

# SHPOA

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

*Dedicated to Preserving Rural Community*

*A Neighborhood Where Families Grow*



Volume 47, Issue 4

SHPOA July-Aug 2024

Recap And Minutes Of May 14th SHPOA General Meeting

By Tina Eick, SHPOA

On May 14, 2024 SHPOA held their General Meeting at Tierra Del Sol. The meeting was well attended by active community members eager to discuss local concerns with the various council representatives and SHPOA. President Eick led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed the guests at 7:05 pm. Two of our guest speakers from LAFD - Brush Clearance and Michael Stein - Computer Security were unable to attend. Teresa Lamb Simpson from U.S.Congressman Schiff's office announced the Congressional Art Show local winners.

Ricardo Flores and Arthur Javadyan from Councilwoman Rodriguez's office were more than capable and very much appreciated for their clear understanding of our local issues. Arthur Javadyan is our new Shadow Hills Deputy and is handling Shadow Hills concerns only. Ricardo Flores will be guiding and supervising Arthur as he becomes better acquainted with our specific needs. Our thanks for their interest and responses to the many questions fielded from the membership.

Susan Wong reported on the loose dogs in Stonehurst Park and throughout Shadow Hills neighborhoods who have attacked people and smaller dogs. Any aggressive behavior should be reported to LAPD immediately. Loose dogs and any attacks, whose owners or addresses can be identified, should be reported to [ani.evafield@lacity.org](mailto:ani.evafield@lacity.org). Ricardo Flores reported that he is working with local Park Rangers and Capt. Marco Lozano from LAPD to increase patrols of parks and city streets.

#### Committee Reports:

Tina Eick and Susan Wong reported on the city's determination of the CUP request by Sunset Studios (on Peoria Street) to permit live studio audiences. Please refer to this Newsletter's article, "Sunset Studio Update" for the specific conditions set forth by the city. Eick also reported that the city is currently working on updating the local Community Plans. SHPOA has reached out to the city to work with the Community Plan committee to continue to protect and preserve our rural lifestyle.

Eick announced that it has been reported that SB9 has been held unconstitutional. SB9 was the state law which was passed last year allowing properties

*(Cont'd next column)*

**General Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 9th at 6 pm**  
**Tierra del Sol, 9919 Sunland Blvd.**  
**Outside**

Please Mark Your Calendar  
And Plan To Attend

**Ice Cream Social**  
**Arts & Crafts Exhibition**

*(Continued)*

to be subdivided and built on - doubling the increase in density. We are waiting for an appeal and a ruling on this very important issue.

Additionally, an Athens Trust Fund and Bradley Trust Fund Advisory Committee needs to be appointed by Councilwoman Rodriguez to determine how to spend monies which have been set up by the trusts since 2012.

Some of the residents in attendance at the General meeting were extremely concerned that La Canada Way might be widened. Ricardo Flores noted the addresses of concern and would be getting back to them. There will be a report at the next General meeting July 9th, on the city's setback requirements.

New Business: The next General meeting on July 9th will be an Ice Cream Social and Arts and Craft Show featuring local Shadow Hills artists.

September Gen. Meeting - Barn Dance (line dancing, two-step and square dancing in the barn at The Stonehurst (September 28th?))

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

California Wildfire Insurance  
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

Communities throughout the State of California have suffered some of the most disastrous wildfires in the State's history in recent years. As a result, insurance companies in the State of California are seeking to cancel numerous homeowner's insurance policies or drastically increase insurance premiums in areas known to be at higher risk of suffering a wildfire. Without homeowner's insurance, no one can afford to rebuild or repair homes damaged by wildfire. Without the ability to buy insurance on the private market, homeowners may be forced to rely on

*(Please see "Wildfire" on p. 2)*

## 2024 SHPOA Board Members

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

### Executive Officers

President:	Tina Eick <a href="mailto:board@shpoa.us">board@shpoa.us</a>
Vice President:	Jacqy Gamble
Executive Secretary:	Susan Wong
Recording Secretary:	vacant
Treasurer:	Michael Stein
Membership:	Gerardo Barrientos

### Appointed Officers

Land Use:	Bill Eick
Equestrian and Trails:	Rosey Payne (Liaison)
Neighborhood Watch:	Vacant
Daily Fodder and Lost/Found Pets	Susan Wong <a href="mailto:shpoa@shpoa.us">shpoa@shpoa.us</a>
Webmaster:	Michael Stein <a href="mailto:webmaster@shpoa.us">webmaster@shpoa.us</a>
Traffic Safety Coordinator	Carlos George
Newsletter Editor and Article Collection:	Tina Eick <a href="mailto:board@shpoa.us">board@shpoa.us</a>
Newsletter Advertising	Michael Stein <a href="mailto:webmaster@shpoa.us">webmaster@shpoa.us</a>
Newsletter Design/Layout:	Cindy Bloom
Hospitality:	Pam Nesmith
Historian:	vacant

**SHPOA's Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 345, Sunland, CA 91041

**SHPOA's E-mail Address:** [shpoa@shpoa.us](mailto:shpoa@shpoa.us) or  
[board@shpoa.us](mailto:board@shpoa.us)

**Website:** [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us)

### **Senior Lead Police Officers:**

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<i>Sun Valley/Shadow Hills West</i>	Eric Perez <a href="mailto:38338@lapd.online">38338@lapd.online</a> 818-634-0755 LAPD Foothill Div. Front Desk 818-756-8861

### **Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council (FTDNC)**

[www.ftdnc.org](http://www.ftdnc.org)

*President:* Kevin Davis  
[president@ftdnc.org](mailto:president@ftdnc.org)

*Shadow Hills Reps:* Cindy Bloom  
[cindy.bloom@ftdnc.org](mailto:cindy.bloom@ftdnc.org)  
Oma El  
[ome.el@ftdnc.org](mailto:ome.el@ftdnc.org)

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

the "California Fair Access to Insurance Requirements" (FAIR) plan which provides insurance to those who have been unable to obtain insurance on the private market, a plan which is expensive, is not as comprehensive as private insurance and is itself facing financial strain threatening its ability to actually ensure policy holders. The State Legislature created the California Earthquake Authority in 1996 – a non-profit, publicly-managed, privately funded entity providing earthquake insurance to residents of California when similar threats to homeowner insurance policies appeared in the private insurance market following the Northridge Earthquake. In early April 2024, Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez presented a Resolution to City Council that, by its adoption, the City of Los Angeles would include in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program, support of any legislative and/or administrative action that would ensure that homeowners in areas of elevated threat of wildfires could obtain adequate homeowner's insurance without relying on the California FAIR plan with this wildfire insurance policy being modeled after that made available through the California Earthquake Authority. The Resolution was referred to the City Council's Intergovernmental Relations Committee for their review and recommendations. The Committee reviewed the Resolution on April 19, 2024. At their meeting it was brought up that the State Insurance Commissioner who is responsible for monitoring the regulations of the private insurance industry is currently considering a set of rules and policies that would ensure homeowners, in areas threatened by wildfires the ability to obtain adequate insurance. The Committee approved the Resolution asking for legislative and/or administrative support ensuring that homeowners living in areas threatened by wildfires can obtain adequate homeowner's insurance without having to depend on the California FAIR plan. The Committee forwarded their approval of the Resolution to the City Council for their final consideration and vote.



Big Tujunga Wash Mitigation Bank  
By Bill Eick, SHPOA

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works conducted its yearly meeting to discuss the Big Tujunga Wash Mitigation Bank. This meeting was by Zoom which allowed for graphics and photographs. The meeting was advertised in the Daily Fodder.

The Chambers Group has been hired by the County to operate the Mitigation Bank. There are numerous tasks performed by the Chambers Group including water testing to ensure that pesticides from the upstream golf course are not released into the water. The water in the Mitigation Bank is home to an endangered/threatened fish species.

An additional measure to protect the endangered/threatened fish is to remove predatory fish from the Tujunga Ponds. This includes using nets and spear fishing. The predatory fish include bass and bull frogs. To date the largest bass weighed 10 lbs.

(Please see "Wash" on p. 3)

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

The mitigation bank contains 210 acres. It was purchased by the County to mitigate its other activities that destroy habitat. The mitigation bank was purchased for \$2,000,000 but the mere purchase does not constitute mitigation. The County must restore and maintain the area. The property is contiguous to the Army Corp. of Engineers property next to Hansen Dam. The existence of the mitigation bank was one reason High Speed Railroad decided not to go through the Wash and ultimately not go through Shadow Hills.

Further information about the Mitigation Bank can be obtained by accessing the website. That website has a map that shows the Mitigation Area, [btwma@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:btwma@dpw.lacounty.gov).

In addition, the Chamber's Group also traps the brown-headed cow bird that lays its eggs in the nest of the endangered Least Bells Vireo. The young brown-headed cow birds push the young Least Bells Vireo hatchlings out of the nest. The trapping seems to be working as fledgling Least Bells Vireo have been spotted. There was recently an extensive article in the Los Angeles Times about the Least Bells Vireo.

The Chambers Group maintains trails throughout the mitigation bank. They also provide security and removal of exotic, non-native plants.



California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA)  
Palmdale to Burbank Project Section  
By Bill Eick, SHPOA

The Final Environment Impact Report (FEIR)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Palmdale to Burbank segment of the High-Speed Rail project has been released. It is over 7,000 pages long. It contains their responses, many of which are vague, to the 150-page list of questions submitted by the SAFE Coalition related to issues ranging from tunneling through the Angeles National Forest to what environmental advantage does or doesn't exist for this project.

Currently the preferred Palmdale to Burbank route (SR14) does NOT go through Shadow Hills. The CHSRA does not have enough money to even complete the central valley portion of the project let alone commence the Palmdale to Burbank segment. To date CHSRA has NOT laid one foot of rail and yet CHSRA has spent at least 3.5 billion dollars ... for what!!! The start of the Palmdale to Burbank project section is decades away. There is no funding for this section.

The reason that CHSRA is completing this FEIR/FEIS decades in advance of starting is that CHSRA can unlock funding sources from the federal government once they complete the environmental documentation. This money is needed to limp along toward laying track in the Central Valley. Since unlocking the federal funding is desperately needed, it seems to be a foregone conclusion that the FEIR/FEIS will be approved regardless of comments.

By the time you read this, the two-day meeting at

(Please see "CHSRA" 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 = \$30

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

the Burbank Airport Marriott to discuss the FEIR/FEIS (June 26 and 27) has already occurred. Daily Fodder will provide an update as to what occurred, as well as [www.dontrailroad.us](http://www.dontrailroad.us).



**Major Concerns with High-Speed Rail Project**  
By Bill Eick, SHPOA

The following is a brief summation which outlines Save Angeles Forest for Everyone (SAFE)'s concerns regarding the California High Speed Rail proposed project administered by the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA).

1. To date CHSRA has spent \$12.5 billion dollars and has not laid 1 foot of track. The total cost will likely be \$135,000,000,000. Nobody has that money!

2. Tunneling through the Angeles National Forest will cause the de-watering of the forest. CHSRA does not know where the water will go. The immensity of this project will destroy thousands of acres of environmentally important ecosystems. The forest will end up being dried brush and timber, causing an even greater threat of wildfires.

3. The pollution caused by the building of the system will exceed the benefits until about 2070. CHSRA claims that they will not cause pollution, but that is because they are buying pollution credits from someone else.

4. Removing water from the earth is a known cause of earthquakes. The SAFE Coalition spent \$20,000 to prepare a paper on the likely earthquake consequences of tunneling. This was done as part of the 154 pages of comments to the draft EIR submitted by the SAFE Coalition. The report was done by two highly respected professors from Stanford.

5. The only reason CHSRA is doing the EIR at this time is that once all of the environmental work is completed, it will be able to unlock another \$3 billion in federal funding, which will probably be spent in the Central Valley. Doing an EIR 20 years in advance of the Palmdale-to Burbank project makes no sense.

6 After years of hard work we were able to convince them not to go through Shadow Hills, but that doesn't mean that the CHSRA will not change their mind in the future.

7 It is very likely that the TBM (tunnel boring machine) will get stuck part way through as it did in Seattle. It took the Seattle company 2 years to dig it out.

8. Steel on steel railways are outdated. There are other systems that will likely replace the current proposal.

To read the complete analysis from SAFE, please go to the following link: <https://www.dontrailroad.us/files/ugd/3a5929aa131e46d2604e7bbb607ed1db82e7db.pdf>. Or, go to [www.dontrailroad.us](http://www.dontrailroad.us) and the link is on the home page.



**AUGUST 2024**

Changes affecting real estate transactions are going to effect this August. Misinformation is abundant and people are looking for trusted information. As we navigate these changes, I would love to be your trusted resource and go to girl. Our Berkshire Hathaway team is working to keep you updated and protected. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any and all of your real estate questions and needs.

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

A portion of the Los Angeles Aqueduct partially collapsed on March 11, 2023 as a result of flooding brought on by a series of atmospheric river storm systems beginning in January 2023. Insofar as this emergency resulted in a demand for immediate expenditure of public funds to safeguard life, health and property, Councilmember Paul Krekorian presented a Resolution to the City Council asking that competitive bidding restrictions be suspended until the termination of the State of Emergency and that the LADWP is to report to the Council every two weeks justifying suspension of delaying competitive bidding. Per the June 14, 2023 Bi-Weekly DWP's Report, an emergency contract with Rain for Rent allowed for the installation of siphons at the Tinemaha Dam to protect the dam and spillway. Fourteen siphons were successfully installed with each siphon capable of carrying up to 500 cubic feet per second of water over the dam. Conservative estimates showed Owens Lake receiving a minimum of 170,000 acre-feet of runoff through August 2023. For emergency construction services, Sully Miller Contracting Company installed approximately 8.5 miles of access road which is 60% of the required 14 miles. The company raised the elevation on approximately two miles of access road and installed 15,000 sandbags, 100 k-rails and 35,000 square feet of plastic liner for the protection of critical assets at Owens Lake. As of April 1, 2023, precipitation had produced a snowpack equal to 305% of the typical April 1 snowpack level resulting in an excessive runoff which continued to increase through the summer. Per the June 28, 2023 B1-Weekly DWP Report the DWP was working toward awarding a sole contract for a Precast Concrete Box Culvert Forming System which would enable the DWP to expeditiously fabricate and replace box culverts that may be damaged by extreme water runoff. Per the July 12, 2023 Bi-Weekly DWP Report, snowmelt runoff continued to increase throughout the summer with temperatures increasing thus raising the risk of even greater runoff. The DWP's Northern District Engineering Division obtained approval from the Division of Safety of Dams to raise the spillway elevation at the Long Valley Dam allowing for an additional 18,000 acre-feet of storage to avoid spilling and impacting sensitive habitats downstream of the Dam.



Room To Roam Act  
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

On January 22, 2024, State Assemblymember Friedman introduced State Bill AB 1889, the Room to Roam Act which, if approved, would require a City or County to consider as part of its General Plan's Conservation Element the impacts of development on wildlife habitat, connectivity and natural resources within its jurisdiction. AB 1889 would require that upon the adoption of or next revision of one or more elements

(Please see "Room" on p. 6)



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

of a General Plan on or after January 1, 2026, the Conservation Element shall be up-dated to identify and analyze connectivity areas, permeability and natural landscape areas, existing or planned wildlife passage features and consider the impacts of development and barriers caused by development to wildlife and habitat connectivity. In late May 2024, Councilmember Nitthya Raman presented a Resolution to the Los Angeles City Council which, if approved, would include in the City of Los Angeles' State Legislative Program Support for AB 1889. The Resolution was referred to the City Council's Intergovernmental Relations Committee for their review and recommendations.



Breeding Permit Moratorium - Final Ordinance  
188205

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

The Los Angeles Department of Animal Services (DAS) is facing a dire and inhumane crisis in our shelters, most notably that of overcrowding, necessitating the doubling and even tripling of the number of dogs in single kennels and the placement of dogs in temporary hallway crates for up to months at a time. A myriad of factors has gotten us to where we are today including, among other things, the issuance of close to 2,300 annual breeding permits in 2023. It has been determined by the Los Angeles City Council that a Temporary Moratorium on the issuance of dog breeding permits during periods of shelter overpopulation will help reduce the population of dogs and greatly benefit the welfare of dogs in the Department's animal shelters. An Ordinance declaring Temporary Moratoriums on the Issuance of Dog Breeding Permits was passed by the City Council on April 9, 2024, was approved by Mayor Karen Bass on April 15, 2024 and is to become effective May 27, 2024. Once effective, the Department is not to issue any new dog breeding permits until there is a three-month average inventory count of all dogs at the City's Department-Operated Animal Shelters equal to or less than 75% of the Department's total dog kennel capacity. Thereafter the Initial Moratorium may be lifted and the Department may resume issuing dog breeding permits. If, at any time after lifting the Initial Moratorium, should a three-month average daily inventory count of dogs at City Department-Operated Animal Shelters once again exceed the 75% total kennel capacity, Intermittent Moratoriums on the issuance of new dog breeding permits shall be imposed. Thereafter until such time as there is once again a three-month average daily inventory count of all dogs at City Department-Operated Animal Shelters equal to or less than 75% of the Department's total dog kennel capacity will the Intermittent Moratorium on the Issuance of new dog breeding permits be lifted.



Historic Period Of The Tujunga Village – The American Period

By Elektra Kruger, Resident

The discovery of gold in northern California changed California forever. Although a handful of "Norteamericanos" headed for California before 1848,

(Please see "Tujunga" on p. 7)



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

it is the great influx of people, the "49ers" the following year that people most remember. It was because so many people came in such a short period of time in 1849 that California was admitted as the 31st State in 1850. The discovery of gold and influx of population did not affect southern California directly, however it was good for local business in the south. Cattle from southern California Ranchos were driven north. Locally, beginning in the 1850s, there was a lot of transfers of ownership of southern ranchos. Miguel Truinfo sold ½ interest in Rancho Tujunga to David W. Alexander and Francis Mellus in August 1850 for \$200. The other ½ was purchased by Francisco Lopez, one of the original grantees, also for \$200. Some of the more important of those who later held title to portions of Rancho Tujunga included Andrew Glassell (for whom Glassell Park is named), Sherman Page (for whom Sherman Way is named) and M. L. Wicks. Wicks sold off the eastern portion of the Tujunga Ranch, areas where the towns of Sunland and Tujunga were developed. The western portion was subdivided and platted to the 9 stone houses located on Wicks Street at the southeast edge of the Stonehurst neighborhood. It would be several more decades before people began moving into the old Tujunga Grant and old Ex-Mission Grant area. In 1852 the Wells Fargo Stage began service through the Tujunga Valley, followed by the Butterfield Overland Stage in 1858. Rancho Tujunga was officially surveyed in 1858. In 1853 Andres Pico (the same Mexican General that greeted General Fremont at Campo de Cahuenga in 1847) acquired ½ interest in the Ex-Mission San Fernando ranch with the entire ranch being sold to Pio Pico in 1862. Pio Pico was the last Mexican governor of California. Pio, in turn, sold the ranch to the San Fernando Farm Homestead Association in 1869 ending the "Hispanic" line of ranch ownership with ownership going back to the King of Spain. To be continued in a future issue of the SHPOA newsletter.



Wells Fargo \$25,000 Donation For Hansen Dam Tree Planting Project  
By Elektra Kruger, Resident

The Los Angeles Parks Foundation (LAPF) established a Park Forest Initiative involving the solicitation of donations to support the planting of clusters of new trees within existing parks to provide environmental benefits such as improvement in air quality, increasing biodiversity and wildlife habitat areas, increasing tree canopy coverage, mitigating heat island affects and supporting groundwater recharge. Through a \$25,000 private funding received by the LAPF from Wells Fargo, the LAPF has proposed a Park Forest Improvement Project to the Hansen Dam Recreation Area at no cost to the Department of Recreation and Parks. The proposed Project is to consist of the planting of twelve 24-inch box trees consisting of six Mexican Elderberry trees, four Island Oak trees and two Engelmann Oak trees with temporary fencing installed around each tree. The tree species selected were chosen to foster biodiversity, resilience and to create a sustainable ecosystem. This Project is in addition to a previous Hansen Dam Parks

(Please see "Donation" on p. 8)

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- Visit in person: East Valley Animal Control located at 14409 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys CA 91405
- For more information call: 888-4LAPET1 or 888-452-7381.

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website: [1234WideAwake.com](http://1234WideAwake.com)



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

Project also funded by Wells Fargo through the LAPF, approved in October 2022 by the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners and installed at Hansen Dam in November 2022. This Project consisted of twelve trees, four of which were Schumard Oak, five were Coast Live Oak and three were Torrey Pine and, as part of the previous Project plan, all are being cared for and are thriving under an approved 2-year maintenance plan maintained by the LAPF. The current proposed Project, if approved by the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners, is scheduled to be planted in the month of April 2024. The Project has already been pre-approved by the Recreation and Parks Forestry Division. This Project too is to fund a two-year maintenance plan implemented by the Los Angeles Parks Foundation through its Recreation-and-Parks-approved licensed landscape contractor(s) and vendor(s) and is to include monthly maintenance including deep-water irrigation, weeding, pest abatement and tree replacement in the event of any tree loss. The LAPF will select and purchase the trees of the currently proposed Project once again at no cost to the Department of Recreation and Parks. (Note: The current Project was approved by the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners at their April 4, 2024 meeting)



Midway Through The Year of 2024!?

By Eva Lund, Resident

July is the seventh month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. It was named in honor of the Roman general Julius Caesar in 44 B.C., being the month of his birth. To secure his position, he needed an heir. With no son of his own, he adopted Augustus, hence August. The month of July marks the midway point of the year. Scary how fast times goes by. It is also considered a month of fun, thanks to the biggest patriotic party of the year that starts the first week of July. Overall, July's symbolism speaks of boldness, regality and outdoor adventures, joy, contentment, and a great deal of fun in the sun.

So let the fun begin!

Special Spirit hosted an in-house horse show in June. We had fifteen of our special riders along with our volunteers and boarders participate in the show, showing off their riding skills under the supervision of their instructors, Cassie and Morgan. They had to complete an obstacle course of poles, pole bending, figure eights around barrels and over cavalettis. They all got ribbons and trophies. A spectacular BBQ was served by Bruce's Twisted Barbecue. Bruce's BBQ is well worth a visit, located at the deli counter at Sam's Liquor Store.

This from one of the horse show parents:

"The magic of Special Spirit Learning Ranch was on full display at the horse show on June 8th. Nestled within its rustic confines, the ranch serves as a sanctuary where individuals of all ages, particularly those with special needs, find solace and connection through equine interactions. Here, horses transcend their roles as mere animals, becoming therapy companions and trusted

(Please see "Midway" on p. 9)

("Midway" cont'd from p. 8)

instructors.

Among the enchanting moments witnessed was the sight of 3-year-old Lilian astride a gentle equine companion. After just three months of therapy, her radiant smile spoke volumes, illuminating the joy she found atop her four-legged friend. Equally captivating was 9-year-old Natalia's performance aboard her beloved mount, Jingles. Under the guidance of her patient coach, Morgan, Natalia fearlessly navigated obstacle courses, a testament to the bond forged between rider and horse. The horse show boasted a diverse array of participants, each with their own story to tell, yet united by a common thread—the transformative power of the ranch. Amidst the rustic charm and equine camaraderie, attendees experienced firsthand the profound impact of this special place, where lives are changed and connections



Lilian on her equine friend

with nature are nurtured."

We have all seen the changes to our wonderful community of Shadow Hills, but I am hopeful that with the support from the community and of all our hardworking instructors, volunteers, and our rider's family members, we can continue to strive in perpetuity her in Shadow Hills.

Special Spirit has had a great boost of new riders thanks to the addition of Laine. Lainie is now in charge of operations. She managed to get our local reporter Christina Gonzales to do a segment of the ranch and our farm animals. Lainie also orchestrated Spectrum News to do a lovely segment from the ranch showing the value of our four-legged friends, our horses, for helping people struggling with depression, addiction, and other mental issues.

We are in the middle of doing much-needed updates and repairs to the ranch. Marnye Langer from Hansen Dam Equestrian Center made it possible for us to finally get our round-pan. Thank you Marnye! We will have the round-pen installed in the near future.

Earlier this year we finished our construction of the

(Please see "Midway" on p. 10)





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("Midway" cont'd from p. 9)

front arena that is now housing all our farm animals. They can now be seen when you walk by. Our two goat mommas had babies, two each, and we all know how cute goat babies are, but also how fast they grow up. The farmers from Tierra del Sol and Etta milk the goat-mothers every day, so we now have fresh goat milk on a daily basis. Fresh goat milk with splash of chocolate syrup! Yum!

We wish you all a great summer and a Happy Fourth of July!

Special Spirit Team



Eva Lund holds one of Special Spirit's goats



Sunset Studio Update on Live Studio Audience Request  
By Susan Wong, SHPOA

The Letter of Determination regarding Hudson Pacific's request from City Planning for a live studio audience was discussed at the SHPOA Meeting on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. Not surprisingly, City Planning approved their requests WITH CONDITIONS.

Here is a summary of Conditions that SHPOA is in agreement with. Either we had asked for them, both in meetings with Chris Pearson, and in our letters to City Planning, or they were imposed on Hudson Pacific by City Planning without our even asking.

Page 3 #7: Right Turns Prohibited. The applicant shall post "left turn only" signs at each of the 3 driveway exits onto Peoria Street to the satisfaction of the Department of Transportation and the Department of City Planning. Additionally, a sign shall be posted at all exiting driveways to indicate that trucks greater than 6,000 lbs. GVWR are prohibited to turn right into the residential streets. WE DID ASK FOR THIS. WHAT WE DID NOT LIKE: No sign size was specified.

Page 3 #8; The developer shall plant a maximum of (11) 24-inch box California Sycamore (Platanus racemosa) trees in the public ROW.

Page 4 #10. Landscape Buffer. A minimum 10-foot wide  
(Please see "Midway" on p. 11)



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

landscaped buffer shall be provided along the easterly property line. The landscaped buffer shall be open to the sky with no projections into the landscaped buffer. No walls or signs shall be located within the buffer. Driveways are not permitted to cross or encroach into the buffer. The buffer shall be planted with a variety and species of materials including, but not limited to a minimum of 36 trees, and a variety of shrubs and ground cover in accordance with the following:

i. Trees shall be a minimum 36-inch box and 14 feet high at the time of planting and may

include the following species: Coastal Live Oak, Swan Hill Olive, African Sumac, and

Australian Willow.

ii. Shrubs shall be a minimum of 5 gallon and 3 feet high at the time of planting

iii. Ground cover shall include a variety of drought tolerant, California native and non-

native plant materials.

WHAT WE LIKE: City Planning paid attention to the easterly boundaries, where residences are located.

Page 6 #14: Hours of Operation:

a. The film and television studio facility including the accessory warehouse may operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

b. The easterly driveway shall be limited to the hours of operation between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and no Sunday or Holiday use, and the following prohibitions:

i. Staging, parking, and idling of trucks on the easterly driveway are prohibited at all times.

ii. No filming shall be permitted at any time.

iii. No loitering or gathering shall be permitted at any time.

WHAT WE LIKE: City Planning paid attention to the easterly boundaries, where residences are located.

Page 6 #16: [MODIFY] Complaint response/community relations:

a. Monitoring of complaints. The property owner shall coordinate with the local division of the Police Department regarding appropriate monitoring of community complaints concerning activities associated

with the subject facility.

b. Complaint monitoring. A 24-hour "hot line" phone number and email address for the receipt of complaints from the community regarding the subject facility shall be:

i. Posted at the entry and exit gates.

(See "Studio" on p. 12)



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("Studio" cont'd from p. 11)

ii. Posted at the reception desk.

iii. Provided to the immediate neighbors and local neighborhood association, if any.

iv. Mailed at least once a year to all property owners of property located within 500 feet of the subject property.

v. Log. The property owner shall keep a log of complaints received, the date and time received and the disposition of the response. The log shall be retained for a minimum of one year and shall be made available on request to the Planning Department for review. CASE NO. CPC-2014-3258-CU-ZV-ZAA-SPR-PA1 PAGE 7

c. The property owner shall designate a community liaison. The liaison shall meet with representatives of the neighbors and/or neighborhood association, at their request, to resolve neighborhood complaints regarding the subject project.

WHAT WE LIKE: We asked that signs be posted, but this went beyond our requests for complaint resolution.

Page 7, #17: Security Guards. At least 3 licensed security guards shall patrol the subject property, including associated on- and off-site areas, 24-hours a day so as to discourage loitering rowdiness, public drinking and criminal activity in and around the site. At least 1 of the 2 licensed security guards shall be stationed at the Front Gate Security/Guard Office.

WHAT WE LIKE: We had not asked for this, but welcome it.

Page 7 #18 Security Video Cameras. The applicant shall install and maintain security cameras and a three-month video library that covers all common areas of the business, high-risk areas, sidewalk areas, and entrances or exits. Security cameras shall operate 24 hours, 7 days a week. The videotapes shall be made available to police upon request. Location and areas covered by video cameras shall be to the satisfaction of the Department of City Planning.

WHAT WE LIKE: We had asked for video cameras, and had also asked that SHPOA have access to them, which we did not get.

Page 7 #21 Noise/Machinery. Trash compactors, cardboard bailing machinery and the like shall be installed within the interior of the structure, and must be shielded from the adjacent single-

family zone to the east to the satisfaction of the Department of City Planning. The applicant shall retain an acoustical engineer to provide quarterly decibel readings, within the first two years of its operation, to ensure the noise mitigations at the southerly and easterly property lines are in compliance with the City's Noise Ordinance. Noise readings shall be provided to the Planning Department in consultation with the City Council Offices Nos. 6 and 7. Such information shall also be included in the Plan Approval filing pursuant to the Plan Approval Condition No. A.13 above.

WHAT WE LIKE: We had never addressed this specifically, and welcome this.

Page 8 #2 Aesthetics (Light and Glare).

(Please see "Studio" on p. 13)



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

a. Outdoor lighting shall be designed and installed with shielding, such that the light source cannot be seen from adjacent residential properties, the public right-of-way, nor from above.

b. The exterior of the proposed structure shall be constructed of materials such as, but not limited to, high-performance and/or non-reflective tinted glass (no mirror-like tints or films) and pre-cast concrete or fabricated wall surfaces to minimize glare and reflected heat.

WHAT WE LIKE: We had specifically addressed this in our letters to City Planning, and they heard us.

Page 8 #4: Air Quality. The use of char broilers and/or barbecues is prohibited on-site. Trucks shall not idle main engines for more than 5 minutes. Diesel-powered generators are not permitted to be used on-site for any purpose other than emergencies.

WHAT WE LIKE: We had not addressed this, but welcome this condition.

Page 11 #13: Buffers between Studio property and residences.

a. A minimum six-foot-wide landscape buffer shall be planted adjacent to the residential uses.

b. A landscape plan prepared by a licensed Landscape Architect shall be submitted for review and approval by the decision maker.

c. A minimum 6-foot-high solid decorative masonry wall adjacent to residential use and/or zones shall be constructed if no such wall exists. All other portions of the project site not adjoining a residential use or zone may employ a combination of wrought iron, pilasters, and or landscaping to attenuate noise

d. Wall and floor-ceiling assemblies along the interior of the warehouse building's easterly and southerly walls, nearest the residences, shall have a Sound Transmission Coefficient (STC) value of at least 50, as determined in accordance with ASTM E90 and ASTM E143.

e. No garage roll-up door openings shall be permitted on the easterly wall of the Warehouse Building façade which abuts a residential.

WHAT WE LIKE: City Planning did pay attention to the eastern boundary of the site that borders with residences.

Page 20 #1 : Hours of Operation. The plan includes limitations on hours from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for live studio audience tapings, identifies the location of off-site parking facilities, requiring productions with live audiences to provide written instructions to audience members that would avoid travel on residential streets, among other requirements.

WHAT WE LIKE: They paid some attention to our requests against live studio audiences traveling on residential streets.

Page 20 #1: The Operations Management Plan will also require a minimum quarterly meeting be held to

(Please see "Studio" on p. 14)

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

allow the Council District's and stakeholders to have an open forum to discuss any on-going issues with the facility. While the modification of Condition 15 to allow live audience will allow enhanced production and increased economic opportunities potential to the project and the community, the quarterly meeting will allow additional obligations related to parking and operations management, any potential concerns about impacts associated with live audiences be adequately addressed between the immediate community, the site operators, the council office, and any affected stakeholder.

**WHAT WE LIKE.** This went beyond our requests for complaint resolution. We are looking for people to be involved in this quarterly meeting. Contact us SHPOA if you are interested at [shpoa@shpoa.us](mailto:shpoa@shpoa.us).

Page 20 #2 The Operations Management Plan. The Operations Management Plan builds upon the conditions of approval and identifies two off-site locations where audience parking can be accommodated. The studio will then provide shuttles to transport audience members. Modification of Condition 15 would increase operational flexibility and through the implementation of the operations management plan, limits impacts on surrounding properties. Specifically, the development of an

(Please see "Studio" on p. 15)

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

Operations Management Plan that accounts for live audience attendance would address any potential concerns related to parking, traffic, or access to the Project.

**WHAT WE LIKE:** They heard our concerns about live studio audiences parking on-site. What we don't like: there is no "Studio audiences MUST park in one of the two off-site locations."

Page 20 #2: The Operations Management Plan. The Operation Management Plan will also help facilitate open dialogue between the Studio operator/tenant and neighborhood stakeholders and Council offices through the imposition of a minimum quarterly meeting...the quarterly meeting will allow additional obligations related to parking and operations management, any potential concerns about impacts associated with live audiences be adequately addressed between the immediate community, the site operators, the council office, and any affected stakeholder. This continual and open dialogue will better protect the compatibility of any effects as result of the modified conditions to ensure adjacent property, surrounding neighborhood or the public health, welfare and safety are not adversely affected or degraded.

**THERE IS NOT ENOUGH ROOM TO PUBLISH THE ENTIRE ARTICLE. PLEASE VISIT [www.shpoa.us](http://www.shpoa.us) to read this article in its entirety**

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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](http://www.ftdnc.org)

#### FTDNC Land-Use Committee meeting

- 1st Tuesday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Via Zoom (see [www.ftdnc.org](http://www.ftdnc.org) calendar)

#### FTDNC Equestrian Committee meeting

- 2nd Thursday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Via Zoom (see [www.ftdnc.org](http://www.ftdnc.org) calendar)

#### FTDNC Public Safety Committee meeting

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

#### LAPD Community Coffee Time

- 1st Thursday, Every Month 9:00 a.m.
- SVANC Office, 8720 Sunland Blvd., Sun Valley

#### Hansen Dam Park Advisory Board

- LAST Tuesday, Every Month 7 p.m.
- Hansen Dam Horse Park Club

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