

SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community

A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



Volume 46, Issue 5

SHPOA Sept-Oct 2023

Recap of SHPOA General Meeting
of July 11, 2023
By Tina Eick, Board

On July 11, 2023 the Shadow Hills Property Owners Association (SHPOA) held its General Meeting at Tierra Del Sol at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held inside the dining room and was well attended by community neighbors and members. There were representatives from Congressman Schiff and Assemblywomen Friedman's offices, along with William Stewart, an insurance broker to discuss fire coverage options for homeowners in a mountain fire district.

Tina Eick welcomed the guests and led them in the Pledge of Allegiance. Our main guest speakers, local firemen from LAFD were unable to attend the meeting. William Stewart, an insurance representative from Farmers Insurance then discussed the current problems associated with obtaining and/or maintaining home insurance for fire coverage. Although some companies still provide coverage, other large companies are refusing to provide new policies for fire protection or are leaving the state outright. Homeowners are now faced with buying fire protection through the California Fair Plan or enormous rate hikes from their current providers.

Chris Khachadour from Assemblywoman Friedman's office and Teresa Lamb Simpson from Congressman Schiff's office fielded questions from the attendees ranging from fire and brush clearance issues to traffic and local signage concerns. Many of the neighbors' concerns were local issues which would require local governmental responses. However both representatives took notes and assured the attendees that their concerns would be directed to the local jurisdictions for action.

The final item on the agenda was the concerns raised by the Hudson Film Studio application for live studio audiences. The major objection to the request is the increase in traffic should such an application be approved. SHPOA provided the attendees a copy of said concerns which have been sent to the applicant. See below:

SHPOA CONCERNS

1. Prohibiting live audience traffic through the community of Shadow Hills, specifically on Stonehurst Ave and Peoria Street from the east.
2. Changing google search engines to reflect a ban on the use of Stonehurst Ave and Peoria Street from

(Cont'd next column)

SHPOA's Next Meeting
Tuesday, Sept 12th
Tierra Del Sol, 9919 Sunland Blvd.
7 - 9 pm

DO YOU WANT A 90 UNIT COMPLEX ON SUNLAND BLVD ????

Our meeting will be inside the dining room. We will be serving water and other refreshments.

The SHPOA agenda includes:

1. A developer is proposing a 90 unit (450 sq.ft per unit) senior dwelling facility at 9523 Sunland Blvd. just east of Stonehurst Ave and on the south side of Sunland Blvd. THE PROPERTY REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE PRESENTING THE PROPOSAL AT OUR MEETING.
2. Guest speakers from the LA Fire Dept. here to discuss fire brush clearance policies and tips to stay safe during our fire season.
3. The proposed live-studio-audience request by the film studio will be updated.

PLEASE BE SURE TO ATTEND !

(Continued)

traffic coming from the east to the film studio. Traffic to be directed to Glenoaks Blvd on those Google sites.

3. New and larger signage should be installed on all pertinent streets.

4. No offsite parking allowed on Peoria Street, Elinda Place, Stonehurst Ave or any other streets in Shadow Hills.

5. Live audience parking should be at another film studio location lot and shuttled to and from the Peoria Street film studio.

6. If feasible, all traffic to the Peoria Street film studio should use Pendleton Street easement to enter the southwest portion of the property.

7. Hudson Pacific contact information should be permanently installed on the perimeters of the film studio property.

8. Live studio audiences should be limited to weekdays between set hours ... to be discussed/determined at a later date.

(Please see "Recap" on p. 2)

2023 SHPOA Board Members

(if no email is listed, please send to board@shpoa.us)

Executive Officers

President:	Tina Eick board@shpoa.us
Vice President:	Tad Butler
Executive Secretary:	Owynn Lancaster
Recording Secretary:	Jacqy Gamble
Treasurer:	Michael Stein
Membership:	Michael Stein

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Equestrian and Trails:	Rosey Payne (Liaison) Robin Phipps
Neighborhood Watch:	Vacant
Daily Fodder and Lost/Found Pets	Susan Wong shpoa@shpoa.us
Webmaster:	Michael Stein webmaster@shpoa.us
Traffic Safety Coordinator	Carlos George
Newsletter Editor and Article Collection:	Tina Eick board@shpoa.us
Newsletter Advertising :	Michael Stein webmaster@shpoa.us
Newsletter Design/Layout:	Cindy Bloom
Hospitality:	Gerardo Barrientos
Historian:	vacant
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SHPOA's E-mail Address:	shpoa@shpoa.us or board@shpoa.us
Website:	www.shpoa.us
Senior Lead Police Officers:	
<i>Sunland/Shadow Hills/LVT</i>	Wilcer Godoy 36495@lapd.online 818-634-0705
<i>Sun Valley/Shadow Hills West</i>	Eric Perez 38338@lapd.online 818-634-0755 LAPD Foothill Div. Front Desk 818-756-8861
Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC)	
	www.ftdnc.org
<i>President:</i>	Kevin Davis president@ftdnc.org
<i>Shadow Hills Reps:</i>	Oma El omael.ftdnc@gmail.com

("Recap" cont'd from p. 1)

9. Provide to SHPOA a copy of the traffic study as soon as it's available.

10. Adherence to all prior conditions and mitigating measures set forth in the original approval for the project.

11. Repave Peoria Street, from Glenoaks to Stonehurst Ave. Keep the speed bumps east of the studio intact.

12. Create a landscape mural on the east side of the buildings to ease visual blight on neighbors.

13. Provide a conference room for monthly community meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.



Special Spirit – We Are Still Here!
By Eva Lund, Resident

The book "Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley examines a futuristic society that revolves around science and efficiency. In this society, emotions and individuality are conditioned out of children at a young age, and there are no lasting relationships because "everyone belongs to everyone else". SCARY! We are not there yet but we may be getting closer with the use of Artificial Intelligence. We are facing war, climate change, economic inequality, political tensions, public health challenges, and a divided nation.

Our youth is struggling; teenagers are experiencing higher rates of depression, it's a complex and multifaceted issue with a variety of factors. School pressure, social media, cyberbullying, body image, family and relationships issues just to name a few.

Animals to the RESCUE! Animals can be a great help for our kids struggling with depression and anxiety. Actually, they are a great help to all humans. Who does not need unconditional love, emotional bonding, reduced stress, physical activity ... animals can provide all of us support and comfort. That is what we offer here at Special Spirit – The Learning Ranch!

Last year Danny's Farm turned over their operation to Special Spirit. We continue to offer work opportunities to adults with challenges, we are running the petting farm and offer farm visits by appointment. All the farm animals previously with Danny's Farm still reside on the ranch, along with our therapy horses, chicken, dogs, cats, and alpacas. All animals would still appreciate your support!

Glitter, our rescued donkey was a superstar on Palm Sunday at All Nations Church in Lake View Terrace. About 400 kids were thrilled to meet her. Again, at the Shepherd Church in Porter Ranch Glitter celebrated the graduating students. She has come a long way from being the abused donkey that would not allow us to touch her 3 years ago. Lots of love and patience can cure almost anything.

(Please see "Spirit" on p. 3)

("Spirit" cont'd from p. 2)

We would love to share a Special Spirit experience with you. Contact us at: Eva@specialspirit.org



Special Spirit was represented at the 34th annual CalNet horse show at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center in May. A spectacular weekend, riders competed in equitation, obstacles courses, pole bending, futures, showmanship, dressage, and costume contest. Our accomplished students, Rachel and Angel displayed amazing poise, confidence, and self-awareness as they both competed in several classes at CalNet. A big accomplishment for Angel, he started riding just a few months ago at Special Spirit! Both Rachel and Angel competed in the costume contest with Kita and Major, they got ribbons for each event. CalNet was extremely memorable and a lot of fun for riders' volunteers, family, and friends. Thank you Ride On for putting on a great show!

The sweltering heat reduced a lot of our planned activities this summer. Our main focus is to keep all our animals safe and comfortable. We have added lots of shade areas, both animals and humans only work in the morning hours. Please follow this link "Heat Advisory for Horses" from UC Davies, with some good advice for us all during this heat: https://ceh.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/sites/g/files/dgvnsk4536/files/inline-files/currenthealth_heatadvisory.pdf

"Life is a journey to be experienced, not a problem to be solved." - Winnie the Pooh

(Please see "Spirit" on p. 4)

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

SHPOA

Membership Form

Shadow Hills area residents, it's always time to join SHPOA! We are here for you!

Your support and participation are vital to the preservation of our rural community.

Membership only = \$25

Newsletter only = \$10 (non-Shadow Hills area)

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Benefits and Value of SHPOA Membership

Preserve Country Lifestyle

- ✓ Fight for code enforcement to protect residential zoning
- ✓ Provide legal counsel and referrals
- ✓ Expand trail system, open space and wildlife corridors
- ✓ Support equestrians and equestrian organizations
- ✓ Advocacy with government and law enforcement agencies
- ✓ Assisting families impacted by fires or other natural disasters

Protect Public Safety, the Environment and Property Values

- ✓ Initiate Neighborhood Watch groups
- ✓ Liaison to local police and fire departments
- ✓ Assist animal health and care
- ✓ Reduce speeding, unsafe driving and trash truck traffic
- ✓ Community beautification and clean-ups
- ✓ Partner with real estate community
- ✓ Leading the fight to defeat the high speed train proposals

Promote Shadow Hills

- ✓ Market unique lifestyle and real estate properties
- ✓ Conduct SHPOA membership drives
- ✓ Hold general member meetings with guest speakers, helpful information and entertainment
- ✓ Bi-monthly newsletter
- ✓ Daily email outreach and information
- ✓ Website information
- ✓ Special events and signage



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Did you hear about the man who was hospitalized with six plastic horses inside him? The doctor described his condition as stable.

("Spirit" cont'd from p. 3)

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Send Billy To A Sanctuary - Part 4 By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Billy, an Asian bull elephant, has spent 33 years of his life at the Los Angeles Zoo much of the time in conditions meeting only minimum standards set by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). Billy, like all elephants at the zoo, lack adequate nourishment by being prevented from browsing on vegetation surrounding the zoo due to the protective electric fencing. Browsing on foliage is an essential behavior for elephants. Zoo records show that at least 55 invasive procedures have been undertaken in an effort to extract sperm from Billy all to no avail. This procedure involves a keeper inserting their arm up Billy's anus to massage his prostate. Billy has exhibited some of the worst behavior of any elephant seen in any zoo by continuously bobbing his head, an indication of extreme psychological stress and is now also believed to be an indication of brain damage. The LA Zoo has been on the "In Defense of Animals Ten Worst Zoos for Elephants" list 7 times. Billy has been one of the main reasons why. A number of public comments have recommended moving Billy to the PAWS Sanctuary (Performing Animal Welfare Society) in San Andreas, California where he cannot only be rehabilitated, but will be with other elephants in an environment more conducive to the one he would live in naturally. On November 29, 2022, the then existent Los Angeles City Councils Animal Welfare Committee considered a Motion presented by Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Bob Blumenfield relative to the cancellation of elephant breeding activities at the Los Angeles Zoo and the relocation of Billy, the elephant, to a suitable sanctuary environment. The Committee recommended that the Council:

- ◆ Instruct the Los Angeles Zoo to relocate Billy the bull elephant to a suitable elephant sanctuary

(Please see "Billy" on p. 5)

("Billy" cont'd from p. 4)

- ◇ Adopt a policy that the Los Angeles Zoo shall not involve its bull elephant Billy in any breeding program involving the collection of sperm for use in artificial insemination or natural breeding procedures for the duration of his residence at the Los Angeles Zoo without first consulting with the Board of Zoo Commissioners and City Council
- ◇ Instruct the Los Angeles Zoo to prepare and present reports on:
 - Its existing animal welfare process including any Animal Welfare Working Group they have formed and who comprises it, how it functions, what steps it takes to ensure the well-being of the Zoo's animals and how it fits into the Zoo's Animal Welfare Framework
 - Documentation on programs intended to improve the welfare of its elephant herd through making more extensive real-time use of the available acreage in the Elephants of Asia exhibit to the extent feasible, the prohibition of inhumane forms of discipline, providing regular opportunities for exercise and enrichment and rototilling of the soil in the elephant exhibit to prevent it from being in a compacted condition.

To be updated in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.



Thanks To Our Community Activists
By Tina Eick, Board

The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association (SHPOA) would like to acknowledge and thank our neighbors David Monroe and Dan Whifler for their consistent efforts to get Southern California Edison (SCE) to clear Edison properties of weeds and brush located under the power lines on Green Verdugo Dr as well as throughout Shadow Hills. Although SCE was cited for non compliance of brush clearance regulations, they have only now begun to remove the highly flammable materials under their power lines. David and Daniel's initial attempts to get a response from SCE began in June. Their inquiries to the SCE into the overdue and dangerous conditions on SCE property were ignored or deflected to different agencies throughout the City. Emails were unanswered and David was put on hold for 2 1/2 hours on two different occasions. He finally talked to a SCE representative who said the clearance was put on hold because of "nesting season" but that it was starting "soon".

However, as of this writing, the brush clearance on Green Verdugo Dr. has still not happened.

Government negligence is unacceptable - especially when it's a threat to the public's welfare and

(Please see "Thanks" on p. 6)

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("Thanks" cont'd from p. 5)

safety.

And so these attempts to keep our community safe by volunteer neighbors need to be gratefully recognized. Thank you David Monroe and Dan Whifler! Your tireless efforts are sincerely appreciated by your neighbors and SHPOA.



Prevent Speculative Buying Of Affordable Single-Family Homes - PART 4
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

On October 26, 2022, the City Council's Housing Committee recommended that the Council adopt the following Resolution, subject to the concurrence of the Mayor, with respect to strategies to prevent large tech and private equity firms from engaging in real estate speculative practices involving affordable single-family housing, support for legislation that prevents the displacement of long-term residents and limits real estate speculation by private equity firms and investment vehicles, etc.

- ◇ Instruct the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) to report to the Council on the feasibility of developing homeownership education and counseling programs or contracting with educators to offer homeownership education and counseling programs for prospective homebuyers and current homeowners in the City.
- ◇ Instruct the Los Angeles Housing Department to report to the Council on the feasibility of applying for CalHome grants from the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development to find first-time homebuyer and housing rehabilitation assistance, homebuyer counseling and technical assistance activities to support homeownership especially for low and very-low income individuals and households.
- ◇ Instruct the Los Angeles Housing Department to review Los Angeles County Assessor property rolls and report on an estimate of the number of single-family homes owned by investment vehicles including real estate investment trusts, partnerships, corporations and limited liability entities in the City, including as a proportion of total units as well as possible policy responses to limit the amount of properties that is permissible for a single entity to own.
- ◇ Instruct the Los Angeles Housing Department, in consultation with the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety, to report to the Council on the implementation of Senate Bill 1079 to prohibit real estate trustees from bundling foreclosed properties for sale.
- ◇ Instruct the City's Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the Los Angeles

(Please see "Buying" on p. 7)

("Buying" cont'd from p. 6)

Housing Department, to report on how opportunity to purchase policies impact property sale timelines and property values and their overall effectiveness in preventing the displacement of long-term residents.

- ◇ Instruct the Los Angeles Housing Department to report on the implementation of SB 649 including how the City will use low-income housing tax credits and tax-exempt bonds for affordable housing to allow households facing, or at risk of, displacement to remain in their communities.

The Resolution was adopted by the City Council on December 7, 2022 and was approved by then Mayor Eric Garcetti on December 10, 2022



What About Those Signs?
By Susan Wong, Board

In an August 8, 2023 meeting with SHPOA and Ricardo Flores, who is the Shadow Hills Area representative in CD7, SHPOA received some updates about what CD7 is doing to help with the traffic issues around the construction of the soundstages, as well as the anticipated traffic issues around operating the soundstages once they are completed. The soundstages are scheduled to be completed by Nov. 2023.

The problems outlined by residents are (and are anticipated to continue to be):

- Increased traffic coming through the residential streets in Shadow Hills (Stonehurst, Wentworth, Peoria, Elinda),
- Large trucks rumbling down Peoria, which has a weigh limit that is ignored daily.
- Trucks turning into Elinda thinking they can get to the studio, and then unable to turn around at the dead end, or knocking into trees and parked cars while trying to turn around.

Suggestions for helping with these problems include actions that can be taken by three entities: the Studios, CD6 (where the studios are located) and CD7 (where all residents impacted live). This meeting with Mr. Flores was about what CD7 can do.

The main actions that CD7 can do are:

- Work with the CD6 counterpart to get proper signage on Stonehurst, Peoria, and Elinda.
- Work with the CD6 counterpart to repair/repave Peoria from Glenoaks towards the studios, which is so chewed up that it is understandable that anyone who has driven it would try to avoid that section of the road in the future. We want anyone accessing the studios to do so from Glenoaks.

Mr. Flores reports that CD7 has driven the affected streets, has photos of the existing signs, and has

(Please see "Signs" on p. 8)

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("Signs" cont'd from p. 7)

noted where new signs may be needed. They are working with the DOT to establish what signs are needed now and where they should go.

One hold-up has been that until the election of the new City Councilperson for CD6, there was no CD6 rep for that area in Sun Valley. The election was held in June, and Imelda Padilla was elected CD6 City Councilwoman as of June 28, 2023. Her new CD6 Rep for Sun Valley started on July 31, 2023.

Ricardo has initiated contact with him, and they hope to work together soon to expedite these solutions.

Mr. Flores stated that closing off Peoria is not workable due to evacuation safety. Speed humps (or speed cushions) are dealt with through a separate process (The Residential Speed Hump Program*).

SHPOA will continue to be in communication with Ricardo Flores about about this and other issues.

*The next open application day for this will be in the Fall of 2023. <https://ladot.lacity.org/projects/safety-programs/speed-humps>



Ordinance No. 187717 – Prohibits The Distribution
And/Or Sale Of Expanded Polystyrene Products
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Expanded Polystyrene Products are polystyrenes that have been "expanded" or "blown" using a gaseous blowing agent forming a solid foam commonly referred to under the trade name "Styrofoam". Expanded Polystyrene is not biodegradable, is not economically recyclable and often ends up as litter in our open spaces, rivers and oceans where it breaks down into micro-pieces in the environment and harms wildlife and aquatic animals who may consume it. Styrene, which is the main component of polystyrene, has also been classified as a possible human carcinogen and can leach into food stored in polystyrene containers used for food take-out. There are more cost-effective, reusable and compostable foodware products readily available for most food-service use and are less toxic and more environmentally friendly than Expanded Polystyrene. As reducing waste of Expanded Polystyrene Products fits well into the City's goals of reducing waste, an Ordinance prohibiting the distribution and/or sale of Expanded Polystyrene Products was added to Chapter XIX of the Los Angeles Municipal Code. Expanded Polystyrene Products include such things as egg cups, bowls, plates, egg cartons, food trays, coolers and ice chests made from Expanded Polystyrene, shipping boxes, packing peanuts and other packing materials. Beginning April 23, 2023, no large food or beverage facility or large retail establishment (more than 26 employees) shall:

◇ Distribute, offer, provide, rent, or sell to any person any Expanded Polystyrene Product

(Please see "Polystyrene" on p. 9)

("Polystyrene" *cont'd from p. 8*)

◇ Distribute, offer, provide, rent, or sell to any person any food or beverage in any Expanded Polystyrene Product (Styrofoam)

◇ Distribute, offer, provide, rent or sell to any person shipping or packing material that contains Expanded Polystyrene

Effective April 23, 2024, all Food and Beverage Facilities and Retail Establishments shall comply with these same requirements. A "Food or Beverage Facility" means any facility within the City of Los Angeles that sells or otherwise provides prepared food or beverages for consumption on or off its premises and includes but is not limited to a shop, sales outlet, restaurant, bar, pub, coffee shop, coffee stand, juice and/or smoothie bar, cafeteria, caterer, convenience store, liquor store, grocery store, supermarket, delicatessen, farmer's market, theater, mobile food truck, roadside stand, kiosks, carts or any organization, group or individual that regularly provides prepared food or beverages as part of its service.



Griffith Park Pony Ride
Concession/Discontinuation Up-Date
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Upon the discontinuation of the Griffith Park Pony Rides, numerous public comments were submitted asking that the Pony Rides be reinstated under the direction of an oversight committee. All health concerns of the animals would be reported by equine veterinarians, Certified Animal Services personnel, etc.

These inspections should resolve any misinformation of cruelty which has been claimed to be unfounded. Comprehensive record-keeping would be a must for all animals. A few public comments did support the discontinuation of the Pony Rides stating that "ponies are not vehicles". They are sentient beings with a basic right to be free from enslavement. The Pony Rides should be replaced with non-animal entertainment. It has been proven that "oversight" is impossible.

Upon the creation of City Council Committees following the latest election round, the Parks Committee has been discontinued and a new "Community Enrichment Committee" created. While the issue of discontinuing/retaining the Griffith Pony Ride Concession was reviewed under the auspices of the Parks Committee until December 22, 2022, the date when the Concession was officially discontinued, because there was still a volume of public comments being submitted asking to bring back/retain the discontinuation of the Concession, the issue has now been referred to the new Community Enrichment Committee for further consideration.

It is assumed there will be further review of the issue by the Committee/Council.



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Failure To Enforce LA's Protected Tree And Shrub Ordinance - Part 1

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Los Angeles has taken steps to protect its native trees and shrubs by instituting a Protected Tree and Shrub Ordinance whose aim is to establish standards for the preservation of four significant trees and two significant shrubs native to Southern California - the indigenous oak trees, the Southern California Black Walnut, the Western Sycamore, the California Bay, the Toyon and the Mexican Elderberry. Unfortunately, trees are not being adequately protected and City departments are not working well together in order to protect them. Trees are being cut before development permits are even applied for, are not being well protected during construction activities and building permits are being issued without the Department of Building and Safety even being aware that Protected Trees are present on the affected properties – all leading to a cumulative net loss of trees, tree canopy and their accompanying ecosystem. In late November 2017, Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Mike Bonin co-presented a Motion to City Council asking that the Council instruct the Urban Forestry Division, the City Planning Department and the Department of Building and Safety to convene and consult with community stakeholder groups, the Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy, arborists, environmental groups like TreePeople, the Community Forestry Advisory Committee and the Mayor's biodiversity group to prepare and present recommendations for strengthening the Protected Tree Ordinance. In early March 2018, the Los Angeles Community Forest Advisory Committee recommended revising and expanding penalty options for violating, and ensuring enforcement of the Protected Tree Ordinance by creating an Urban Forest Task Force or a separate policing arm dedicated to overseeing enforcement of the Ordinance. The term "prevents reasonable development" must be clearly defined. This might include a "test" to determine "reasonableness" which would include determination of a percentage of a lot that would not be able to be developed unless a Protected Tree is removed. Policy should be implemented requiring developers to first submit a tree site map identifying all trees on the property to the Department of Building and Safety and the Bureau of Street Services prior to filing for any permits at issue on the property.



Failure To Enforce LA's Protected Tree And Shrub Ordinance - Part 2

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Los Angeles has taken steps to protect its native trees and shrubs by instituting a Protected Tree and Shrub Ordinance whose aim it is to establish standards for the preservation of four significant trees and two significant shrubs native to southern California. Unfortunately, City Departments have not

(Please see "Shrubs" on p. 11)

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("Shrubs" cont'd from p. 10)

been working well together to protect them. In early March 2018, the Los Angeles Community Forestry Advisory Committee recommended revising and expanding penalty options for violating and ensuring enforcement of the Protected Tree Ordinance by creating an Urban Forest Task Force or separate policing arm dedicated to overseeing enforcement of the Ordinance. This might include such things as:

- ◇ Implementing policies requiring developers to FIRST submit a tree site map identifying all trees on the property to the Department of Building and Safety and the Bureau of Street Services PRIOR to filing for permits for the property at issue
- ◇ The replacement ratio for removed Protected Trees should be at least 4:1 or greater to be determined on a case-by-case basis instead of by a 2:1 ratio as currently set forth in the current Ordinance.
- ◇ Implement a monitoring system to ensure the health of the Protected Trees and adherence to the Ordinance. Monitoring the planting, maintenance and survival of replacement trees ensuring homeowner or developer accountability.
- ◇ The City of Los Angeles is to create an inventory of all Protected Trees in the City. Funding is to be arranged for the creation and oversight of a working group of representatives including the Los Angeles Community Forestry Advisory Committee to maintain a database which is to include the approximate value of each Protected Tree, the cultural element of each Tree as well as the ecological and quantifiable health benefits of the Trees and associated economic value thereof. All monitoring of Protected Trees, including data on their planting, maintenance and survival can be logged in this recommended database.
- ◇ Further, the Community Forestry Advisory Committee recommends that all funds generated through the Protected Tree Ordinance is to remain within the Urban Forest Division to fund the implementation of the Protected Tree Ordinance and the staff needed to support its enforcement.
- ◇ Lastly, the City of Los Angeles is encouraged to analyze the cumulative impact of Protected Tree removals, the impact on and diminishing ecosystems of said removal.



Mayoral Declaration Of LA Aqueduct System
Emergency
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

On January 13, 2023, Mayor Karen Bass declared a State of Emergency as a result of the significant impacts of substantial precipitation brought on by a series of atmospheric river storm systems that

(Please see "Aqueduct" on p. 12)



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("Aqueduct" cont'd from p. 12)

began on January 9, 2023. Precipitation in the Inyo and Mono Counties during January through March of 2023 far exceeded any since the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power began keeping records. On March 1, 2023, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency to support disaster response and relief in thirteen counties as a result of these severe winter storms. A portion of the wall of the Los Angeles Aqueduct partially collapsed on March 11, 2023 as a result of flooding from the extreme runoff in the Olancha area endangering public property, infrastructure and the environment and will continue to impact the City of Los Angeles' Aqueduct system, its water gathering facilities and its water delivery facilities within the Mono, Inyo, Kern and Los Angeles Counties and the City of Los Angeles. The precipitation is rapidly filling reservoirs, lakes, rivers and streams throughout the Eastern Sierra region causing them to reach capacity resulting in potential widespread flooding. This precipitation has created a snowpack equal to 225% of the April 1 average and is continuing to grow with additional precipitation events expected through April 2023. The Los Angeles Aqueduct system is now transporting an exceptionally large volume of water. There are four potential locations for delivery of excess water in the Los Angeles Aqueduct:

◇ The lands and water bodies of the Owens Valley

◇ The natural terminus of the Owens River and Owens Lake

◇ The City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles River

◇ The State Water Project

The DWP is taking extraordinary measures to conserve water in the Owens Valley and throughout the vicinity of the Los Angeles Aqueduct by maximizing the amount of water delivered to Los Angeles, recharging groundwater basins and attempting to bring all surface storage reservoirs to full capacity. Per this Declaration, the Mayor has directed that all City Departments impacted by this event and its ongoing effects conduct damage assessments and collect cost estimates for the purpose of seeking State and Federal disaster assistance. To be updated in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.



LA To Reduce Purchase Of Imported Water
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Every day we see the impact of climate change most notably on the availability of potable water. Currently, 90% of LA's water comes from "out-of-basin" sources such as the Los Angeles Aqueduct, the State Water Project and the Colorado River which is delivered through the Metropolitan Water District. All have experienced extreme swings in

(Please see "**Water**" on p. 13)

("Water" cont'd from p. 12)

reliability from severe drought conditions to the recent overwhelming atmospheric rivers that are testing the limits of aging infrastructure. Given the fact that importation of water supplies from these "out-of-basin" sources have had negative impacts on the natural environment and populations near these water sources including Mono County, Inyo County, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Colorado River Basin and that all three of these major water import systems cross the San Andreas and other seismic faults, this should serve as motivation to expand our own local water supplies. Investment is needed to diversify our own local water supply sources. In October 2014, then Mayor Eric Garcetti issued an Executive Directive calling for a reduction in the importation of potable water by 50% by 2024 and the creation of a strategy that would increase local water supplies to improve LA's water security. Additionally, LA's Green New Deal set targets for LA to get 70% of its water locally by recycling 100% of all wastewater for beneficial reuse and reducing potable water use per capita by 25% by 2035. Moreover, in 2018, LA County voters approved Measure W, the Safe Clean Water Program, to provide funding to increase stormwater capture to recharge local groundwater aquifers. In mid-March 2023, Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky, presented a Motion to City Council asking that the Council request the Department of Water and Power, the Bureau of Sanitation and the Metropolitan Water District to prepare and present a report on the transition of reducing imported water and increasing our own local water supply including infrastructure and conservation projects in the planning and/or development stages along with a review of current sources of potable water and the feasibility of achieving targets within the timeline stated in the current Executive Directives and Green New Deal policies and a review of the resilience of the current water import system in the event that an earthquake were to cause failures to the Los Angeles aqueduct, State Water Project and/or Colorado River deliveries by way of the Metropolitan Water District. The Motion was referred to the City Council's Energy and Environment Committee for their review and recommendations.



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Live Audiences at the TV Studio on Peoria A Disaster for Our Neighborhood By Donald Dunham, Attorney at Law and Resident

Many of you are aware that a large TV and Motion Picture studio complex, has been built on Peoria Street just west of Glen Oaks Blvd., in Shadow Hills a neighborhood of residential property designated RA and zoned for Equine Use.

When this complex was first conceived, and finally approved, by the City Planning Commission, there was a strict and absolute Finding and Prohibition of the use or presence of "live audiences." Now, the Studio Owners petition the Planning Department to end that Prohibition. Ending the prohibition of live studio audiences would be disastrous to the nearby residents and the neighborhood in general.

This petition to the Planning Commission to change that earlier Finding and Prohibition, now that the studio owners have built their enormous building complex right next to a RESIDENTIAL EQUINE neighborhood, amounts to a BAIT AND SWITCH. That same Finding document also mandated several "mitigation" duties that the studio would perform. None of these provisions have been complied with!

While the studio in question is technically in Council District 6, it is immediately adjacent to and borders on our Council District 7. In fairness and logic, we have a right to be heard and have a say in what happens right next door! It is bad enough this studio project has been approved and built at all in this particular rural equine area about 5 years ago (albeit with the above restrictions and conditions) with little to no public notice or involvement. It has already negatively impacted the lives and property values of the neighboring residents. At least one resident on Elinda Street said recently regarding the towering multi-story soundstages built directly to the west of their home, "We no longer have a Sunset!"

The surrounding residential property owners of this equine neighborhood have met several times at SHPOA meetings (I have had the pleasure of meeting most of you, now) and it seems the majority (if not all members) strenuously oppose the requested change allowing live audiences for the following reasons:

1. Greatly increased vehicle traffic coming into this residential neighborhood. Possibly 1,000 people or more driving around this residential neighborhood on a daily basis constitutes a nuisance (at best) and a disaster (at worst).

2. There is a magnet

(Please see "TV Studio" on p. 11)

("TV Studio" cont'd from p. 13)

STEM elementary school (Stonehurst Elementary) a block north on Stonehurst Avenue. The children going to school there should not have to dodge tourists driving around on our streets, looking for the studio and not watching for seniors and kids in the street.

3. Many residents walk their dogs, walk with their baby carriages, and riding horseback. As you all know as neighbors, there are people riding horses continually on our streets, all day long and into the evening. Such a traffic increase would be an accident, no, a disaster waiting to happen. Simple "No Right Turn" signs on Peoria (if they ever install them) are not going to cut it.

4. The anticipated high traffic from live audiences constitutes a grave hazard. We have been under at least three (3) standby evacuation orders from the Fire Department. Peoria Street was the DESIGNATED ENTRY during those evacuations. It was the only way many people could get into the neighborhood and their homes.

This is not just a Council District 6 problem. It is a Council District 7 problem. It is really a problem for the whole city of Los Angeles that this last equine, rural neighborhood in Los Angeles will be destroyed like Chatsworth, and "The Burbank Rancho" by developers who want to drive out the rural residents for huge profits. That is NOT progress. We must maintain the status quo and not allow the original use permit to be changed.

We need representation from our local politicians/representatives, (Monica Rodriguez, District 7 and Imelda Padilla District 6). We have a representative government in this country (dictators and the super wealthy are not supposed to rule us.) Our representatives need to get involved. I hope that Ms. Rodriguez and Ms. Padilla see this letter and become aware of our plight.

Some believe that a simple agreement with the Studio (requiring the audiences to be bussed in, various directional street signs, limited hours and days of operation, etc.) will do the job to protect our neighborhood (the last equine neighborhood in the San Fernando Valley) if they are put into the Land Use Permit at the Planning Commission. I fear it is not that simple. What is our recourse if one day they simply decide not to comply? It costs too much money. It's too much trouble. Our profits are down, bla bla bla. Excuses, excuses. The City of LA will do nothing. At best, any relief will take months and months. Just look at the recent fiasco just next door up in Sylmar. There were dozens of RVs crammed in a backyard full of homeless people and raw sewage ran down off the property into the street. That causes Cholera and Dysentery!!!! It took the City well over six (6) months to do anything to clean it up.

That's going to be our neighborhood's end. We will have to sue the studio for an injunction. That costs

(Please see "TV Studio" on p. 15)

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("TV Studio" cont'd from p. 14)

money. Lots of it. Who of you wants share in the legal expenses? We must have the Planning Department on our side and have the Use Permit that continue to say NO LIVE STUDIO AUDIENCES. That will take our local council members and perhaps others to weigh in down at the planning department. We should get to decide that if they want to "play nice", we will allow them to bus in the audiences but it is our doing, not theirs. Frankly, they don't need to have live audiences at that location. The company in charge said openly at one meeting that they have studios all over town that have live audiences.

Our neighborhood needs speed bumps aka "speed cushions" (that accommodate fire trucks) to slow the down the existing vehicle traffic in the neighborhood. Not a thousand new people a day driving through it.



Discovery Cube Is Seeking Approval For Conceptual Interactive Outdoor Exhibits By Elektra Kruger, Resident

The proposed Project that the Discovery Cube has in mind for interactive outdoor activities include:

Exhibit 1:

- ◇ The installation of a water fountain featuring a 30 foot Discovery Cube sculpture with water and dynamic lighting effects. The fountain will also generate power via solar panels

Exhibit 2:

- ◇ The installation of a Junior Fire Ranger Training Ground exhibit that is to include a play area featuring a fire truck, splash pads and an interactive model helicopter

Exhibit 3:

- ◇ The installation of a carousel of protected and endangered species that are to be powered by solar panels

Exhibit 4:

- ◇ The installation of an interactive water table resembling the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers
- ◇ The installation of a decorative water retention basin to properly capture and retain water for slow release into the drainage channel

Exhibit 5:

- ◇ The installation of a permanent outdoor stage that is to include a large wall surrounded by audio and visual technology and bench seating and shading for an audience

Exhibit 6:

- ◇ Open-air space to serve a variety of functions such as summer camps and birthday parties.

Exhibit 7:

- ◇ An expansion of the Courtyard Gardens that is to feature local wildlife and dinosaur

(Cont'd next column)

(Continued)

exhibitions as well as pollinator-friendly and drought tolerant plants

Upon approval of this proposed Project, the Discovery Cube can commence with the development of the detailed working drawings, specifications and final plans to initiate the design, fabrication and installation of the proposed Project.



Biomes Of The Big Tujunga Wash By Elektra Kruger, Resident

The lower hills adjacent to the Wash are deeply gullied and often quite moist, especially on the north-facing, south-side of the Wash. Here micro-environments, juxtapositioning many micro-biomes along with the presence of (usually) good water, makes the area a haven for wildlife and expansive floral communities.

The plant communities that we see in the Wash and the surrounding foothills today are probably much the same as those that have existed in the area for the last couple thousand years, although the Oaks and some of the other larger woody plants (especially the Juniper) were undoubtedly severely depleted during the historic period for use in construction, as fire wood, as fence posts, etc. Seen in the plant communities are Oaks, California Juniper, Alder, Sycamore, Cottonwood, Willow, Sugar Bush, Currant, Elderberry, Manzanita, Toyon, Yerba Santa, Buckwheat, Laurel Sumac, Mistletoe, Sagebrush, Sages, Manroot, Cholla Cactus, Beavertail Cactus and Prickly Pear Cactus.

The Wash and lower portions of the surrounding foothills are especially renowned for their spring displays of Yucca Whipplei, a species that received local protection as early as the mid-1920s. Wildflowers and herbaceous plants are also common.

A number of non-native introduced plants are also present in the Wash, the most unfortunate of which being the Arrundo Donax which is actively destroying much of the native vegetation and unless major efforts are made to eradicate it will eventually take over essentially the entire Wash.

Extreme effort is being put into removing the Arrundo in the 200 acres of the Mitigation Bank in the southeast section of the Wash. The sometimes dense vegetation, while providing excellent habitat for numerous animal species, can create a serious hazard for the ever increasing human residents. Although Stonehurst has never seen a severe fire storm, the same cannot be said for Shadow Hills to the south and the local hills and steep, forest covered mountains to the north.

In addition to the wide variety of plant species, the Tujunga Wash is a natural corridor for, and natural reserve for wildlife.



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Next SHPOA General Meeting: Tues, Sept 12th @ 7 pm at Tierra del Sol

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Community Calendar

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC)

- 3rd Thursday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center
- www.ftdnc.org

FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting

- 1st Tuesday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Location TBD

FTDNC Equestrian Committee meeting

- 2nd Thursday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Location TBD

FTDNC Public Safety Committee meeting

- 2nd Wednesday, Every Month 6 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center

LAPD Community Coffee Time

- 1st Thursday, Every Month :00 a.m.
- SVANC Office, 8720 Sunland Blvd., Sun Valley

Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board

- LAST Tuesday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center

ETI C20

- 1st Monday, Every Month
- Nikki Ahten, 818-489-6527
- ETINational.com

Key Community Locations & Contact Info

All Nations Church: 10000 Foothill Blvd., Lake View Terrace
Bolton Hall: 10110 Commerce Ave., Tujunga (818-352-3420)
Lake View Terrace Recreation Center: 11075 Foothill Blvd., Lake View Terrace
Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church: (Johanna/Sunland Blvd. intersection); Pastor Arlo Tysinger (818-353-2500)
Stonehurst Park: 9901 Dronfield, Stonehurst/Shadow Hills (818-767-0314)
Stonehurst Elementary School: 9851 Stonehurst Ave., Sun Valley (818-767-8014)
Tierra del Sol: 9919 Sunland Blvd., Shadow Hills (818-352-1419)
Village Christian School: 8930 Village Ave., Sun Valley (818-767-8282)
City of LA North Valley Neighborhood City Hall/Office: Council Member Monica Rodriguez, District 7, 13520 Van Nuys Blvd., Suite 209, Pacoima, CA 91331 (Tujunga location being renovated) same phone number: (818-352-3287)

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