

Land Use Committee
June 7, 2010 – 7 pm
North Valley Neighborhood City Hall
Minutes

7:00 PM - Call to order – Tomi Lyn Bowling, LUC Chairwoman. Present were: Debby Beck, Cindy Cleghorn, Elaine Brown, Lloyd Hitt, , Olina Lowe, Chaz. van Aalst, Nina Royal, Bill Skiles (alt). Absent: Mark Seigel, Dean Sherer, Karen Zimmerman, David Long (alt), William Malouf (alt).

1. Introductions - STNC Land Use Committee members and alternates. CD2 staff: Daniel Brumer, Mary Benson, Neighbors & Guests.

2. Neighbor concerns on Greystone in Sunland regarding TMobile's proposal for a for a Wireless Telephone Facility (WTF) on an existing utility pole which would extend the height to 60 feet and add ground equipment. Daniel Brumer spoke with TMobile about the site and will have more updates in the next day or two with the hope that TMobile will not proceed with this installation. Daniel supports the neighbors' that this site is not suitable for this location because it is out of character with the surrounding single family residences. Much appreciation to Daniel for his efforts and contact with TMobile. He will let us know updates in a few days.

3. Public Comments: Nina Royal announced that National Night Out is Aug. 3. Safety Fair will be Aug. 21. Volunteers needed for tables and other tasks. Officer J. Roberts is now Lt. J. Roberts and now assigned to Foothill Station. He will be implementing the "war room" with Officer Bobby Royal. This means that all officers meetings set priorities from the day before. This is a great new addition for Foothill so we can see immediate improvement in our crime problems. They will be coming to a STNC monthly meeting in the next month or two. Cindy Cleghorn said that PACE (Proactive Code Enforcement) has been going through the community. PACE is funded by a Federal grant. Cindy spoke with the LADBS inspector who was unaware of the FBCSP. Cindy asked if CD2 could invite these inspectors, Frank Bush and Preston Meyer to a LUC meeting so we can have a meeting with them. PACE has been successful with getting rid of 7 tons of trash in the area as well as other violations. Regarding Cell Tower issue – Cindy noted that there is a City Council File regarding co-location onto an existing utility poles. Having neighbors taking a strong interest in this issue helps the community with unwanted proliferation. Lloyd Hitt – announced Little Landers will host the history of Debris Flows in the Foothills presentation on June 12 at 1 pm. The Best of 2010 ballots are on the sign in table and he reminded all to vote in General Primary election tomorrow. Elaine Brown – Commerce Avenue improvements are progressing with benches, planters, new clock. Tree wells should be planted in next 2-3 weeks. A celebration event will be held later in the summer. Thank you to Councilman Krekorian for his help.

4. LUC Chair comments/updates – Tomi Lyn Bowling - 2010 Best of Business Awards – besure to vote; the LUC has open positions, please see Tomi if interested in the Land Use Committee; STNC Board open positions for Region 2 and Region

5. Planning Classes report: Tomi reported that this is a great class, lots of great information that we all need. Next class is June 8.

6. Council District 2 Reports: Daniel Brumer said that ANGC and Dept. of Fish & Game PLUM hearing has been moved to end of July. He also said that he has been contacted by someone interested in purchasing the VHGC, private party. More info next meeting.

Mary Benson said that CD2 staff held a meeting with LAPD and LA Housing Authority (Homeless). The next day the Sheriff's Dept. scheduled final eviction from 7835 Foothill in Lake View Terrace, located west of the Foothill bridge. They arrested or detained 25 people for parole or other violations. Paul Krekorian visited the location and on Friday. Remaining occupants were relocated (approx 20) and included motor homes and vehicles. Good news is that no one is at that location now. Those not detained are on some kind of relief. If you see a motor home with someone living in it, be sure to let CD2 know so the LA Housing Authority can return to help get them into some kind of County program. Only solution is a permanent solution. CD2 is working diligently to get some kind of long term solution. There may end up being more homeless staying in the Tujunga Wash. Regarding Code Enforcement – Neighborhood Prosecutor, A.P. Diaz was in the hospital and is now just returning to work. If you have been waiting for Code Enforcement you should re-contact with A.P. Diaz. Regarding the Oro Vista Public Works permit: The emergency permit to fix the Oro Vista crossing was done according to the letter of the law. A biologist was hired by the City for the endangered species. The crossing is being redone to facilitate fish migration. Paul Krekorian secured the funding through a City Council motion. Within 45 days the biologist will submit a report that will be public information and can be obtained from the Army Corps. The report will include conditions and recovery for the Santa Ana Sucker (the endangered species in this area). The City rolled out the Droid and iPhone application for GPS locator. When you submit, it is forwarded to the deputy working the area. For low income neighbors, the Community Distribution Center is open in Sun Valley at the former Sierra's market and they have fresh produce, frozen meat, vegetables, eggs, milk. 11135 Saticoy (corner Tujunga). After you register you can go every week and pick up \$100 of food. Open to everyone. For those with a car, this is a real boom. Canned goods and items with scratched labels are also available. Rim of the Valley Corridor Resource Study - The Rim of the Valley comes completely through S-T. It is a \$500,000 look at natural resources for conversion. They evaluate scenic sites and if they meet the criteria for national. The benefit is that if all of the sites are cataloged. It is really important to submit anything historic, natural significance to submit for the study. The council office will facilitate a meeting. Submit as soon as possible so its prepared by Sept-Oct. It includes 13 of the 15 council districts (1/2 of the Angeles National Forest) but includes the entire City of L.A. Our area includes the entire Verdugo Mtns, Angeles Forest. Like the shape of a donut. Those resources form a laundry list that the National Park Service will be evaluating. Go to the www.nps.gov and look for Rim of the Valley. The project manager is at the River Center and is also the national coordinator for the area's national designation as a recreational trail. We can send in an application for areas to be designated as a recreational trail. Elaine asked about the endangered species for the City of L.A. and the Santa Ana Sucker. Is there hope the City will pay attention to these endangered species so that we won't be laughed at in the

future? Mary will check the Oro Vista property. Also the Prop 40 Rivers and Parkways. Elaine asked if we can use these endangered species to save us from bad development. Mary did some checking and the City has not set a policy regarding endangered species except in the coastal zone. Our area is the only area outside the coastal area. The survey will help so the City can develop that policy. Feb. 2000 designated the critical habitat for the Santa Ana Sucker. The report from the biologist will be very helpful.

Tomi said that the Fireworks Festival will include a dance contest at different levels – youth to seniors. Also a squirt gun park. 4th of July will be a great day for all. Tomi commented how good it would be to have Sons of Anarchy in the parade. SOA has filmed extensively in S-T so it would be great to have them involved with the 4th in some way.

Septic Systems Ordinance – Tomi read a letter that the City says “they’ve heard us” and more work needs to be done on the ordinance. There will be meetings to work this out.

S-T was on the news regarding the ANGC golf course and Tujunga wash area about the homeless problems.

Medical Marijuana – the Commerce location had a patron leave a dog in the car in the heat and Elaine went inside to let them know. The judge did not grant an injunction to halt enforcement of the new ordinance. The City Attorney has set up a special email address (atty.medicalmarijuana@lacity.org) for folks to submit complaints/comments for sites that have not closed. Mary confirmed that CD2 submitted our list to the proper City reps for action. All but two will be allowed to remain open if they adhere to the ordinance (Foothill Wellness and Little Cottage Caregivers).

3. Discussion/Action: That LUC recommends STNC board support the STA (Sunland-Tujunga Alliance) appeal to the determination by the Dept. of City Planning regarding 7937 Foothill Blvd. (former Coffee Stop) change of use. Motion by Elaine Brown, 2nd by Lloyd Hitt that we support the STA appeal. Passed unanimous.

4. Presentation: 8505 Foothill Blvd. (Mobil Station) proposed self-service, drive thru car wash. Applicants cancelled and will present on 6-21-10. There is an existing auto repair that appears to be where the Car Wash will locate.

Tomi said that within 24 hours the boulders to enter the Wash area from Oro Vista were moved so that off-roaders won’t get in to the area. Kudos for the quick response. Even motorcycles can’t access.

Sheri Smith asked about 7200 Foothill. Debby Beck said the sidewalks are being poured as well as tearing out the old sidewalks. Debby was contacted by the leasing agent to set up a meeting with CD2. Debby passed along Daniel Brumer’s contact info. Hopefully we will have more updates at our next meeting. If there is any monumental news, Debby will send to Cindy to distribute.

Tomi commented about trash removal from City trash containers. The label on the top is a warning that this is a fineable offense.

Cindy talked about a meeting she attended with the Crescenta Valley Community Assn. and has a copy of their Design Guidelines for the unincorporated area of La Crescenta. Copies available for anyone wishing a copy. Lots of good information. The City of Glendale is also using this for the Pennsylvania to Lowell area of Foothill. Cindy emphasized that Sunland-Tujunga is part of the Crescenta Valley.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.