CITY OF PALO ALTO
PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY AND CALIFORNIA ARBOR WEEK

WHEREAS, it is important that all citizens acknowledge the role that trees play in our lives, whether by providing oxygen, offering shaded places to rest, or contributing to the splendor and viability of our City; and

WHEREAS, our community values the Urban Forest not only for its majestic natural beauty, but also for its essential public health, environment, and economic benefits; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the commitment needed to grow a vital, thriving, healthy and sustainable mix of tree species that can adapt to potential threats such as natural pests, improper tree care, urban development, budgetary pressures, and climate change, and this community has engaged in preparing an Urban Forest Master Plan to address these challenges; and

WHEREAS, each year, “NATIONAL ARBOR DAY” is celebrated by people throughout the nation in recognition that trees and humans share an interdependence that should be nurtured, in remembrance of famed horticulturists Sterling Morton and Luther Burbank; and the permanent inspiration of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Professor Wangari Maathai during her visit with our community in 2006; and

WHEREAS, during March 2011, the City of Palo Alto is observing “CALIFORNIA ARBOR WEEK,” with inspirational activities led by Canopy and City Staff, to reflect upon our trees and encourage all citizens to join in this celebration at a neighborhood park planting; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palo Alto has been recognized as a “Tree City—USA” by the National Arbor Day Foundation for 26-consecutive years and desires to enhance its green goals and continue to achieve this honored distinction.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sidney A. Espinosa, Mayor of the City of Palo Alto, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim March 7-12, 2011, as “PALO ALTO ARBOR WEEK” and urge all citizens and young adults to support efforts to care for our trees and surroundings, to support our City’s multi-faceted community forestry program, and to plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

Presented: March 2011

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Sidney A. Espinosa
Mayor