Sports Complex Solar Project & Tree Removal Plan

In November 2023, City Council approved Phase 1 of the City Owned Solar Development Program which includes the installation of carport solar canopies over the Sports Complex parking lot.

The Sports Complex parking lot provides an excellent opportunity for the City of Glendale to adopt clean energy technologies and contribute to Glendale Water & Power's clean energy portfolio. The estimated solar photovoltaic capacity of the proposed project at the Sports Complex is 1,343 kW which is estimated to produce over 2 million kWh/year of clean solar energy.

This is the equivalent to greenhouse gas emissions from 301 homes' electricity use for one year, or it is the equivalent to carbon sequestered by 25,231 tree seedlings grown for 10 years.

For the Sports Complex Solar Project to be successful, there are 25 trees in the Sports Complex parking lot and near the perimeter of the parking lot that must be removed. These trees include three species; one which is native to California, and two non-native species one of which is invasive.

Tree Removal Plan

Native species

(2) California sycamore trees – approximately 30' in height.

Non-native species

- (11) Olive trees approximately 6'-12' in height.
- (12) "Idaho Pink" locust trees approximately 15'-25' in height and invasive to native species.

Tree Planting Plan

Recognizing the City of Glendale's pride in its tree canopy and its continued efforts to reach the goal of a 25% tree canopy, Glendale Water & Power, Community Service & Parks, and Public Works have partnered to ensure that the Sports Complex Solar Project does not result in a net loss of trees.

In fact, the following plan results in a net gain of 10 trees spread out among three nearby parks including the Sports Complex. In total 35 native California trees will be strategically planted to meet the specific needs of each location as detailed below.

Sports Complex

(15) 5-gallon Toyon (Heteromeles arbutifolia) trees will be planted along the base of the slope along the western side of the parking lot. 5-gallon trees are recommended due to the sloped planting area and the species' fast establishment and growth rate.

In addition to the tree removal and planting plan, there are four native California trees along the western perimeter of the Sports Complex parking lot that will be pruned rather than removed. While reducing the height of the trees is not ideal, it is preferable to removal.

- (1) California sycamore tree, 25' height that will be reduced to about 15'.
- (3) Coast live oak trees, 20'-25' height that will be reduced to about 15'.

Montrose Community Park

(10) 5-gallon Toyon (Heteromeles arbutifolia) trees will be planted along the eastern perimeter of the park which will provide erosion control for the steep hillside that has experienced significant erosion. 5-

gallon trees are recommended due to the sloped planting area and the species' fast establishment and growth rate.

Emerald Isle Park

(10) 24" box white alder (Alnus rhombifolia) trees will be planted along the north portion of the park in an area which was formerly turf lawn and is being reforested due to a naturally high water table. The species selected was formerly common in this area but development in our canyons have reduced its population significantly.

