Tree Foundation developed an urban wood rescue program that honors the lives of trees as valued members of our community by keeping them out of the landfill and extending both the beauty and the carbon sequestration value of our trees by milling and drying salvaged logs into dimensional lumber for use in homes, business and artistic projects; and

WHEREAS, The District will honor Ray Tretheway by continuing its long-standing partnership with the Sacramento Tree Foundation, actively expanding and maintaining our local urban forest, educating our community on the benefits of trees, and taking a leading role facilitating the expansion of our local and regional urban forest.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Cosumnes Community Services District Board of Directors honors Sacramento Tree Foundation Executive Director Ray Tretheway for his significant contributions stewarding our community urban forests.

DONE AND PROCLAIMED this 4th day of November 2020, in Elk Grove, California

Orlando Fuentes, President

Jim Luttrell, Vice President

Rod Brewer, Director



ATTEST:

Gil Albiani, Director

Jaclyn Moreno, Director

Joshua Green, General Manager