



STS NEWSLETTER

A bimonthly publication of Street Tree Seminar
Your Los Angeles/Orange County Regional Forest Council

Winter WTMS - underground at SoFi Stadium

Street Tree Seminar members and friends were treated to a special day at SoFi Stadium for our Winter Symposium this year.

Winter Symposium with a twist. Great morning tailgating and an incredible educational experience - water / trees / turf / hard-scape - now that's collaboration!

We started the day with a traditional "tailgate" where attendees and speakers have the opportunity to network over coffee and refreshments.

We got to experience the venue from the ground up - from design to maintenance with a Parkland Tour led by Mia Lehrer and Eric Merecki and Kush Parekh from Studio MLA,

We migrated into SoFi space and after a wonderful walk around the different gardens and terraces - all with different themes and plants, we ventured "behind the scenes" of SoFi Stadium. Our guides shared the background and attributes of the stadium including architectural, engineering, and sustainability breakdown.

How the stadium was built, why it's built the way that it is (earthquake measures, flight paths from LAX), a deeper dive into the structure breakdown, with information about the ecosystem, native plant usage

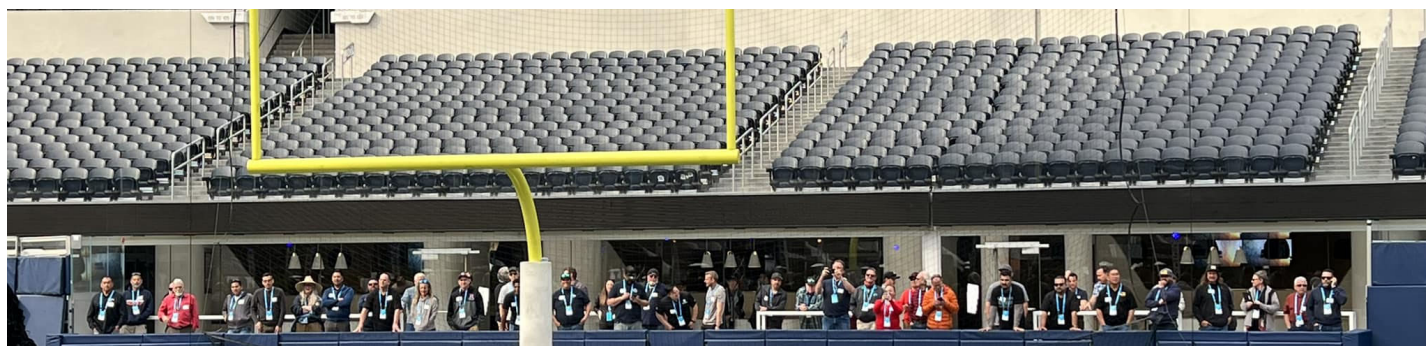
After lunch, Miles Cook from Hollywood Park, and Bret Richardson from Brightview Landscape shared the maintenance side of



the operation with us. There is a lot more than football going on here!

We were treated to a "Field Experience" - Starting with a tunnel run experience out to the turf, with a tunnel of lights, music, and video to hype you up. Then there are combine-like activities including field goal kick, 40-yard dash, the shuttle agility test, quarterback throwing challenge, and 50 yards dedicated to free play.

It was a unique and fascinating experience!



ABOUT THE VENUE

SoFi Stadium and Hollywood Park, a near 300-acre sports and entertainment destination was developed by Los Angeles Rams Owner/Chairman E. Stanley Kroenke. Kroenke worked with Studio MLA, a landscape architecture and urban design studio, to create civic and environmentally conscious landscape solutions across three key areas: water capture and reuse, the utilization of 100 percent Southern California-native plant species, and the continued development of public parks for year-round use.

SoFi Stadium and Hollywood Park's focus on sustainable landscape solutions and water conservation led to the creation of Lake Park, which functions as open recreational space for the community and a novel water recycling system. Inspired by the original

Behind the Scenes at SoFi - continued

water feature that was part of the former Hollywood Park race-track, Lake Park consists of an upper and lower lake separated by cascading waterfalls. At approximately 6 acres and 16 million gallons of water, the lake is surrounded by an additional 6 acres of parkland. The lake functions as a water recycling system by collecting 70-80 percent of stormwater runoff from around the site, filtering it through natural wetlands and mechanical systems, and then using it to irrigate the surrounding parkland.



Mia Lehrer and Kush Parekh from Studio- MLA led our tour



A view of the northern edge of SoFi stadium, showing landscape typical of desert climes, such as cactuses, palms and aloe.

Additionally, the site's over 5,000 trees and many species of

plants are all native to Southern California and represent the five main ecologies that make up the mediterranean biome that Southern California inhabits. By purposefully selecting plants and trees that are native to the region, it promotes the regeneration of habitats that were previously missing in the area and encourages the return of native wildlife such as warblers, honeybees and more. The landscape design is not only striking, but it also simultaneously makes a significant contribution to the environment with close to 240,000 pounds of CO2 sequestered per year by the thousands of trees on site.

Latest Trends in Water Management March 16th Meeting Recap



We had a wonderful afternoon at AGRIScape - Cal Poly Pomona's. All about Water... Dave Schroeder from Chino Basin Water District, Danny Akers from the City of Rancho Cucamonga and Dr. Chris Shogren from University of California Cooperative Extension, Los Angeles County



The Importance of Street Trees

Scholarship Essay - Robyn Tom, 2022 Scholarship Recipient

What would a society without trees look like?

Trees provide colors in our landscape greater than the typical light blue skies or cold gray cement buildings. When we're walking or driving around town, we barely notice the plant life framing the storefronts of the retail boutiques. We just know that we appreciate the coverage it provides on our shade breaks whether it be at the park or indulging in a sweet treat. We zoom past the Eucalyptus trees on the freeway, oblivious to how tall they tower over us. We only notice trees when they produce bright colors with their showy flowers, or if they're crashing down upon us in a windstorm. Our daily drive down a particular street unglamorous until one day we noticed the parkways lined with Jacarandas in full bloom with their lavender flowers showering the cars and the street.

We might even ask a child; how would you describe a tree? Would they say it is tall and green? When arborists think of a shade of green, we may be overwhelmed with options. The blue-gray-green of a Silver Dollar Eucalyptus may provide a contrasting shade of emerald green seen in a Carrotwood tree. Even on a single tree like a large Southern Magnolia, we may see different colors and textures with a glossy forest green top and distinctive fuzzy copper hue on the underside.

Some trees may be too tall to observe the beauty of a specimen, but others may give us an up-close glimpse of what mother nature has to offer. Observations of a Firewheel tree flower may remind of us old timey carriages, or perhaps an exploding firework. An African Coral tree may remind us of our Southern Californian heritage with folklorico skirts swinging vibrantly in a cultural performance. There can be so



many emotions and memories tied into trees.

The bark of a tree can also generate various feelings or ideas. The Silk Floss tree may offer spooky feelings when we see how spikey it can be. We can see the smooth elegant twists of a Crepe Myrtle and wonder if she is dancing with the wind, or just by herself. The odd geologic-like striations in a Cork Oak may cause conflicting experiences when touched. The paper-like strips of a Melaleuca can be inspiring of more curious questions- is this an adequate substitute for paper or shelter?

But other non-arborists may not notice the experience they have with trees until it happens. The Japanese word 'komorebi' has no English translation but can be described as the sunlight filtering through the trees. This meditative and peaceful encounter may be calming and grounding. Yet, a rush of excitement and chaos occurs when local green parrots flood a tree to find nourishment in the Coast Live Oak acorns. Some children may find joy in crunching across the litter of Liquidambar or wonder where the sound is coming from when Aspens are rattling in the breeze. They may never realize that they must look up into the trees.

Arborists have a more critical thinking of trees, while others may have more experiences and emotions tied to these large staples in our society. When society realizes the magic behind their tree observations, then we will understand why trees are priceless.



Robyn Tom is a student at Mt. San Antonio College with a course of study in Ornamental Horticulture. Robyn is an active volunteer in her community, and is very active in FoodEd, which constructs and sustains edible food sites.

May Meeting - Chino Basin Water Conservation District

MAY 18, 2023

Management of Trees in a Public Garden and Park



**Waterwise
Community
Center**

Join us at the Chino Basin Waterwise Community Center for a short talk and garden walk. The presentation highlights the challenges of growing and maintaining mature established species to relatively new additions to the landscape. Differences in care

between the Demonstration garden trees and public park trees will also be featured. Varied examples of irrigation techniques will be featured with critiques, successes and failures, along with scheduling challenges. A site walk in both the garden and park will follow, emphasizing the information presented in the power point.

***Please contact Heather in our office with any questions- heather@streettreeseinar.com*



**THURSDAY
May 18, 2023**

10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

**Chino Basin Water District
4594 San Bernardino Rd
Montclair, CA 91763**

Cost:

Members- \$25

Non-Members- \$30

1.5 CEUs available

STREET TREE SEMINAR

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**TO REGISTER – VISIT
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Meeting Schedule 2023

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|----------------|--|---|
| May 18 | Waterwise Community Center & Garden Tour
Chino Basin Water District | Waterwise Comm Ctr
Montclair, CA |
| July 27 | WTMS Summer 2023– After the Storm–
what’s next for our urban trees? | Huntington Gardens
San Marino, CA |
| Oct 19 | Annual Golf Tournament
Climate Trees with Janet Hartin | Green River Golf Course
Corona, CA |

Interested in hosting a program in your community? We are interested in hearing from you!
Contact heather@streetreeseminar.com

Industry Events

- April 5** **Pruning Mitigation Strategies w. Lindsey Purcell**
Www.wcisa.net—online meeting
- April 25** **TRAQ RENEWAL Course**
Www.wcisa.net– Sims Learning Center, Jurupa Valley, CA
- April 26-28** **TRAQ Full Course**
Www.wcisa.net– Sims Learning Center, Jurupa Valley, CA
Www.wcisa.net– Griffith Park, Los Angeles, CA



MISSION

“To provide a forum for professionals to share their experience, knowledge and expertise for the benefit of the membership and the enhancement of Southern California’s Urban Forest.”



**Street Tree Seminar is your
Los Angeles / Orange
County Regional
Forest Council**

VISION

“To enhance the health and beauty of Southern California’s Urban Forest.”