# SHICA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



Volume 41, Issue 2

SHPOA March-April 2018

#### Farmer's Market and SHPOA Present "Family Day" – Saturday, May 5th

#### By Jacqy Gamble

SHPOA, Tierra del Sol and the Farmer's Market are reaching out to families on Saturday, May 5th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We've put together a great day of child and family entertainment, information and food and refreshments. On the fun side, in addition to the normal Farmer's Market offerings of food, entertainment, arts and crafts, Family Day will include horses and a petting zoo, kids arts and crafts, a bounce house, music, raffle prizes and a fire engine and police car!!

On the more serious side, from 9:30-11:00 a.m., SHPOA will provide an update on key community issues AND host the two finalist candidates for the 39th Assembly District (Luz Rivas and Ricardo Benitez) in a "meet and greet" and "Q&A" format for all attendees. Please join us and enjoy all our community has to offer families! You'll also be able to register to be a SHPOA member at the event.

Notes: Stop by the Tierra del Sol booth and purchase at least \$30 in market tokens and be entered to win gift cards to local restaurants! And, the Sunland Farmers Market proudly accepts EBT, WIC, and Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Vouchers. Redeem these vouchers for market tokens at the Tierra del Sol booth every week! The Sunland Farmers Market also offers Market Match, California's health food incentive program and provides matching dollars for EBT, WIC, and SSI recipients.

# GO TO PAGE 3! SEE the FLYER FOR OUR FAMILY DAY EVENT on MAY 5!

## Fighting High Speed Trains On Our Terms and Our Turf!

#### By Dave DePinto

On Saturday, April 14th, more than 100 sign-waving residents and two dozen horses and riders attended an informative, intense and loud protest rally at Lake View Terrace Recreation Center, organized by the SAFE Coalition. The following communities were represented with speaking roles, showing the strength of the UNITED FRONT: Sylmar, Kagel Canyon, Lake View Terrace, Sunland-Tujunga, Riverwood Ranch, La Tuna Canyon, Shadow Hills, Stonehurst and Pacoima.

The two major themes were: first, the lack of respect shown by the high speed train Authority in scheduling its board meeting downtown on a work day, rejecting more than 200 written requests from our community requesting the meeting be in a convenient, Valley location to foster greater community attendance and input. Second, speakers hit repeatedly on the weaknesses and damages posed by the existing route proposals (E1, E2 and SR14), the lack of integrity of the environmental studies, and the lack of funding available to finish the project in Southern California. Even the previously rejected "Metrolink Alternative," being re-assessed as a possible solution, was criticized as doing nothing to remove the present route alternatives.

We also emphasized the importance of communicating with our elected officials, in particular Senators Hertzberg and Portantino, in upcoming weeks as the public comment period for the 2018 Business Plan concludes and the Legislature will vote on whether to approve the Plan and enable continued funding. People in attendance felt strongly and chanted repeatedly that the Legislature should "elect to reject" the Business Plan. That chant and several others: "Let's Vote Again," "No More Trains," and "Bite the Bullet," resounded throughout the meeting! Our strong feeling is that the Business Plan is the sum of its parts and the Palmdale to Burbank project section is so flawed and infeasible that the entire Plan's credibility and worthiness is negated.

Finally, we noted for all in attendance that Mayor Garcetti, who is not working with or helping the SAFE Coalition or our communities, was in lowa that day meeting with union members and farmers related to his run for President of the U.S., and Councilmember Rodriguez, who has ignored hundreds of meeting and support requests from the SAFE Coalition and our communities on this issue since taking office last July, continued to renege on her campaign promises and again missed this important and

(Please See "Anti HSR Rally" on p.5.)

#### Please Make Your 2018 Membership Payment Today! (Payment Envelope Included) By Jacqy Gamble

SHPOA is a California non-profit organization. We operate on a relative shoestring, not to make money but to serve our community. Please make your \$25 dues payment today using the enclosed envelope or visit our website (www.shpoa.us) to pay online to help fund our operations and to save us the expense of reminder notices. The benefits and services SHPOA provides expand every year and are shown here. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to make their dues payments promptly, as well. *Thank you.* 

# Family Day at the SUNLAND FARMES

SATURDAY, MAY 5th 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

9919 Sunland Blvd. Tierra del Sol

Come meet Ricardo Benitez and Luz Rivas, the final candidates running for Assembly District 39!

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Bring this Flyer to Family Day to Enter Our Prize Raffles!

## WHAT'S IN STORE!

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Visit with men and women from the local fire and police stations. Kids will get to explore an LAFD fire truck!

Breakast will be available from 9:00 AM, and SHPOA will hold a brief meeting at 9:30am.

All proceeds support Tierra's mission to empower individuals with developmental disabilities through Workforce Development, College to Career, and Careers in the Arts.







#### **2018 SHPOA Board Members Executive Officers** President: Dave De Pinto 352-7618 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com Vice President: Cindy Bloom 445-5602 cbloom571@gmail.com Bill Eick (W) 248-0050 (H) 353-6191 Executive Secretary: bill@eickfreeborn.com Recording Secretary: Gerri Summe gerrisumme@gmail.com Treasurer: Lynne Toby lynnetoby60@msn.com Jacqy Gamble Membership: jacqyagamble@gmail.com **Appointed Officers** Land Use: Bill Eick 248-0050 (H)353-6191 bill@eickfreeborn.com Elektra Kruger kalkrugers@earthlink.net James & Andrea Gutman Equestrian and Trails: 353-5974 - jgutman1@ca.rr.com Julia Tarnawski julie\_t@earthlink.net 445-5602 Neighborhood Watch: Cindy Bloom cbloom571@gmail.com Daily Fodder and Terri Ortiz Lost/Found Pets shpoa@shpoa.us Volunteers: Cynthia Urias cynthia.thearbonnegift@gmail.com Webmaster: Carlos George webmaster@shpoa.us Dave De Pinto 352-7618 Editor and Article Collection: 7daviddepinto@ca.rr.com Newsletter Coordinator Cindy Bloom 445-5602 cbloom571@gmail.com -orand Ad Collection: advertising@shpoa.us Newsletter Design/Layout: Mike McCov 818-207-2775 mccoyart@yahoo.com Hospitality: Lois Daven ldayen2010@hotmail.com Katherine Dayen dayenight1@gmail.com SHPOA's Mailing Address: P.O. Box 345, Sunland, CA 91041 SHPOA's E-mail Address: shpoa@shpoa.us Website: www.shpoa.us **Senior Lead Police Officers:** Sunland/Shadow Hills/LVT Cesar Contreras 818-634-0705 36373@lapd.lacity.org LAPD Foothill Div. Front Desk 818-756-8861 Sun Valley/Shadow Hills West Rich Wall 818-634 -0755 30204@lapd.lacity.org Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC): www.ftdnc.org Info. below from their site. FTDNC Area 4 Fritz Bronner fbronner@earthlink.net

Vacant

FTDNC Area 5

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association Membership Form Shadow Hills area residents, it's always time to join SHPOA! We're here for you! Your support and participation are vital to the preservation of our rural community. Membership = \$25Newsletter only = \$10 Donations are always gratefully received. Name: Address: City/Zip: Phone: Email: Check one: ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Newsletter Only Mail this form with your check to: SHPOA - P.O. Box 345, Sunland CA 91041-0345 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 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 **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



Community leaders and a large number of Northeast San Fernando Valley folks showed up on April 14 at Lake View Terrace Recreation Center to protest the threatened enroachment of High Speed Trains into our neighborhoods and natural areas. It no longer bears any resemblance to what voters expected when voting on the proposal in 2008.





("Anti HSR Rally" cont'd from p.1)

large community meeting, much like she and her staff missed the Unity Meeting on February 22.

The entire meeting was videotaped and may be viewed here: <a href="www.dontrailroad.us">www.dontrailroad.us</a> (On the SAFE Home page, beneath the opening photo is this title: <a href="APRIL 14">APRIL 14</a>, <a href="2018">2018</a> RALLY VIDEO. On the left end of the line below that, is a link to the video on *Vimeo*.) The video has been submitted as official public comment on the 2018 Business Plan. Thanks to all the volunteers who made the protest rally successful and inspirational!

Note: on February 22, SAFE Coalition held a "Unity Meeting," attended by more than 750 people, to pull together all the communities and elected officials supporting our fight to remove the flawed and infeasible routes E1, E2 and SR14. Photographs, video and a full write up about that meeting may be read on the SAFE Coalition website: www.dontrailroad.us.

A large number of people showed up for the April 14, 2018 rally at Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center. Among the issues: (1) The general lack of respect by the HSR Authority for our requests to be heard, and (2) failure to remove routes E1, E2 and SR14 from consideration.

See more photos from this meeting later in the Newsletter. •





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#### Shadow Hills Neighborhood Watch Update By Cindy Bloom

In March, several Neighborhood Watch Block Captains and Senior Lead Officers Contreras and Livesey met to review issues in Shadow Hills.

#### Crime

- Crime is down in our area by 50% from this time last
- · Most crimes are property crimes, i.e., breaking into cars, vandalism, etc.
- · Due to the rain, many homeless people leave their encampments and come into our area to steal items.
- · LAPD is limited on what they can do re: arresting homeless/transients, including having them move the RVs or vehicles that they're living in.

#### Illegal Vehicle Parking

 Official Police Garages (OPGs) do not want to impound RVs because there is no money in it for them. OPGs are impound yards that have lucrative contracts with the city. (Author's note: Because impound yards only make money when vehicle owners reclaim their vehicles, if no one reclaims their vehicle, the impound yard ends up as a non-compensated storage facility. After a set period of time, they are allowed to take title to the vehicle(s), and may either (1) keep the vehicle; or (2) sell/auction them off (including the contents). However, it is rare for a homeless person to reclaim their vehicle because it is very expensive (must pay the daily storage and other fees) and it is difficult for the impound yard owner to sell/ auction it off because the condition of the RV is usually very poor. Because of this combination, OPGs do not want to be forced to impound them but are required to do so pursuant to their contract.)

#### The Prosecution Process

- Taking videos/photos is extremely helpful to finding perpetrators — it's important to provide the videos to the police in a timely fashion because if a suspect is brought into the station for questioning, the police can only hold them for 48 hours. If they do not get corroborating evidence, they must release them. See below.
- It's very difficult to get suspects prosecuted due to the fact that they can only be held for 48 hours in order for the detectives to put together a convictable case (that's why it is important to get photos/videos submitted ASAP). The detective must present the case to the prosecutor who may or may not need additional evidence. This is complicated by the fact that the detective may or may not be able to re-arrest the suspect due to the suspect fleeing the area or other factors. About half of arrestees are released because a case cannot be put together in time. These people are experts on how to work the system.

#### Speeding

 Sunland/Foothill's speed survey is now complete so once again motor vehicle operators can be issued speeding tickets. Typically, a speed survey on a street is taken to determine "safe" versus "unsafe" speeds. Once determined, if needed, new signage is mounted and a 30-day grace period commences. This grace period is provided

to allow time for frequent drivers of the affected street to "notice" the new posted speed limit.

#### Signage

- Councilmember Rodriquez's office provided a city-approved printer and city-approved installer's name who can print/install new Neighborhood Watch signs to replace those that are in very poor condition. The cost will be about \$100 each and we are investigating various funding sources as the city will not pay for them. Initially, the LA Department of Transportation erroneously stated that local council offices can get their constituents free signs. Officer Contreras says lawn signs are also effective.
- A block captain mentioned that she would like to have signs like "Wildlife Corridor," and others posted in our area to remind people not to speed.

#### **Private Security**

One of our block captains reviewed hiring a private security patrol within Shadow Hills. For \$18,000 monthly, 24/7 armed patrols would be available to respond to suspicious activity and crimes for those residents who pay the monthly fee (fee would depend on how many households sign up for the contracted period). He has already set up an LLC to be the hiring company of a security patrol company. LAPD would still be in our area, too, so the private patrol would not replace LAPD.

Note: Please contact Cindy Bloom at cbloom571@gmail. com or 818-445-5602 if you're interested in becoming a Shadow Hills Neighborhood Watch block captain.



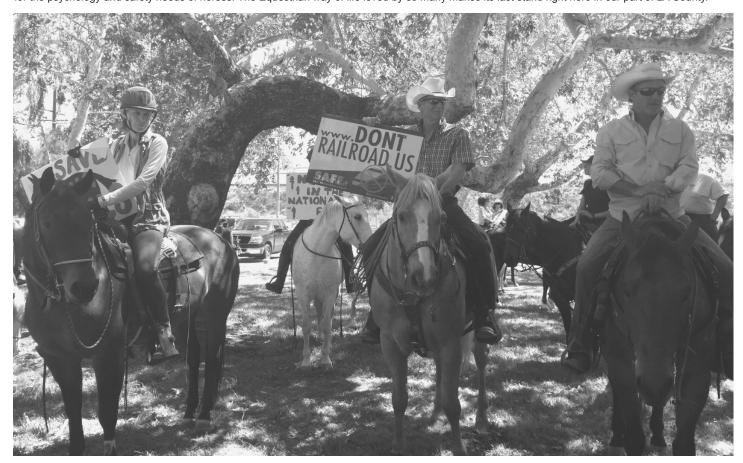
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Riders and their horses showed up in force at the April 14 rally at Lake View Terrace Recreation Center, protesting the lack of consideration by the CHSRA for the psychology and safety needs of horses. The Equestrian way of life loved by so many makes its last stand right here in our part of LA County.



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# Motion to Secure Funding for Property Purchases in CD7 for Homeless Services Being Fast-Tracked

#### By Cindy Bloom

On April 11, 2018, Councilmember Rodriquez moved for a motion (File 18-0309) for the City to acquire property in the 7th Council District for the purpose of providing services to those facing the housing crisis.

The motion reads in part:

"An opportunity to acquire property has emerged in the 7th Council District, which could provide services to those facing the housing crisis. However, potential funding sources would need to be identified quickly in order to undertake a possible acquisition. The City should take action to ensure that the site is made available for a future affordable housing purpose."

The motion is ambiguous as it referred to property as "the site" and not "a site" for which she is seeking sources of funding for purchase. One could interpret this motion to mean that a site has been identified for purchase. It could also mean that no property has been specifically identified. Both scenarios will impact residents and businesses in CD7. Also, is the property to be used for providing "services" (i.e., mental health and social services) or for providing "housing" (permanent-supportive, bridge, emergency, etc.)?

Calls for clarification to the Councilmember's offices resulted in leaving a message and no return phone call was received.

This motion clearly was fast-tracked as it was introduced on April 11, 2018, the Housing Committee waived consideration on April 18, 2018 and it is scheduled for Council on April 20, 2018.

Now, assuming no parcel has been specifically identified for purchase, once again our communities are put into the position of being in the dark as to where the parcel is, and if it will impact their daily lives. I find myself driving around the area, seeing a vacant lot, and wondering if it is a contender for use as homeless housing and/or services.

Currently, the property located on Foothill in Lake View Terrace ("the bluffs") is in the early stages of development for permanent supportive housing led by Los Angeles Family Housing and is already owned by the City. This parcel has, not surprisingly, been met with opposition from residents. The difference is at least residents knew where the parcel was located based on a list of city-owned parcels issued years ago.

The urgency of Councilwoman's Motion is to request that the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the Housing and Community Investment Department, and the City Administrative Officer, be instructed to identify, and present a report within approximately 15 days from April 11, 2018 on funding sources for property acquisition, including the possible use of CRA Bond Funds, New Generation Funds, Supportive Housing Loan Funds, Community Development Block Grants, and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program that may be used to purchase property in CD7.

The City has taken urgent and perhaps sometimes careless action over the last few years to build new affordable

housing, such as approving a new linkage fee, passing Proposition HHH, and approving new ordinances to facilitate construction. Another way the City can facilitate the construction of new housing is to identify and acquire key parcels for the purpose of affordable housing development, as had been done previously by the Community Redevelopment Agency.

Because all of these decisions affect stakeholders on multiple levels, it is imperative that our representative(s) engage with constituents concerning purchasing and/or developing parcels for uses that will impact our communities. If "the site" has been identified, or if it's just "a site-location to be determined," it is crucial that stakeholders are kept informed. We cannot tolerate any further "surprise" land use developments that affect our property values and daily lives.

# **Creek Fire and Fond Land Preservation Foundation**

#### By Bill Eick

Much vegetation and many trees in the Fond Park near the 210 Freeway entrance burned during the La Tuna Canyon Fire. Some of the eucalyptus trees in the portion of the park nearest to the Sunland Blvd. entrance to the 210 Freeway were so damaged that the fire department considered them to be in jeopardy of falling in the near future. We had those trees removed and we are monitoring the rest of the area. We are hopeful that some of the majestic oak trees will come back. In the next month or so we will hire an arborist to assess the condition of the remaining trees which suffered fire damage.

The fire did expose the landscape of the property. We will take this opportunity to clear debris which previously was not visible. One of the problems caused by the fire is the increased possibility of mud slides. Most of the danger is on the downslope portion towards La Tuna Canyon, most of which does not belong to the Fond Foundation. So far this year the rains have not caused severe flooding or mudflows, but those in potential flooding and mudflow areas should consider buying flood insurance.

There are two types of flood insurance: one is for damage to structures and the other is damage to the contents. Flood insurance is issued by the federal government and is not covered by your normal regular homeowners' insurance. Please contact your insurance agent who should be able to help with acquiring such a policy or policies. If you have any questions about Fond Park, please contact me at bill@eickfreeborn.com



#### Update on Street Repair Ordinance By Elektra Kruger

At the beginning of FY 2016-2017, the City of Los Angeles initiated its City Council approved "Citywide Sidewalk Repair Program" (CSRP). One option of the Program would be that of an incentive/rebate program. I know I am not the smartest cookie in the jar, but I have yet to see what constitutes the "incentive" in this program — and I see a lot of cracks in the "rebate" proposals in this option.

(Please see "Street Repair Ordinance" on p. 10)



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#### ("Street Repair Ordinance" cont'd from p. 9)

Applications for the Rebate Program began in December 2016 and as of April 2017, around 800 applications had been submitted. As we all know, street tree roots have been the primary cause of a majority of sidewalk damage. While the City makes every effort to retain our street trees, sidewalk repair is going to require some street tree removal. By the end of March 2017, the Bureau of Street Services had determined that about 35 street trees would need to be removed. The current City's Street Tree Removal Ordinance requires replacement of two trees for each "street tree" removed so we are looking at a requirement to replant 70 trees. It is the Rebate Program applicant that must file for the street tree removal permit and it is the Rebate Program applicant that is going to be held responsible for meeting the 2:1 tree replacement.

The City has graciously accepted the responsibility to plant one of these trees "off-site" which means somewhere in the City other than on the applicant's property, but the applicant will still have to plant one of the replacement trees "on-site" – that means somewhere on his/her own property at their own cost. At the time the incentive/rebate program was initiated, there was no budget to fund the City's tree replacement portion as promised.

Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell filed an amending Motion to that of the original Sidewalk Repair Ordinance to include a recommendation that City Council "Instruct the Bureau of Street Services to report with an accounting of trees expected to be impacted by the sidewalk repair incentive program and a budget request for the City to establish additional off-site trees as mandated by City policy". If the number of applications submitted were to continue at the same rate, it could be expected that about 2,400 applications could be filed by the end of FY 2016-2017 and if the same number of tree removal requirements were to continue at the same rate, there would be a removal of some 140 trees with the commensurate requirement to replace these with 280 street trees - half of which would need to be procured by, planted by and maintained/watered for a period of three years by the

City policy requires that replacement trees be a minimum 24-inch box size tree stock and must be watered once weekly for a minimum of three years. This planting can be performed by the City's Bureau of Street Services Urban Forestry Division or, let us hope, by one of the more responsible City's Plant non-profit partners. Regardless of whether the City or the non-profit procures and waters/monitors/maintains the trees for a period of three years, it is estimated to cost \$2,400/tree. By the way, for a private property owner to procure and plant the one tree that must be planted on-site on his own property is estimated to be about \$750 for that one 24" box size tree. For the City's part, if it continues to be responsible for replacing 140 trees annually, it would be looking at about \$336,000/vear.

In an inter-departmental correspondence between the Bureau of Street Services and the City Council's Public Works and Budget and Finance Committees, the Bureau recommended that approximately \$336,000 be allocated annually for the City's portion of the Rebate Program's street tree replacement requirement throughout the 30-year Willits ADA lawsuit settlement term.

#### SHPOA's Priorities for 2018 – Update as of April 20 By Dave DePinto

The SHPOA board met late in the year to plan its priorities for 2018 and to guide the new board and committee members. After that discussion, the Board put the topic out for discussion at its December meeting. Lively discussion ensued, and the information that follows will be helpful in keeping the Board accountable and ensuring that our members' input is acted upon. Please attend our meetings and consider volunteering for any of the committees that are addressing these issues or issues of your choice. Contact anyone on the board or email us at shpoa@shpoa.us.

#### I. High Speed Train

- A. Short-Term Priorities
  - 1.Plan "Unity Meeting" on February 22 to rival the January 2015 Train Wreck meeting; massive turnout required – DONE BY SHPOA AS PART OF SAFE COALITION
  - 2.Continue United Front effort to get all elected officials and community organizations (e.g. Neighborhood Councils) committed in writing to remove at-grade/ground level elements of all routes DONE BY SHPOA AS PART OF THE SAFE COALITION
  - 3.LA City Council Motion re: E1 and E2 NOT DONE BY COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ
  - 4. Continue outreach/outing of Monica Rodriguez COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ CONTINUES TO IGNORE THE SHADOW HILLS COMMUNITY AND THE SAFE COALITION
  - 5. Make case to either legitimize or debunk Metrolink Alternative – DONE BY SHPOA AS PART OF SAFE COALITION
  - 6.Make case about CHSRA spending in SoCal vs. NorCal – DONE BY SHPOA AS PART OF SAFE COALITION

#### B. Long-Term Priorities

- Demand public meetings/hearings re: 2018 Business Plan – DONE BY SHPOA AS PART OF SAFE COALITION; CHSRA COMMITTED TO DO IN 2018
- 2.Coordinate massive response to 2018 Business Plan – PROTEST RALLY CONDUCTED RE: BUSINESS PLAN PER COVER PAGE ARTICLE

#### **II.Land Use**

#### A. Top Priorities

- 1. Accessory Dwelling Unit Granny Flats SHPOA STARTING ON THIS PROJECT IN MAY
- 2. Tire property and its likely connection to the Creek Fire SHPOA CONTINUES TO MONITOR
- 3. Studio project adjacent to Stonehurst Neighborhood– JUDGE REJECTED THE APPEAL OF NEIGHBORS CONTESTING THE PROJECT'S APPROVAL; APPEARS PROJECT WILL PROCEED
- 4. Preserve equestrian lifestyle ONGOING

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(Please see "SHPOA Priorities" on p. 12)



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#### ("SHPOA Priorities" cont'd from p. 11)

PRIORITY; NEED TO GET MORE EQUESTRIANS ACTIVE IN SHPOA; SHPOA ADDRESSED DISPUTE BETWEEN EQUESTRIANS AND PROPERTY OWNER ABOVE WORNOM AVENUE, RESOLUTION BEING DEVELOPED

#### B. Medium Priorities

- 1.Development of Wizmann property SHPOA REPORTS THERE IS NO UPDATE FROM THE DEVELOPER AT THIS TIME
- 2.Development of top of Ormond Street NO ACTION YET
- 3. Cannabis SHPOA CONTINUING TO MONITOR IMPACTS LOCALLY

#### III. Public Safety

#### A. Top Priorities

- 1. Speeding and ignoring stop signs SHPOA NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH IS ADDRESSING WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT; NEIGHBORS INSTALLING SAFETY SIGNS THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY
- 2.Transients SHPOA MONITORS ON AN ONGOING BASIS
- 3. "Road diet" THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN QUIET; BALLARDS ARE AN EYESORE AND THE LANE REDUCTIONS ARE GENERALLY DISLIKED; COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ' OFFICE HAS BEEN UNRESPONSIVE ON THIS ISSUE
- 4. Neighborhood Watch SHPOA CONTINUES TO ORGANIZEAND OPERATE ITS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM WITH ACTIVE BLOCK CAPTAINS

#### B. Medium Priorities

- 1.Street racing LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE AWARE OF THE ISSUE
- 2.Mail/package theft SHPOA CONTINUES TO PROMOTE AWARENESS ON FODDER, FACEBOOK AND NEXT DOOR ABOUT CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS "RING" COMPANY HAS BEEN CONTACTED RE: PROMOTION IN SHADOW HILLS
- Better equestrian safety lighting @ Wentworth & Wheatland NO ACTION

#### **IV. Post Creek Fire**

#### A. Top Priorities

- 1.Early detection system: SHPOA researching emergency alert system alternatives
- 2.Provide funds to meet needs of fire victims SHPOA PROVIDED EMERGENCY FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO MORE THAN A DOZEN LOCAL FAMILIES AND PROPERTY OWNERS

#### B. Medium Priorities

Produce evacuation training videos tailored to Shadow Hills – NO ACTION, HOWEVER, SHPOA HAS ENGAGED VULCAN MATERIALS WITH THE LA EQUINE ADVISORY COUNCIL TO ADD NEARBY QUARRY LOCATIONS TO THE

(Finish "SHPOA Priorities" in following column.)

EMERGENCY RESPONSE NETWORK AS SITES FOR EVACUATIONS/TEMPORARY STORAGE/ HOUSING

#### **V.Volunteers**

- A. Quarterly Event possibilities SHPOA HAS IDENTIFIED FIRST PROJECTS OF THE YEAR
  - 1. Trim vegetation
  - 2. Fix trails
  - 3. Help seniors and veterans
  - 4. Yard cleanup
- B. Re-develop volunteer list

#### VI. Communications and Membership

- A. "Welcome Wagon" for new residents BEING DEVELOPED BY SHPOA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
- B. Firm SHPOA calendar for board and general meetings – MEETINGS BACK ON SCHEDULE AFTER BUSY FIRST QUARTER WITH CREEK FIRE, "UNITY MEETING" AND PROTEST RALLY; FAMILY DAY ORGANIZED ALONG WITH TIERRA DEL SOL FARMER'S MARKET
- C. Daily Fodder SHPOA CONTINUES TO OPERATE DAILY
- D. NextDoor SHPOA HAS INCREASED ITS PRESENCE ON THIS SOCIAL MEDIA WEBSITE

1111

A few of the speakers from neighborhoods throughout the San Fernando Valley spoke at the April 14 Rally, addressing our contentions with the High Speed Rail Authority's lack of candor and honesty.







#### BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices



#### Sharon Yoho

Broker Associate & Notary Public CalBRE# 00523712

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At an earlier rally this year, a strong group of determined women seriously press to defeat High Speed Rail; they will not be defeated!

# Judge Rejects Neighbors' Appeal - Studio Project in Sun Valley Closer to Reality

#### by Dave DePinto

Several years ago the Studio Project, proposed to be built on Peoria Street near the intersection with Stonehurst, was first introduced to local community leaders in concept form. The appeal of an entertainment industry business in our area was strong and the project had many good features. Community leaders, including SHPOA, were hopeful the project would be developed in a way that proved to be an asset to the community. However, months later when project details became apparent, the height and proximity of the project to nearby residents presented serious concerns and began a long process of review and debate, both environmentally and legally.

Based on a recent court ruling, the long legal process has concluded and the project is likely to proceed. This is not the outcome the neighbors, SHPOA or our community were seeking. We felt changes should have been considered and made to make the project more acceptable given its close proximity to residential areas. In particular, we wanted the buffer distance between the Project and neighbors to be greater, and we wanted the heights of the proposed buildings to be lower. Given the project's "Hollywood" nature, there are special concessions, such as allowing extra height allowances, granted to the developer by the City that worked to the detriment of the community. The developer proved to be very stubborn and did not work with the community in good faith to improve the project. The neighbors most impacted by the project and the recent court ruling are very upset and rightly so.

During this multi-year process, these neighbors spent thousands of hours of time and tens of thousands of dollars fighting for their rights. They bonded as a group, they raised money a variety of ways to support their case, and they turned out large numbers of people at meetings before the Planning Commission and others. Their effort is not in vain and they ought to be commended for exercising their rights. SHPOA was 100% opposed to the film studio once the new plans were made public, and submitted written comments, offered testimony at multiple public hearings/meetings, and contributed \$5,000 to the legal costs incurred by neighbors fighting the project.

Together with the impacted neighbors, we also fought with our elected officials over their positions on the project. While it was somewhat understandable that neighboring Councilmember Nury Martinez, representing CD6, would support the project as it was in her District, it was unexpected that our own Councilmember, Felipe Fuentes, would ignore his own constituents and support the project as well. That position by Fuentes created a permanent break in our relations with the Councilmember, and from that time forward SHPOA led widespread calls for his resignation...a result that was obtained in August 2016.

Again, while this is not the outcome desired, we commend the neighbors for the fight they organized and their determination through the arduous legal process. Now, we must make sure the "conditions" imposed on the project related to traffic, noise, lighting, security, etc. are implemented and enforced. This is not a good chapter in our relations with neighboring Sun Valley, which turned a deaf ear toward its neighbors, and did not support many of the compromises Shadow Hills proposed. We must be vigilant that this project does not serve as an unwelcome precedent for future development along the Sun Valley and Stonehurst/Shadow Hills border.

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A portion of my earnings are donated to ASCENCIA & various other local charities to enrich our community! AscenciaCA.org



Sue Wheeler, Licensed Executive Assistant to Jana #01472335



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These earlier rally signs tell all our sentiments: our forest and natural areas are more important than an idiotic waste of our tax money!



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#### ATTORNEY JOSEPH MCHUGH

Long time Shadow Hills resident prides himself in helping neighbors with legal questions and legal services.

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"FAILING to Plan is planning to FAIL!"- Ben Franklin

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#### Special Family Day & 1st General Meeting of 2018 - May 5, 9:30 am • Tierra del Sol

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#### **Key Community Locations & Contact Information**

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, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Sunland (818-352-3287)

#### Community Calendar

#### Alcoholic Family/Friends Support Group

- Every Monday evening, 7:00-8:15 p.m.
- Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church 10158 Johanna Ave. @ Sunland Blvd. For Info: (818) 353-2500

#### FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting

1st Tuesday, Every Month

- 7 p.m.
- 9747 Wheatland Ave.

#### Neighborhood Watch

3rd Tuesday, Every Month

- 6:30 p.m.
- East Valley Municipal Bldg.

#### Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board

LAST Tuesday, Every Month

- 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center

#### Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council

3rd Thursday, Every Month

- 7 p.m.
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center
- www.ftdnc.org

#### ETI C20

1st Monday, Every Month

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# SHPOA ADVERTISING DEADLINE For May-Jun '18 Newsletter: May 16!

#### IMPORTANT CITY NUMBERS