

Dear Councilmember Barbara Bry:

A few months ago, I emailed you and others about the Torrey Pine Tree die-off in the Reserve, golf course and vicinity. Bridger Langfur of your staff replied and suggested I present the issue to the San Diego Community Forest Advisory Board (CFAB). I made that presentation on November 14, 2018. Attached is a copy.

The presentation explained that even though we're told the die-off is caused by drought and beetles, there is fungal damage that remains unacknowledged and is probably attracting bark beetles. (I think it looks like pitch canker disease.) I showed the CFAB a side by side comparison of a tree killed by beetles in the Reserve with a tree killed by fungal damage on the golf course, page 2 on the attachment. The board members could see the different types of damage. I also provided a map of trees that have the obvious fungal damage. For me, the highlight of the presentation was when a few board members voiced out in agreement when I said, "Those irrigated trees on Torrey Pines Golf Course can't possibly be dying from drought and beetles".

My presentation asked the CFAB to acknowledge there is damage in addition to drought and beetles that is killing the trees and recommend taking steps to determine what it is. A recommendation doesn't cost anything. It certainly seems that trying to understand what's weakening and killing our trees and attracting bark beetles that kill additional trees is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,
Dale Williams
www.TorreyPineTreesNeedaLabTest.net

copies:

b langfur

all board members

charles kerns, the beetle guy at torrey pines reserve

doug gibson, director and principal scientist san elijo lagoon conservancy

ed drobnicki, city horticulturalist covering torrey pines golf course

pat nolan, plant pathologist san diego county

frank landis, ca. native plant society

stephanie steele, san diego zoo institute for conservation research

jill hamilton, torrey pines consultant from north dakota

rick vogel, torrey pines association

darren smith, ca state parks natural resource manager

kim prather, chair of atmospheric chemistry, ucsd/scripps oceanography

tony gurnoe, horticulturalist san diego botanic garden

Jeff lasky, 10 News

mayor falconer

dwight worden, del mar