Dear Orange County Board of Supervisors:

Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks (FHBP) is pleased to submit the attached letter, on behalf of our organization and seven other non-profits, in support of the proposed Tree Preservation Policy within the Zoning Code Update “Orange is the New Green.” This item comes before you on Tuesday, March 24. In addition to adopting the policy, we enthusiastically support expanding the language to include the Foothill-Trabuco Specific Plan area (District 3) and portions of the unincorporated areas above Brea (District 4).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Gloria Sefton
Vice President, FHBP
(949) 422-3413
March 18, 2020

Submitted via email to: response@ocgov.com

Orange County Board of Supervisors
333 W. Santa Ana Blvd., 5th Floor
Santa Ana, CA 92701
Attn: Chair Michelle Steel

Re: Support for the Tree Preservation Policy

Dear Chair Steel and Supervisors:

The above signed organizations wish to relay their support for the proposed Tree Preservation Policy. Individually and collectively our organizations span the county and include many thousands of supporters.

Our organizations not only support the policy, but also support expanding the policy to include more than just the Silverado-Modjeska Specific Plan area. We propose expanding the geography to include the Foothill-Trabuco Specific Plan area (District 3) and the hillside unincorporated lands above Brea (District 4). We believe tailoring the scope to cover these areas appropriately reflects the policy’s intent to protect valuable tree resources existing in our unincorporated county lands.

The policy contained within the new zoning code update: Orange is the New Green, provides language for best practices for tree preservation and are widely accepted. Trees have intrinsic value in our society. They benefit our heath, well-being, and should be protected.
Trees also provide many benefits including but not limited to:

- Sequestering carbon
- Stabilizing the soil and reducing erosion
- Reducing the urban heat island effect
- Releasing oxygen
- Providing habitat for wildlife

We appreciate the hard work of the staff and Planning Commission on the entire zoning code update, but urge the Board’s inclusion of the identified lands.

Sincerely,

Mike Wellborn, President
Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks

Gloria Sefton & Rich Gomez, Co-Founders
Saddleback Canyons Conservancy

Dan Silver, Executive Director
Endangered Habitats League

Ray Chandos, Secretary/Treasurer
Rural Canyons Conservation Fund

Gillian Martin, Director
Cavity Conservation Initiative

Claire Schlotterbeck, Executive Director
Hills For Everyone

Ron Vanderhoff, Vice President
Orange County Chapter – California Native Plant Society

Susan Sheakley, Conservation Chair
Sea & Sage Audubon Society