

Don't forget to sign in at the back of the room.

New-Comers, please use the black notebook. Returning neighbors, please use the red notebook.

* **Please review and be prepared to recommend any amendments to our previous Minutes.**

** Please note that numbers in parentheses denote the time in minutes allotted for that topic. "QA" denotes the time allotted for follow-up *question and answer*. These times may be adjusted by the Chairman as needed.

PROGRAM
Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Regular Meeting, April 13th, 2005

			Priorities
7:00	Call to Order and Flag Salute		
	Roll Call (sign in sheet)		
	Welcome Newcomers and Guests (5)	Ken McAlpine	
	Flag Salute (2)	Ken McAlpine	
7:05	Executive Committee Reports		
	Hottest Topics (2)	Ken McAlpine	
	Minutes (2)	Ava Wrightsman	
	Treasurer's Report (2)	Robin Meares	
7:15	Board Reports		
	Waste Management Grant (2)	Robin Meares	#2
	Repair of Upper Tujunga Canyon (2)	Michelle Sahfran/Vahic Vartanians	#2
7:20	First Public Comment (15)		
	General Comment (2)	Cindy Cleghorn	
	Community Clean-up (2)	Church of the Open Bible	
	Other Neighbors (11)		
7:30	Committee Reports		
	DAC (2)	Richard Pozzo	#2
	Planning (5+5QA)	Dale Thrush	
	Safety (2)	Nina Royal	#4
	Crime Statistics (3QA)	Steven Briggs/Larry Martinez	
	Outreach (2)	Mona Curry/Peter Babaian	#4
7:50	Program Speakers		
	Sunland-Tujunga Vision 20/20 (5)	Julianne Maurseth	#2
	Community Friendly Development (10+10QA)	Clifford Goldstein with JH Snyder	#2
8:15	Old Business (15)		
	1) MOTION: Transit Shelters (POSTPONED)	Robin Meares	
	2) MOTION: Forming North Valley coalition of NCs	Nina Royal	
	3) MOTION: STNC sponsor the Street Faire	Deborah Ray	
	4) MOTION: DAC appointments.	Robin Meares	
8:30	New Business (30)		
	1) MOTION: Sign DWP/NC MOU	Louise Clarke Stone	
	2) MOTION: Outreach Funding	Mona Curry	
	3) MOTION: Planning Letter to Silver Lake NC	Julianne Maurseth	
	4) MOTION: Strategic Plan Amendments	Julianne Maurseth	
	5) MOTION: STNC letter to Mayoral Candidates	Ed Condit	
	6) MOTION: Canyon Hills follow-up letter	Lisa Keene	
9:00	Second Public Comment (5)		
	Be sure to see calendar of community events with handouts.		
	Chairman's Reminders		
9:10	Adjournment of Board Business		

Mark your calendar for these upcoming STNC meetings: (also see page 3 of this packet)

DAC	Mon, Apr 18 @ 7:00 pm - Muni Bldg.
DAC	Mon, May 2 @ 7:00 pm - Muni Bldg.
Agenda/Executive Committee meeting	Wed, May 4 @ 7:00 pm - Muni Bldg.
STNC Regular Meeting	Wed, May 11 @ 7:00 pm - Mt. Gleason School
	Program: DAC: A View of Planning from the Trenches
Outreach	Sat, May 14 @ 8:30 am - Denny's

Please email proposed agenda items, future topics or issues to: AvaWrightsman@hotmail.com

www.SunlandTujunga.org/council



**Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
STRATEGIC PLAN - 2004-2005**

STNC MISSION: Improving the Quality of Life in Sunland-Tujunga.

STNC PRIORITIES: The following Priorities reflect the Community Survey results from June 2004. Priorities have been grouped and synthesized from the original 10 Goal categories, to target the Community's major strategic needs.

For Strategic Plan details, see:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| Priority #1: Improve Community Appearance | pp. 2-3 |
| Priority #2: Improve Safety & Crime Prevention | p. 4 |
| Priority #3: Preserve Scenic Beauty & Ecological Protections | p. 5 |
| Priority #4: Improve Quality & Vitality of Our Business Districts | pp. 6-7 |
| Priority #5: Promote & Celebrate Our Cultural Resources | p 7. |
| Priority #6: Strengthen Outreach Response for Long-Term Health of Community Relations | p. 8 |

KEY STRATEGIES for success of ALL Priorities & Goals:

1. Invite and motivate others to join our 15-year "Sunland-Tujunga Vision 2020" – to become a "model Community" in Los Angeles on how to revitalize, innovate and adapt to change while enhancing our unique Community culture and values.
2. Promote and maintain a collaborative STNC Board, proactive outreach with all Community stakeholders, and partnership with our District 2 office.
3. Build key relationships with City departments, and create buy-in at each stage. Work through resistance, not against it.
4. Measure and reward progress - hold Community celebrations for milestones achieved together.
5. Stay the course with patience for the long-term Vision while achieving short-term goals.

Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council Calendar of Events

Info Contact: STNC office at (818) 951-7411 or Louise Stone at stncstone@yahoo.com

Sat., April 16 th	8:30am-10:30am	Come Have Coffee with Wendy Greuel Location: Prism Bistro 9695 Sunland Blvd., Shadow Hills, CA 91040 RSVP for an appointment: (818) 352-3287
Mon., April 18 th	7pm	DAC Planning Meeting – Project Reviews Municipal Building
Saturday, April 23	9am-2pm	Little Landers Historical Society Annual Plant Sale at NEW LOCATION 9929-31 Commerce Parking on Commerce Ave. in the rear behind Rio's. *PLANT DONATIONS: may be made on Friday, April 22nd between 9:30 and 3 PM at the same location. Parking on Commerce. The largest Plant Sale Fund raiser in the Sunland/Tujunga Valley where hundreds of plants at bargain prices will be on display. Don't miss the big event of the year! Hundreds of plants of all sizes and shapes will be on display with prices starting at 25¢.
Sat., April 23 rd Sun., April 24 th	10am-3pm	Book Sale Friends of the Sunland-Tujunga Branch Library 7771 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA Info: 352-4481
Mon., Apr. 25	7pm	Business Watch Meeting at Elks Lodge 10137 Commerce Ave.
Tues. Apr. 26	7pm	Strategic Planning Committee - Municipal Bldg.
Wed. Apr. 27	7pm	Vision 2020 Meeting - Municipal Bldg.
Mon., May 2 nd	7pm	DAC Meeting Municipal Building
Wed., May 4 th	6:00pm	Budget Meeting Municipal Building
Wed., May 4 th	7pm	Executive Committee and Agenda Meeting Municipal Building
Wed., May 11 th	7pm	STNC Monthly Meeting Mt. Gleason Middle School - Multi Purpose Room 10965 Mt. Gleason, Sunland (Handicap Access.)
Sat, May 14 th	8:30am	Outreach meeting Denny's
Mon., May 16	7pm	DAC Meeting Municipal Building



Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042 • www.SunlandTujunga.org/council • (818) 951-7411 • FAX (818) 951-7412

Overview of "Sunland-Tujunga VISION 2020" (3/05)

#1 - What is "Sunland-Tujunga VISION 2020"?

- **A proactive approach** to looking 15 years ahead and planning a beautiful, well-designed, and economically-feasible future for our Community.
- **A road map** to help us bring our Community Plan to life in tangible ways, stage by stage, over time – including:
 - A "small town" feel and a "walking community".
 - Emphasis on our historical & cultural resources.
 - Protecting our open spaces and scenic beauty.
 - "Mixed-use" housing along transportation corridors.
 - More trees, flowers, parks, fountains and gathering places.
 - Creating aesthetic design and color.
 - Eliminating visual blight, trash and unsightliness.
 - Charming restaurants and shops.
 - Slow growth – so that we do not become a Valencia!
 - And many other wonderful ideas from the Community.
- **A way to create greater collaboration** between all stakeholders – residents, business owners, conservationists, developers, and all members of the Community.
A tangible "Vision" and Plan make the difference!

#2 – How is "Sunland-Tujunga VISION 2020" moving forward?

- **In January 2004**, the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC) had a new Board of Directors who wanted to *ensure their strategic plans and budgeting were in sync and aligned with the Community's needs.*
- Therefore, the following has happened:
 - **April-May 2004** – a Community Survey was sent to 16,562 residences.
 - **April 27, 2004** – a Town Hall meeting was held.
 - **June 9, 2004** - Results from these events were presented to the Community, revealing Sunland-Tujunga's **#1 priority Goal is to "Improve Community Appearance"**. The STNC took action on the Community's priorities – including hiring an urban design consulting firm
 - **June 12, 2004** – Firms were reviewed, & MDA Johnson Favaro was selected.
 - **June 22, 2004** – D.O.N.E. approved the "STV 2020" initiative.
 - **July 2004** – Launched initiative for community-wide involvement & Phase I.
 - **Aug-Nov 2004** – Coordinated Steering Committee structure, standards & goals.
 - **Dec 2004** – MDA Johnson Favaro completed Phase I plan for Commerce.
 - **Jan-April 2005** – Develop "promotional kit" to seek funding for S-T Master Plan.

#3 – How can you participate?

Stay informed: Attend meetings, see STNC website (see above); ask questions!
Share your ideas – contact the STNC; call/write Project Liaison, Julianne Maurseth at 818/352-3651; jem@awakeatwork.com. **Volunteer** to help!

**Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting Minutes for March 9, 2005
Mt. Gleason Middle School – 7 PM**

Ken McAlpine called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM with 17 Board members in attendance and 68 in the audience. Ken McAlpine welcomed newcomers and guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Java Stop and Glendale Bakery were thanked for providing hot cocoa and coffee for the meeting.

Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer: Robin Meares went over her written Treasury Report, which was provided to all Board Members.

Minutes of December 9 February 2005 were approved as presented.

Public Comment

The following issues and concerns were brought up:

- Opposition to the Viacom/Decaux Transit Shelters.
- Opposition to the use of a map from the 1930's to make planning decisions for a property on Oro Vista.
- The Historic Home Tour would be on May 1st, 2005.
- McGroarty Arts Center would be having sign ups on April 2nd.
- This was the first meeting to be video taped to be shown on Channel 27 on Saturdays.
- The upcoming Chamber of Commerce Easter Carnival was announced, as well as a quilting class.
- Upcoming meetings were scheduled to choose a new head of the planning commission.
- The Foothill Family Child Care Association provided free childcare at the STNC meeting. Also it was announced that May 1st – 7th would be Child Care Provider Week.
- An individual announced that he produces story telling in the park events at Griffith Park and he would like to do something similar in the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood.
- The Old Town Street Faire was announced and volunteers were requested.
- Neighborhood Watches were being formed.
- An objection was raised to not having to have ID to vote.

Committee Reports

DAC: John LaRocca described the DAC.

- John LaRocca reported that the Foothill Performing Arts Center located at 10027 Commerce Avenue would like to retain the box sign. This is against the Specific Plan. However, because of the nature of the business, an exception for this particular location seemed appropriate. Many people in the audience nodded their approval of this idea.
- John LaRocca and Robin Meares reported that at approximately 10215 Tujunga Canyon Boulevard, at developer would like to put up 27 townhouse style units.
- Ford Property: Debby Beck reported that this project was currently in the construction drawings phase. It was hoped that they would break ground in August/September 2005. The buildings were expected to commence in the beginning of 2006 and be completed by the end of 2006. At the time of the meeting tests were being done on the property for toxic waste.

Dale Thrush, Planning Deputy for Councilmember Wendy Greuel, reported the following:

- Home Depot: Councilmember Greuel wrote a letter opposing the Home Depot re-building project. A meeting would take place regarding Home Depot.
- Verdugo Hills Golf Course: There were various options for the property. There would be a meeting to discuss the details.
- Interim Control Ordinance: This ordinance to control the size of homes on small lots was announced as being through PLUM. The City attorney was reviewing it.
- Canyon Hills: Mr. Thrush and Councilmember Greuel met with a delegation from the STNC the previous day. They asked the City Attorney to look at the Slope Density Ordinance again. The City Attorney would determine if the law had been reasonably interpreted.
- A question and answer period was held. Home Depot may just remodel the existing building, as they are unlikely to get two zone changes. Their application had been suspended by the Planning Department. A

Garden Center would not be permitted on parking area on a commercial lot. An individual was concerned regarding four homes being built on Mount Gleason. It was discovered that there were no permits for the construction and the site was closed down.

Safety: Nina Royal announced CERT classes. Mark Seigel was announced as the new director of CERT. SLO Julie Carpenter went over crime statistics. SLO Larry Martinez reported that an investigation was in progress regarding a gang related homicide at Stonehurst Park in Shadow Hills. The next Business Watch meeting was announced.

Outreach: Mona Curry announced that the Outreach Committee was working on 1) the contest for the STNC logo, 2) Farmers Market, and 3) Movie in the Park (Neighborhood).

Sunland-Tujunga Vision 2020: Julianne Maurseth described the STV 2020 and read highlights from a handout. She announced that they were working on putting together a promotional kit to seek funding to create a master plan for the community.

Program Speakers:

Karen Mack, L.A. Commons

Karen Mack announced that she formed L.A. Commons to help the people of Los Angeles interact with one another and to provide activities for people to create together, using the artistic process and artists to bring people together. There was a question and answer period: Ms. Mack could be contacted at (213) 705-4457 to get more information. She could be contacted regarding setting up an Armenian cooking class in Sunland-Tujunga.

Guillermo Gonzalez, Viacom/JC Decaux & Shannon Eastenson, B.O.S.S.

This is a 20-year program signed in 2001 for Viacom/Decaux to install and maintain Transit Shelters in the City of Los Angeles at Viacom/Decaux's expense. Also Viacom/Decaux would also pay \$150 million to the City of Los Angeles over the lifetime of the contract. 50% of this amount would go to the general fund and the other 50% would be divided among the 15 Los Angeles City Council Districts. This money would be for street related projects only. Viacom/Decaux would receive revenue from advertising at those shelters. Viacom/Decaux would be installing Bus Shelters, Automatic Public Toilets and Kiosks (Advertising Stands). At the close of the contract, the City of Los Angeles would own all of the street furniture, which had been provided by Viacom/Decaux. B.O.S.S. oversees Viacom/Decaux on this project.

A question and answer period was held. 25% of the locations are chosen by the Council District; 35% by B.O.S.S.; and approximately 40% by Viacom/Decaux by survey. The Community can change the locations if the changes are feasible. Major changes to the design of the Transit Shelters are not possible, but minor changes (e.g. color) are possible. The majority of the ads are for movies. If an ad is distasteful, anyone can call Shannon at B.O.S.S. and she would handle it with a 24-hour turnaround. B.O.S.S. is part of the City of LA and therefore cannot censor the ads, as that could be regarded as a violation of the 1st Amendment. Thus they rely on the public for reports of risqué ads. It takes one year to get the permit and get the shelters installed. There was another community that took their money (from the CD's share of the \$150 million) and put up more attractive Transit Shelters with it. One of the points of this program is to look more like a cohesive city. The money goes to the Council District. The NC would need to talk to the CD about getting the NC's share of the money. Public Amenity Kiosks will not be put up with a bus shelter. S-T cannot opt out of the program.

It was voted unanimously to address the Transit Motion as the first motion, rather than as the second motion.

New Business

2: Support Transit Shelter Installation (Robin Meares):

Motion: I move that the STNC support the installation of ten Transit Shelters by Viacom/JC Decaux tentatively scheduled for the following Bus Stop locations:

WB Foothill NS Oro Vista NE Corner
EB Foothill FS Fenwick St SE Corner
WB Sunland NS Fenwick St NE Corner
WB Foothill NS Saluda Ave NE Corner
EB Foothill FS Tujunga Cyn SE Corner
EB Foothill FS Pinewood Ave SE Corner
WB Foothill NS Pali (Island) NE Corner
EB Foothill FS Pali SE Corner
WB Foothill NS Pinewood NE Corner
WB Foothill NS Mt Gleason NE Corner

95% of those installed will be the Boulevard Shelter types. They will be installed at no cost to the City. Our Council District will share in the revenues of the advertising. The maintenance will be the responsibility of Viacom/JC Decaux.

I further move that our approval is contingent upon approval of final locations of transit shelters and the opportunity to suggest design changes.

Motion by Robin Meares

Motion was unanimously tabled for further discussion, with two abstaining.

1: Support DWP M.O.U. (Louise Clarke Stone):

Motion: I, Louise Clarke Stone, as STNC liaison to the NC/DWP Task Force, move that this council declare our intention to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Motion by Louise Clarke Stone.

Motion carried unanimously.

Nina Royal moved to separate her motion into Part A regarding Home Depot and Part B regarding the NC Coalition. This carried unanimously.

3A: Home Depot (Nina Royal):

Motion: That the STNC support Nina Royal to form a committee to plan a press conference with Councilmember Wendy Greuel opposing the proposed Home Depot on the old K-mart site.

Notes: Help was promised by Councilmember Wendy Greuel at her coffee meeting at Glendale Bakery. She committed her presence and support at a media conference showing her support for opposition to Home Depot on the K-Mart site, in support of the STNC and community's stand on this issue.

Motion by Nina Royal.

Motion carried with two dissenting votes.

3B: NC Coalition (Nina Royal):

Motion: That the STNC form a planning group coalition with Chatsworth, Granada Hills, Mission Hills, Northridge, Sylmar and Foothills Trails and any other Neighborhood Council that is interested to challenge the City; that voters demand that they stick to community plans and ordinances that are presently in place to protect open space. Also, to insure that our infrastructure is up to par before allowing further major development. Also, to assure that they listen, resolve and act on the concerns of our communities. Also that we elect or appoint representatives to that coalition from the STNC.

Motion by Nina Royal.

The Chairman tabled this motion per Orders of the Day and moved to Motion #5 on the Program.

As a public comment one individual announced an upcoming planning hearing on April 7th regarding a property on Oro Vista.

5: Canyon Hills Letter (Julianne Maurseth):

Motion: To approve draft letter to L.A. City Planning Commission.

Motion by Julianne Maurseth.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion #6 regarding DAC Appointments was tabled per Orders of the Day.

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 PM

Minutes taken by Ava Wrightsman, 2005 Recording Secretary

April 13, 2005

STNC Motions to be presented

Old Business

#1 - Support Transit Shelter Installations (Robin Meares)

Postponed

Motion: I move that the STNC support the installation of ten Transit Shelters by Viacom/JC Decaux.

#2 Formation of North Valley Coalition of NCs (Nina Royal)

Motion: That the STNC form a planning group coalition with Chatsworth, Granada Hills, Mission Hills, Northridge, Sylmar and Foothills Trails District and any other Neighborhood Councils interested to challenge the City; that voters demand that they stick to community plans and ordinances that are presently in place to protect open space. Also, to insure that our infrastructure is up to par before allowing further major development. Also, to assure that they listen, resolve and act on the concerns of our communities. Also that we elect or appoint representatives to that coalition from the STNC.

#3 That the STNC sponsor the Commerce Street Faire (Deborah Ray)

#4 DAC Appointments (Robin Meares)

Motion: To accept the recommendation of the Design Advisory Committee, the following members of the DAC: John LaRocca as Committee Chair, Cindy Cleghorn, Penny Blackwell, Roberta Actor-Thomas, Debby Beck, Tomi Lyn Bowling, Deborah Ray, Julianne Maurseth, Lloyd Hitt, Mark Seigel, Richard Pozzo, with Alternates Shelly Albert, Don Breeding, Ed Duke, Ed Rock.

New Business

#1. Sign DWP/NC MOU (Louise Clarke Stone)

See Pages: 11-34

#2. Outreach Funding (Mona Curry)

Motion: That the STNC support the purchase of items to facilitate the Outreach Committee's goal of marketing to the community. Cost not to exceed \$300 for shirts, \$250 for lanyards, \$200 for pens and \$500 for miscellaneous items and that the STNC support the Outreach Committee's participation at various local events not to exceed \$350 for miscellaneous costs per event.

#3. Planning Letter to Silverlake NC (Julianne Maurseth)

See Pages: 36-42

#4. Strategic Plan Amendments (Julianne Maurseth)

Refer to copy included in Board Retreat Binder, tab #4

#5 STNC letter to Mayoral Candidates (Ed Condit)

See Pages: 43

#6 Canyon Hills Follow-up letter (Lisa Keene)

See Pages: 44-46

New Business
#1

Stone, Louise

Subject: FW: Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

-----Original Message-----

From: Corresponding Secretary [mailto:stncstone@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2005 4:48 PM

To: Stone, Louise

Subject: Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Today, April 5, 2005, the Board of Water and Power Commissioners unanimously ratified the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Neighborhood Councils and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Commissioners Rubalcava and Saucedo said that the document is of such quality that it should be used as a template for each and every city department.

Congratulations to all Neighborhood Council members and participants!

Louise Clarke Stone
Member,
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council

4/11/2005

11

YAHOO! MAIL

Print - Close Window

Subject: NC/LADWP Partnership Taskforce MOU
Date: Thu, 31 Mar 2005 10:42:02 -0800
From: "Stone, Louise" <Louise.Stone@nta.com>
To: cardenas@council.lacity.org, hahn@council.lacity.org, miscikowski@council.lacity.org

Attached hereto are electronic copies of our cover letter and documents.
 Ms. Hahn and Miscikowski have already received their documents. Mr. Cardenas will receive his package via messenger today. We at the NC Taskforce appreciate your part in this wonderful achievement. Thank you.

 Louise Clarke Stone
 Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
 Member, NC/Taskforce

This e-mail message is intended only for the named recipient(s) above. If you have received this message in error, or are not a named recipient, please immediately notify the sender by return e-mail and delete this e-mail message from your computer. Thank you.

<<NC DWP MOU.PDF>>

Attachments

Files:

 NC_DWP_MOU.PDF (943k)
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12



NC/LADWP PARTNERSHIP TASKFORCE

March 29, 2005

Commerce, Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Councilmember Tony Cardenas, Chair
200 North Spring Street
Room 455
Los Angeles, CA 90012

NC Taskforce

Jim Alger, Northridge West
Lula Bishop, ECSEND
Bruce Carroll, Greater Griffith Park
George Chung, Mar Vista
Michael N. Cohen, Reseda
Margaretta Davis, Mid City
Ken Draper, City Watch
Soledad Garcia, Coastal San Pedro
Ken Gerston, Sherman Oaks
Carol Hamilton, Bel Air-Beverly Crest
Jacqueline Hamilton, ECNANDC
Jeff Jacobberger, Mid City WEST
Robert B. Lamshaw, Winnetka
JoAnn Lewis, Harbor City
Elizabeth McClellan, ECSEND
Robert Mendel, Historic Highland Park
Rusty Millar, Silver Lake
Ron Nagel, Porter Ranch
Ederin Ramirez, Pacoima
Jewy Schneider, Arroyo Seco
John Schultz, Historic Cultural
Jean Shigematsu, Westside
Kelli Stark, Torrance
Louise C. Stone, Sunkind Tujunga
Art Sweet, Sun Valley
Steve Twining, Bel Air-Beverly Crest
Steven Vasquez, Mid City
Tom Villiger, Central San Pedro
Polly Ward, Studio City
Marjella Welch, Sylmar
Robert Weldon, Winchester-Playa d'Ray
Brady Westwater, Downtown L.A.
Joseph Wong, Historic Cultural

Re: Neighborhood Councils (NC) and the Los Angeles
Department of Water and Power (LADWP)

Dear Councilmember Cardenas:

The NC/LADWP Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is finalized and ready for signatures. Let us remind you that this 15-month journey of conversation and negotiation with the LADWP commenced at your committee hearing.

At the February 3, 2004 hearing, 6 Neighborhood Council representatives were present and 12 people spoke in opposition to LADWP's requested two-phase 11% and 7% rate increases. And when you brought the DWP's attention to its lack of contact with Neighborhood Councils or DONE, DWP representatives stated that informational mailings had been performed and that DWP had made its best effort to communicate the pending rate increases and basis for same.

Jim Alger, Ken Draper, Rusty Millar, Kevin Singer, Louise Stone and Brady Westwater testified before the CENR that bright day in February. At several subsequent public hearings before the CENR and full City Council, we presented the information that we had 34 Neighborhood Councils who were prepared to formally oppose the pending rate increases. On Saturday morning, March 20, 2004, Jerry Gewe and Jim McDaniel met with Jim, Ken, Rusty, Kevin, Louise and Brady at the Fairfax Farmers' Market. At that meeting, Jerry executed a Letter of Intent, and the dialogue among NCs and LADWP formally began.

Over 50 meetings in 15 months the NCs and LADWP have formed a bond that not one of us could have imagined. Never again will any rate change or other significant change in the operation of the LADWP take place without the voice of Neighborhood Councils being heard.

We are pleased to enclose a copy of the final MOU for your information.

Sincerely,

Louise Clarke Stone
Member, NC Taskforce

Enclosure

cc: Councilmember Janice Hahn
Councilmember Cindy Miscikowski

**INTRA-CITY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CERTIFIED
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS AND DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER**

This two year Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter "MOU") is mutually agreed upon this 5th of April, 2005 by and between two entities of the City of Los Angeles: the Department of Water and Power ("LADWP") and Certified Neighborhood Councils.

Whereas LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils mutually agree that the People of the City of Los Angeles will benefit from increased communication and cooperation between LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils;

LADWP WILL DO THE FOLLOWING:

LADWP will designate a person as the primary point of contact to each Neighborhood Council. LADWP will assign a primary Liaison to each of the seven Los Angeles Planning Districts. LADWP Liaisons may be assigned to more than one Neighborhood Council.

Each LADWP Liaison will be responsive to each Neighborhood Council whose boundaries fall, in whole or in part, within the Planning District to which they are assigned.

LADWP will provide notification as soon as practical of all matters that it deems to be significant, or any matter that the Neighborhood Council Oversight Committee has informed LADWP in writing is significant. Among the purposes of notification by LADWP is permitting Neighborhood Councils to have input into decisions by LADWP and to monitor the delivery of services by LADWP. A good faith effort will be made by both parties to abide by the timeframes in this MOU.

LADWP will provide notification as soon as practicable, but before the Board of Water and Power Commissioners (the "Board") adopts a major policy or program, or significant changes in an existing major policy or program.

LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils recognize that many issues regarding LADWP services will be specific to individual neighborhoods. For such local issues, the Neighborhood Council Representatives will contact their LADWP Liaison.

LADWP will use its best efforts to provide notification of Significant Projects 90 days prior to the commencement of work to be constructed within the City of Los Angeles. For purposes of this subsection, "Significant Projects" is defined as those projects, programs and activities that would require either an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and excludes programs, projects and activities that would qualify for either a simple negative declaration or a categorical exemption.

Closing of Streets: LADWP will use its best efforts to notify the affected Neighborhood Councils when LADWP applies for an excavation permit that will involve the closing or partial closing of streets for 48 hours or more.

In October or November of each year, LADWP will hold a Neighborhood Council Budget Workshop at a time and location designed to be convenient for as many Neighborhood Council members as possible.

In January or February of each year, LADWP will host a Neighborhood Council Budget Workshop at a time and location designed to be convenient for as many Neighborhood Council members as possible.

At the Winter Budget Workshop, LADWP will provide further clarifications to any questions from the Neighborhood Councils regarding the upcoming fiscal year's budget, based upon the information provided at the Fall Budget Workshop.

When materials for the upcoming fiscal year draft budgets are posted for review (generally May or June of each year) on LADWP'S website, LADWP will use its best efforts to provide notification to the Neighborhood Councils. The website will also contain the time and meeting location for the Board of Commissioner's Draft Budget and Financial Plans Review. It is LADWP's policy to post matters for review as soon as they are completed.

LADWP will use its best efforts to provide notification of any proposed Rate Action 90 days before the proposed rate action is submitted to the Board. Such notification will include the Rate Action and upon request copies of the supporting documentation provided to the Board and the City Council for consideration.

LADWP will use its best efforts to provide seven (7) days' notice of any meeting at which the Board is scheduled to take action on a proposed rate action.

LADWP Liaisons will educate Neighborhood Councils regarding the organization and workings of LADWP.

LADWP may provide such education through workshops, participation in Neighborhood Council Congresses, presentations at Neighborhood Council meetings, and distribution of written materials.

Educational Site Visits: LADWP may invite members of Neighborhood Councils or stakeholders to participate in site visits to LADWP facilities. LADWP will provide information about the site visits to Neighborhood Councils and/or other interested parties. .

Pursuant to section 909 of the Los Angeles City Charter, Neighborhood Councils shall monitor the delivery of City services in their respective areas and have periodic meetings with responsible officials of City departments, subject to their availability.

LADWP will hold an annual meeting with the Neighborhood councils in each of the seven Los Angeles planning areas to discuss delivery of services at a programmatic level.

LADWP will identify and provide to the Neighborhood Councils the standards it uses to measure its performance.

LADWP will identify and provide existing, readily-available, non-proprietary reports regarding LADWP's performance.

When LADWP has adoption of a major policy or program, or a change in an existing major policy or program, under consideration, LADWP will provide notification in accordance with paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3, above, as early in the planning process as practicable, but in any event no later than 120 days before LADWP adopts a formal position regarding the Major Policy or Program.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS WILL DO THE FOLLOWING:

Each Neighborhood Council shall designate a person as the point of contact for communications with LADWP. Each Neighborhood Council is responsible for determining how this person ("NC Representative") is designated.

Each Neighborhood Council will provide the name, mailing address, phone numbers(s) and e-mail address of its representative to the designated LADWP Liasons(s) that is responsible for interfacing with such Neighborhood Council. In order to assure good communication, updated contact information will be provided to the assigned LADWP Liason(s).

LADWP will recognize official actions taken by Certified Neighborhood Councils. "Official Actions" are actions adopted by motion at a properly noticed public meeting.

If a Neighborhood Council, or a committee of a Neighborhood Council, intends to include on any meeting agenda any matter relating to LADWP, that Neighborhood Council shall provide 14 days notice to LADWP before the Neighborhood Council, or committee of a Neighborhood Council, takes any official action on that matter.

At the meeting, LADWP will request the opportunity to present LADWP's position on the matter raised by the Neighborhood Council, including giving and LADWP representative a reasonable amount of time to make a presentation.

Where LADWP has provided the Neighborhood Councils with notification pursuant to any of section of this MOU, each Neighborhood Council will make its best efforts to provide written input to LADWP within 60 days after receipt, unless otherwise provided by this MOU.

Each Neighborhood Council will independently decide whether to enter into this MOU. Due to the large number of Neighborhood Councils, it will be impractical for each Neighborhood Council to separately negotiate any modifications to the MOU with LADWP, and for LADWP to separately negotiate modifications with each Neighborhood Council. For this reason, each Neighborhood Council that enters into the MOU will be asked to separately agree to the appointment of a Neighborhood Councils' LADWP Oversight Committee.

The members of the Neighborhood Councils' LADWP Oversight Committee shall be selected by the NC Representatives from each of the Neighborhood Councils that enter into the MOU.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

This MOU may be modified in writing by mutual agreement between the Board of Water & Power Commissioners and each Neighborhood Council or the NC LADWP Oversight Committee.

This MOU shall expire two (2) years after it is first executed by LADWP

This MOU can be extended in writing by mutual agreement of the parties.

**INTRA-CITY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
CERTIFIED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS AND DEPARTMENT OF
WATER AND POWER**

This two year Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter "MOU") is mutually agreed upon this 5th of April, 2005 by and between two entities of the City of Los Angeles: the Department of Water and Power ("LADWP") and Certified Neighborhood Councils.

RECITALS

Whereas Article IX of the charter of the City of Los Angeles and the implementing Regulations as currently set forth in Ordinance Nos. 174006 and 174975 provide that:

- (1) Information from the City should be sent to certified neighborhood councils as soon as practical so that certified neighborhood councils are afforded as much opportunity as is practical to provide comment before decisions are made;
- (2) Certified neighborhood councils may provide comment and feedback to the City Council, its committees, and to City boards and commissions by using the Early Notification System. The neighborhood council may communicate its views either by way of mailed letter, fax, E-mail or by a representative appearing in person to make a presentation on an item before the City's decision-makers; and
- (3) Neighborhood councils shall monitor the delivery of City services in their respective areas and have periodic meetings with responsible City departments, subject to their reasonable availability; and

Whereas LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils mutually agree that the People of the City of Los Angeles will benefit from increased communication and cooperation between LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils;

LADWP WILL DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. LADWP Liaisons:
 - 1.1. LADWP will designate a person(s) as the primary point of contact with each Neighborhood Council ("LADWP Liaison"). LADWP will assign a primary LADWP Liaison to each of the seven Los Angeles Planning Districts. LADWP Liaisons may be assigned to more than one Neighborhood Council.

- 1.2. Each LADWP Liaison will be responsive to each Neighborhood Council whose boundaries fall, in whole or in part, within the Planning District to which they are assigned.
 - 1.3. The duties of an LADWP Liaison include (1) attending and participating in board and committee meetings of Neighborhood Councils in their assigned districts regarding matters involving LADWP, (2) receiving requests for information, assistance or service from Neighborhood Councils in their district, transmitting the requests to the appropriate person(s) within LADWP, attempting to provide responses to the Neighborhood Council in a timely manner, and (3) processing requests for speakers or educational materials (as more fully described in Section 3, "EDUCATION," and Section 4, "DELIVERY OF SERVICES," below).
 - 1.4. In order to assist the LADWP Liaison, Neighborhood Councils shall channel all requests for information through their LADWP liaison, and the Neighborhood Councils shall make best efforts to notify the LADWP liaison of any requests made by their constituents through other means. This section shall not apply to homeowner requests for information relating to infrastructure issues, such as a short power outage or permit information.
 - 1.5. Within 15 days after execution of this MOU, LADWP will provide notification of the name, telephone number, facsimile number, mailing address and e-mail address for each LADWP Liaison to the Neighborhood Councils.
 - 1.6. Within 30 days after LADWP assigns a new person as an LADWP Liaison, LADWP will provide the name, telephone number, facsimile number, mailing address and e-mail address for each LADWP Liaison.
2. NOTIFICATION BY DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER.
- 2.1. LADWP will provide notification as soon as practical of all matters that it deems to be significant, or any matter that the Neighborhood Council Oversight Committee, after a majority vote of the Committee, has informed LADWP in writing is significant. The majority vote of the Neighborhood Council Oversight Committee shall stay in effect unless and until a majority of the Neighborhood Councils that have entered into this MOU take official action (as defined in Section 6.1) deeming the matter not significant. Among the purposes of notification by LADWP is permitting Neighborhood Councils to have input into decisions by LADWP and to monitor the

delivery of services by LADWP. A good faith effort will be made by both parties to abide by the timeframes in this MOU.

LADWP will provide notification as soon as practicable, but before the Board of Water and Power Commissioners (the "Board") adopts a major policy or program, or significant changes in an existing major policy or program.

- 2.2. Unless otherwise specified below, LADWP will provide notification to all of the following recipients:
 - 2.2.1. The President/Chair of each Neighborhood Council, as determined by the Roster of Neighborhood Councils maintained and published by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment ("DONE"); and
 - 2.2.2. Any Neighborhood Council member who requests to receive notification by signing-up on the LADWP Neighborhood Council list server and
 - 2.2.3. The Neighborhood Council Representative designated pursuant to section 5.1 of this MOU.
- 2.3. LADWP shall provide notification through one or more of the following methods;
 - 2.3.1. Electronic mail;
 - 2.3.2. U.S. mail;
 - 2.3.3. Facsimile; or
 - 2.3.4. Posting of material on LADWP website with a link sent to recipients identified in Section 2.2 above.
 - 2.3.5. When LADWP provides notification by electronic mail, LADWP will use its best efforts to satisfy requests for notification by an alternate means, including U.S. mail, to persons who do not have access to e-mail or who are unable to download attachments to e-mail messages.
- 2.4. LADWP will use its best efforts to provide notification concerning the following documents not less than 90 days before they are finalized by LADWP:
 - 2.4.1. Ten-Year Capital Improvement Program. Every two or three years, the LADWP Water Services prepares a document entitled "Ten Year Capital Improvement Program." LADWP will use its best efforts to provide Neighborhood Councils

with opportunity to have input into this document before it is finalized.

2.4.2. Urban Water Management Plan. LADWP will use its best efforts to provide Neighborhood Councils with notice of public workshops relating to an Urban Management Plan as soon as they are scheduled.

2.4.3. LADWP Power System 10-year Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).

2.4.4. LADWP Power System Operations Business Plan that looks at near-term and long-term goals and objectives for replacing or upgrading aging distribution and transmission equipment and load growth improvements.

2.5. Local Issues

2.5.1 LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils recognize that many issues regarding LADWP services will be specific to individual neighborhoods. For such local issues, the Neighborhood Council Representatives will contact their LADWP Liason.

2.5.2 The LADWP Liason will direct the Neighborhood Council inquiry to the appropriate person or division within LADWP.

2.5.3 LADWP will use its best efforts to provide a response as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours after the inquiry is made.

2.5.4 If LADWP is unable to provide a substantive response within 48 hours, LADWP will use its best efforts to provide the Neighborhood Council with a status report every 14 days until a substantive response can be provided.

2.5.5 If provided five (5) working days' notice, LADWP will use its best efforts to send a knowledgeable representative to attend a meeting of a Neighborhood Council, or a meeting of a committee of a Neighborhood Council, regarding service issues. If LADWP is not provided with five (5) working days' notice, LADWP will make its best efforts to accommodate requests that an LADWP representative attend a meeting.

2.5.6 LADWP may prepare an oral or written periodic report for each planning district that identifies significant new

Neighborhood Council issues or concerns as soon as practical.

2.6. Planned Significant Projects within the City of Los Angeles

2.6.1. Significant Projects: LADWF will use its best efforts to provide notification of Significant Projects 90 days prior to the commencement of work to be constructed within the City of Los Angeles. For purposes of this subsection, "Significant Projects" is defined as those projects, programs and activities that would require either an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and excludes programs, projects and activities that would qualify for either a simple negative declaration or a categorical exemption.

2.6.2. Closing of Streets: LADWP will use its best efforts to notify the affected Neighborhood Councils when LADWP applies for an excavation permit that will involve the closing or partial closing of streets for 48 hours or more.

2.7. Unplanned Major Disruption of Services Lasting Four (4) Hours Or More:

2.7.1. Where there is an unplanned major disruption of services lasting four hours or more, LADWP will use its best efforts to notify the Neighborhood Council(s) in the affected area within two working days after the event/occurrence that caused the disruption of service.

2.8. Major Customer Programs: LADWP will use its best efforts to provide reasonable notification of changes or creation of Major Customer Programs. This includes, but is not limited to significant changes to customer programs such as "Green Power," renewable energy programs, water recycling programs, conservation programs etc.

2.9. The LADWP Budget Process

2.9.1. LADWP will use its best efforts to provide Neighborhood Councils with notification relating to the development of its annual budget at the same time as LADWP provides notification to other reviewing agencies, boards or bodies, including but not limited to the Board or City Council. In

addition, LADWP will use its best efforts to provide specific notification to Neighborhood Councils as follows:

2.9.2. Stage One: Fall Budget Workshop.

2.9.2.1. In October or November of each year, LADWP will hold a Neighborhood Council Budget Workshop at a time and location designed to be convenient for as many Neighborhood Council members as possible.

2.9.2.2. At the Fall Budget Workshop, LADWP will present information to Neighborhood Councils regarding the multi-year financial plans and the adopted budgets for the current fiscal year. LADWP will use its best efforts to provide notification of the Fall budget Workshop 60 days before the workshop is scheduled to take place.

2.9.3. Stage Two: Winter Budget Workshop:

2.9.3.1. In January or February of each year, LADWP will host a Neighborhood Council Budget Workshop at a time and location designed to be convenient for as many Neighborhood Council members as possible.

2.9.3.2. At the Winter Budget Workshop, LADWP will provide further clarifications to any questions from the Neighborhood Councils regarding the upcoming fiscal year's budget, based upon the information provided at the Fall Budget Workshop. LADWP will use its best efforts to provide notification of the Winter Budget Workshop 30 days before the workshop is scheduled to take place. Neighborhood Councils will provide a written response to LADWP that includes, but is not limited to comments, suggestions, and/or objections for consideration in the development of the upcoming fiscal year's budget 60 days after the Fall Budget Workshop.

2.9.4. Draft Budget for Upcoming Fiscal Year. When materials for the upcoming fiscal year draft budgets are posted for review (generally scheduled in May or June of each year) on LADWP'S website, LADWP will use its best efforts to provide

notification to the Neighborhood Councils. The website will also contain the time and meeting location for the Board's Draft Budget and Financial Plans Review. It is LADWP's policy to post matters for review as soon as they are completed.

2.10 Rate Action

- 2.10.1 For the purposes of this section, "Rate Action" is defined to include changes in the rates, rate formulas, rate structures or rate tiers that must be approved by the City Council by ordinance and are used by LADWP in calculating the amount billed or charged to any residential or non-residential retail business customer. For example, this section does not include new business service rates, special contract rates, wholesale electric pricing, transmission pricing, special service contracts, outdoor area lighting rates, or other special fees that are not applicable by tariff. For purposes of this section, "outdoor area lighting rates" means lighting that retail customers wish to add to their property, and does not mean street lighting.
- 2.10.2 LADWP will use its best efforts to provide notification of any proposed Rate Action ninety (90) days before the proposed rate action is submitted to the Board. Such notification will include the Rate Action and upon request copies of the supporting documentation provided to the Board and the City Council for consideration.
- 2.10.3 LADWP will use its best efforts to provide seven (7) days' notice of any meeting at which the Board is scheduled to take action on a proposed rate action.

3. EDUCATION

- 3.1. LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils intend for the education component of these Guidelines to be a reciprocal, shared, joint and mutual process. It is essential that the Neighborhood Councils have as full and complete an understanding as possible of how LADWP operates. The Neighborhood Councils shall offer LADWP a method for making information available to Neighborhood Council stakeholders.
- 3.2. LADWP may publish a monthly electronic newsletter focused on Neighborhood Council issues as they relate to LADWP. LADWP welcomes input from Neighborhood Councils on the content and

focus of the newsletter. LADWP shall also make the newsletter available on the LADWP website.

3.3. LADWP Liaisons will educate Neighborhood Councils regarding the organization and workings of LADWP.

3.3.1. This could include such matters as the responsibilities of Water Services and Power Services and information relating to existing major policies or programs.

3.3.2. LADWP may provide such education through workshops, participation in Neighborhood Council Congresses, presentations at Neighborhood Council meetings, and distribution of written materials.

3.4. LADWP will use its best efforts to accommodate requests by Neighborhood Councils for speakers at Neighborhood Council meetings and events to make presentations on areas of interest. Topics to be covered may include the following local as well as city-wide issues, including but not limited to:

- Urban Water Management Plans
- Renewable Portfolio Standard
- Power Integrated Resource Management Plan
- Water Services' Ten-Year Capital Budget
- Greening of Transmission Right of Ways
- Overhead/Underground Conversion of Power Facilities
- Water and Electric Rates
- Recycled Water Development
- Water Conservation
- Energy Efficiency Programs
- Water Quality Issues
- Security Issues
- Recreational Use of LADWP Facilities
- Tree Planting Program

3.5. Channel 35: LADWP will make use of Channel 35, including broadcasting all meetings of the Board and broadcasting informational programs.

3.6. LADWP Legislative Priorities. The activities of LADWP are governed by numerous federal, state and local statutes and regulations. Neighborhood Councils will be provided information relating to proposed changes to statutes and regulations that may affect LADWP upon request

3.7. Educational Site Visits: LADWP may invite members of Neighborhood Councils or stakeholders to participate in site visits to LADWP facilities. LADWP will provide information about the site visits to Neighborhood Councils and/or other interested parties. These site visits may include but are not limited to the following facilities/locations:

3.7.1 Owens Valley: Including water collection and conveyance facilities, and some power facilities, along with presentations on significant policy issues.

3.7.2 In-City Water: Filtration Plant and other facilities and projects.

3.7.3 In-City Power: Scattergood Generating Station, Valley Generating Station; renewable generation facilities.

4. DELIVERY OF SERVICES

4.1. Pursuant to section 909 of the Los Angeles City Charter, Neighborhood Councils shall monitor the delivery of City services in their respective areas and have periodic meetings with responsible officials of City departments, subject to their availability.

4.2. LADWP will hold an annual meeting with the Neighborhood councils in each of the seven Los Angeles planning areas to discuss delivery of services at a programmatic level.

4.2.1. At these meetings, LADWP will discuss planned maintenance programs, improvements in service, and improvements in infrastructure within the Planning Area.

4.2.2. At these meetings, Neighborhood Councils shall have the opportunity to bring any matters of concern to the attention of LADWP. LADWP shall not be obligated to respond to any matter that is in litigation, potential litigation, a security issue, and/or covered by any applicable privilege including, but not limited to the attorney-client privilege.

4.2.3. At these meetings, LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils shall review LADWP's priorities for work in the communities and may suggest adjustments as permitted by budgetary and reliability constraints.

4.2.4. As appropriate, LADWP will consider the results of these discussions in development of LADWP's capital

improvement program for future infrastructure improvements.

4.2.5. LADWP Power Systems will discuss reliability improvement projects and share information on various incentive programs available to customers for energy efficiency, solar, green power, water conservation, and outdoor area lighting.

4.3. Measurement of Delivery of Services:

4.3.1. LADWP will identify and provide to the Neighborhood Councils the standards it uses to measure its performance.

4.3.2. LADWP will identify and provide existing, readily-available, non-proprietary reports regarding LADWP's performance.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS WILL DO THE FOLLOWING:

5. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

5.1. Each Neighborhood Council shall designate a person as the point of contact for communications with LADWP. Each Neighborhood Council is responsible for determining how this person ("NC Representative") is designated.

5.2. Each Neighborhood Council will provide the name, mailing address, phone numbers(s) and e-mail address of its representative to the designated LADWP Liasons(s) that is responsible for interfacing with such Neighborhood Council. In order to assure good communication, updated contact information will be provided to the assigned LADWP Liason(s).

6. NOTIFICATION BY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS ON LADWP ISSUES:

6.1. LADWP will recognize official actions taken by Certified Neighborhood Councils. "Official Actions" are actions adopted by motion at a public meeting held in accordance with the requirements of the Brown Act.

6.2. If a Neighborhood Council, or a committee of a Neighborhood Council, intends to include on any meeting agenda any matter relating to LADWP, that Neighborhood Council shall provide 14 days notice to LADWP before the Neighborhood Council, or committee of a Neighborhood Council, takes any official action on that matter.

6.3. At the meeting, LADWP will request the opportunity to present LADWP's position on the matter raised by the Neighborhood Council, including giving an LADWP representative a reasonable amount of time to make a presentation.

7. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL RESPONSE TO LADWP NOTIFICATIONS:

7.1. The purpose of many of the LADWP notifications described in Section 2 above is to give Neighborhood Councils the opportunity to provide input before decisions are made by LADWP. In reciprocation, the Neighborhood Councils will use their best efforts to provide this input to LADWP in a timely manner, so that LADWP may consider their input. The President of the Neighborhood Council or his/her authorized representative will give said notifications after a vote by the Neighborhood Council approving the position of the Neighborhood Council. This notification shall be forwarded to the General Manager for consideration.

7.2. Where LADWP has provided the Neighborhood Councils with notification pursuant to any of section of this MOU, each Neighborhood Council will make its best efforts to provide written input to LADWP within 60 days after receipt, unless otherwise provided by this MOU.

7.3. Neighborhood Councils also can monitor LADWP's provision of services on a citywide level through the Neighborhood Council's participation in the annual budget process and development of other long-term plans, discussed in section 2, above.

8. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS' LADWP OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:

8.1. Each Neighborhood Council will independently decide whether to enter into this MOU. Due to the large number of Neighborhood Councils, it will be impractical for each Neighborhood Council to separately negotiate any modifications to the MOU with LADWP, and for LADWP to separately negotiate modifications with each Neighborhood Council. For this reason, each Neighborhood Council that enters into the MOU will be asked to separately agree to the appointment of a Neighborhood Councils' LADWP Oversight Committee.

8.2. The members of the Neighborhood Councils' LADWP Oversight Committee shall be selected by the NC Representatives from each of the Neighborhood Councils that enter into the MOU.

- 8.3. Although DWP respects the right of each Neighborhood Council to decide whether or not to sign this MOU, LADWP supports a single MOU. LADWP will make information available to all Neighborhood Councils on its website, regardless of whether they have signed this MOU

GENERAL PROVISIONS

9. MODIFICATION OF MOU:

- 9.1. The MOU may be modified in writing by mutual agreement by the Board of Water and Power Commissioners and each Neighborhood Council. Either LADWP or the Neighborhood Councils' LADWP Oversight Committee may propose amendments. Both LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils' LADWP Oversight Committee agree to meet with each other within sixty days (60) after a modification to this MOU has been requested in writing.

10. DURATION OF MOU

- 10.1. This MOU shall expire two (2) years after it is first executed by LADWP, or earlier upon the effective date of an ordinance passed by the Los Angeles City Council that establishes different or amended regulations for Neighborhood Councils which are inconsistent with the terms of this MOU.
- 10.2. This MOU can be extended in writing by mutual agreement of the parties. With the passage of time and use of this MOU, it is anticipated that the provisions of this MOU will be modified and extended to enhance effective communication between the parties.

11. STATEMENT REGARDING BEST EFFORTS.

- 11.1. While this MOU contains non-binding compliance dates, both LADWP and the Neighborhood Councils pledge to make their best efforts to comply with all of the provisions of the MOU. Both parties recognize that no cause of action can arise by the failure of either party to comply with any provision of this MOU. This MOU shall not establish any rights for any third party that is not a signatory to this MOU.

12. EMERGENCY

- 12.1. If an emergency is declared by the General Manager, the Board of Water and Power Commissioners or the City Council, all obligations

under this agreement shall be suspended for until the emergency is over.

This MOU contains the full and final agreement of the parties. Each party was represented by legal counsel during the negotiation and execution of this MOU.

This MOU was executed in the City of Los Angeles, California by the parties and on the dates set forth below:

Date: _____

DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER OF
THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
BY

BOARD OF WATER AND POWER
COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF
LOS ANGELES

RONALD F. DEATON,
General Manager

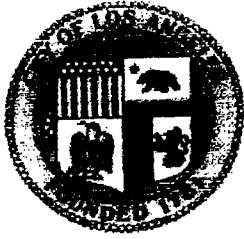
and

Secretary of the Board of Water and
Power Commissioners

Date _____

[signature]

[Name of Neighborhood Council]



City of Los Angeles
Neighborhood Council
Official Board Action

INTRA-CITY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CERTIFIED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS AND DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER

OFFICIAL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL SIGNATURE PAGE

The MOU to which this signature page is attached contains the full and final agreement of the two entities of the City of Los Angeles: the Department of Water and Power and Certified Neighborhood Councils. Each party was represented by legal counsel during the negotiation and execution of this MOU.

This MOU was executed in the City of Los Angeles, California by the parties and on the dates set below:

Date: _____

Neighborhood Council: _____

Signed: _____
(President or Authorized Signatory)

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, there are numerous Certified Neighborhood Councils (Neighborhood Councils) and it is more efficient for Neighborhood Councils to have a single point of contact with the Department of Water and Power (LADWP) relative to modifications to the Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") it has entered into with Neighborhood Councils; and

WHEREAS, the single point of contact designated by each Neighborhood Council shall be referred to as the Neighborhood Council Oversight Committee (Oversight Committee); and

WHEREAS, each Neighborhood Council may elect to delegate its authority to make modifications to the MOU to the Oversight Committee; and

WHEREAS, DWP recognizes that some Neighborhood Councils may choose not to sign the MOU and would rather interact directly with LADWP;

THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Each Neighborhood Council that agrees to delegate its authority to the Oversight Committee may designate one representative to serve on such Oversight Committee (Oversight Committee Representative).
2. The Oversight Committee Representative shall have the delegated authority from its Neighborhood Council to vote at Oversight Committee meetings on its behalf on any matter that relates to such Neighborhood Council, including but not limited to amendments to the MOU. The Oversight Committee Representative shall be designated in writing to LADWP, and may be changed at any time pursuant to the bylaws of the Neighborhood Council.
3. Each Neighborhood Council signing this delegation of authority shall be bound by a majority vote of the Oversight Committee.
4. Neighborhood Councils that choose not to sign this delegation of authority shall not be bound by any actions of the Oversight Committee.
5. This delegation of authority shall remain in effect until terminated on 30 days written notice by the Neighborhood Council to the Oversight Committee and LADWP.

The Department of Water and Power consents to this delegation of authority.

DATED:

Ronald F. Deaton,
General Manager



City of Los Angeles
Neighborhood Council
Official Board Action

**APPOINTMENT OF "NC REPRESENTATIVE" AND
 MEMBER OF OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
 UNDER LADWP-NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MOU**

The Neighborhood Council whose name appears below hereby appoints the following person(s) as its NC Representative and as its member of the Oversight Committee under the LADWP-Neighborhood Council MOU and the Delegation of Authority.

Name of Neighborhood Council: _____

Name of NC Representative: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Name of Member of Oversight Committee (if different): _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Date: _____

Neighborhood Council: _____

Signed: _____
 (President or Authorized Signatory)

Subject: This is Mona's motion to add to your April Admin packet
Date: Tue, 12 Apr 2005 12:48:45 -0700
Thread-Topic: This is Mona's motion to add to your April Admin packet
Thread-Index: AcU4trAA8Pvx29zsT+SSiWchwP2IVQBYnGxQAV/SzsA=
From: "Stone, Louise" <Louise.Stone@mto.com>
To: undisclosed-recipients::;

*New Business
2*

-----Original Message-----

From: McAlpine, Ken [mailto:Ken.McAlpine@lincoln.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2005 12:56 PM
To: mona_curry@yahoo.com; Ava Wrightsman
Cc: Robin; Peter Babaian; Stone, Louise
Subject: RE: Motion for the April Agenda - Outreach

Mona,

Please specify in the motion how many events, not just that each is not to exceed a certain amount, but how many events is max. Also, for supplemental materials, please let us know how much is in the Outreach budget for the remainder of the year, and how much of that remainder is consumed by the items in this motion.

Thanks,

-Ken

Ken McAlpine

-----Original Message-----

From: mona_curry@yahoo.com [mailto:mona_curry@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 03, 2005 6:36 PM
To: Ava Wrightsman
Cc: Robin; McAlpine, Ken; Peter Babaian; stonelc@mto.com
Subject: Motion for the April Agenda - Outreach

Thank you Ava.

The following is a motion that I would like on the April agenda:

I move that the STNC support the purchase of items needed to facilitate the Outreach Committees goal of marketing to the community. Cost not to exceed \$300.00 for shirts, \$250 for lanyards, \$200 for pens and \$500.00 for miscellaneous items and that the STNC support the Outreach Committee's participation at various local events not to exceed \$350 for miscellaneous costs per event.

There is no supplemental material at this point and the Motion explains itself. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Mona

35

DRAFT ONLY – 2nd version
(For review and approval by the STNC Board at the 4/13/05 meeting)

Date: April 13, 2005

To: Members of the Los Angeles City Council

From: Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

Re: Council File #05-0575 - Non-Community Impact Statements;
Endorsement of Silver Lake Neighborhood Council's positions and
motion to the City Council

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC) is in full support of the positions and recommendations of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, as stated in their March 3, 2005 letter to the City Council regarding the need for local discretion in approving land use entitlements, and as stated in their April 8, 2005 letter to the Education & Neighborhoods Committee.

A. Land Use Issues and City Planning Reform:

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC) is in full support of the position and recommendations of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, as stated in their March 3, 2005 letter to the City Council regarding the need for local discretion in approving land use entitlements. Specifically –

- 1) The STNC wholeheartedly endorses Silver Lake's "Statement of Beliefs Regarding Local Discretion in Matters of Planning & Land Use".
 - a. The Silver Lake NC's eight statements of belief articulate the duty of City officials as "stewards of the public trust", and the need for reform of the City Planning process to include a respectful partnership between City Planning and local communities. This is critically and immediately needed.
 - b. The STNC has taken a similar stand with our initiative - Sunland-Tujunga VISION 2020 - which calls for proactive collaboration among all stakeholders, in advance of decision-making, to ensure Community planning is done for the best interests of all.
- 2) We also agree with the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council's four main recommendations regarding CEQA, including the recommendation that the City Counsel should immediately –

OPPOSE any measure calling for changes to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) which would lessen local discretion.

**B. Empowerment of Neighborhood Councils;
Council File #05-0575 – Non-Community Impact Statements:**

In addition, the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council supports the actions taken by the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council after discovering that their March 3rd letter could not be addressed by City Council since there is *no City mechanism for neighborhood councils to proactively advise the City Council by originating a policy recommendation*.

As the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council has explained, this administrative gap restricts the Neighborhood Councils to a reactive position on all issues rather than a proactive one. Therefore, the Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council fully supports Silver Lake's recommendation to close this administrative gap, and supports their motion which states in part:

"I therefore move that the City Council adopt, by resolution, that any official position that is received by a neighborhood council with an elected governing board which calls for the City Council to take action, such as approving an ordinance or adopting a policy, be referred to the City Clerk and the President of the City Council in the same manner that communications from City departments and other City entities are referred."

Fortunately, due to the support of neighborhood councils for Silver Lake's actions, progress was made and the City Clerk issued a report to the City Council and set up Council File #05-0575. However, several administrative challenges still need to be overcome.

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council further agrees with the position stated in Silver Lake Neighborhood Council's letter dated April 8, 2005 to the Education & Neighborhoods Committee, including the following:

"We believe that the purpose of Charter Reform was to open a closed bureaucracy and introduce a new era in City governance. If this is to be accomplished, neighborhood councils must have the ability to participate like any other Chartered city agency. This includes the ability to raise issues which, for whatever reason, have gone unaddressed by the Council.

The STNC also agrees with Silver Lake NC that the City Clerk's recommendation that the City Attorney weigh in on this issue is unnecessary, since it is a purely administrative matter and not a legal issue. In order to make bureaucracy more flexible, administrative procedures must change and allow for the elevation of critical issues up from the community level – proactively.

This is not a legal question. It is a matter of the City Council recognizing that Neighborhood Councils are the eyes, ears and energy of needed local change.

Neighborhood Councils can and will literally save the City and its taxpayers time and money when we are empowered to elevate critical issues in a proactive process, instead of being confined by the current administrative parameters of reaction.

The City Planning process is perhaps the most important arena where proactive collaboration with Neighborhood Councils – in advance of decisions – can transform a wasteful, adversarial process into a partnership among stakeholders. We know this is a tough goal to achieve – but let's begin now by removing the administrative barriers which stand in the way.

Thank you for your support of the essential role of Neighborhood Councils to proactively improve the City Planning process and other City functions for the benefit of all in Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Ken McAlpine, Chair

Cc: Frank Martinez, City Clerk
Jason Lynn, Co-Chair Governing Board
Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

Enclosures: Silver Lake Neighborhood Council's letters dated March 3, 2005 to the Los Angeles City Council, and dated April 8, 2005 to the Education & Neighborhoods Committee.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

SILVER LAKE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
OFFICERS

Roberto Haraldson
Jason Lyon
CO-CHAIRS
Michael Locke
VICE-CHAIR
Laura Dwan
TREASURER
Gena Nason
SECRETARY



SILVER LAKE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
2898 Rowena Avenue, Suite 101
Los Angeles, CA. 90039
TELEPHONE: (323) 661-SLNC (7562)
FAX: (323) 661-7564

March 3, 2005

Los Angeles City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

To the Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

Los Angeles is a city of great – indeed, world-renowned – neighborhoods, each with its own unique personality. From the creativity and diversity of Silver Lake to the stately grandeur of Brentwood, the character of our local communities has always been, and must continue to be, determined by those who live and work there. It is this premise that underscores the following *Statement of Beliefs Regarding Local Discretion in Matters of Planning & Land Use*, adopted by the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Governing Board at its Regular Meeting of March 2, 2005.

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council respects the rights of property owners. At the same time, we are sensitive to the concerns of the neighbors who must live with the consequences of a particular development.

We believe that our stakeholders are often better suited to determine the course of future development in Silver Lake than even the most skilled City Planner who does not have a personal stake in the community, and that Community Plans must be created in a partnership between Planning staff and local residents.

We believe that a community at large can be trusted to consider the greater good as well as the more immediate risks and benefits.

We believe there can be a reasonable balance between the often competing needs of commercial developers and local residents' interests.

We believe that our quality of life must not be subject to the unfettered will of the highest bidder.

We believe that so-called entitlement actions must be subject to discretionary review when public demand for such review reaches a critical mass.

We believe that our elected and appointed officials are stewards of the public trust. It is incumbent upon them to listen and respond to the concerns of our stakeholders.

We encourage partnership between the Planning Department and Neighborhood Councils in recognition of local discretion.

* * *

Current City Planning policies designate clear parameters for land use and the precise circumstances under which these parameters may be altered. Chief among these is the distinction between *discretionary* actions and those to which a developer or property owner is entitled *by right*.

It is the contention of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, and of the many constituents who have come before us on this and other land use issues, that there can be no *absolute* entitlements in a rational urban plan. No Community Plan can possibly envision and account for every possible scenario. Therefore, there must be a mechanism by which even entitlement processes become subject to greater scrutiny when public opposition reveals potentially harmful consequences of the project, and reaches a critical mass. It is not our belief that such opposition must necessarily prevent the development outright, but it must, at a minimum, trigger further inquiry. When the majority of a community tells its elected and appointed leaders that the impact of a development is potentially damaging to a community, it is incumbent upon those leaders to listen and respond, even if the development fails to appear problematic "on paper." In such cases, an environmental assessment is warranted, despite the absence of any predefined risk factors.

Admittedly, defining what level of public opposition constitutes a "critical mass" is a difficult question, and will require further study. The threshold we envision may be high enough that development in Los Angeles is not brought to a grinding halt by interests with a narrow agenda, yet must be low enough that it is reasonably attainable in the average community

Therefore, the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council respectfully requests that the Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council adopt the following recommendations:

1. **That the Council, with the concurrence of the Mayor, include in its state legislative agenda OPPOSITION to any measure which would weaken the current California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) standards for review of new housing developments – specifically, an increase in the minimum number of units requiring an environmental impact review.**
2. That the Council instruct the City Attorney, the Department of City Planning and other relevant departments to report within 60 days on recommendations for expanding City CEQA guidelines to include a "trigger" which converts entitlement processes to discretionary actions when there is a high level of local public opposition;
3. That such recommendations be adopted promptly and applied to all developments which have not begun construction as of that date; and
4. That the Council, in the event that such an ordinance would violate state CEQA standards, use its considerable lobbying power to advocate for a change in the law which would increase, rather than undermine, local discretion and public interest.

We acknowledge and applaud Silver Lake's Councilmembers, the Honorable Tom LaBonge and the Honorable Eric Garcetti, for their ongoing efforts on behalf of our stakeholders, and we encourage the entire Council to consider and adopt these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Jason Lyon
Co-Chair
Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

CC: The Honorable James K. Hahn, Mayor of Los Angeles
The Honorable Rockard J. Delgadillo, Los Angeles City Attorney
Con Howe, General Manager, Department of City Planning
Greg Nelson, General Manager, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Stone, Louise

From: Jason Lyon [lyon@silverlakenc.org]
Sent: Friday, April 01, 2005 6:09 PM
To: Jason Lyon
Subject: We Made Some Progress - THANK YOU

Fellow Los Angeles Neighborhood Councilmembers-

The City Clerk issued the attached Report to the City Council this afternoon in response to your calls and emails. **Thank you for standing up for neighborhood empowerment.**

Now, please take the next crucial step and place this item on your Board's agenda as soon as possible. If you agree that **Neighborhood Councils must have the ability to proactively advise the City Council**, please issue a Community Impact Statement on Council File #05-0575 as soon as possible. I am hopeful that the matter will be taken up in the Education & Neighborhoods Committee soon. (If you are unfamiliar with the Community Impact Statement system, please contact Jacqueline Mendez at DONE<jmendez@mailbox.lacity.org> and she can walk you through the procedure.)

Thank you for your support and hard work on behalf of all our stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Jason Lyon

--

Jason Lyon

Co-Chair, Governing Board*

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

2898 Rowena Ave. Suite 101
Los Angeles, CA 90039
323/661-SLNC (7562)
Fax 323/661-7564
<http://www.silverlakenc.org>
<http://www.jasonlyon.com/slnc>

*For identification purposes only.
Not an official communication of the
Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

4/11/2005

42

New Business # 5

I move that the STNC send a letter to the candidates for Mayor of the City of Los Angeles asking for their positions on issues important to the Sunland-Tujunga community as follows:

Dear Candidates,

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council requests that you forward your positions on the following issues:

1. Planning Commission Reform: The experience of the STNC with the Planning Commission has led us to conclude that the Planning Commission has made decisions in a secret and arbitrary manner without regard for community concerns. They have ignored the community's well thought out and professionally presented questions and recommendations. They have overturned the decisions of their own hearing officers without explanation and apparently have no accountability to the people of the City.

Therefore, what would you do, if elected, to reform the Planning Commission?

2. Oak Tree Protection ordinance: Currently the City's Oak tree protection extends only to lots larger than one acre. Our community loses Oak Trees every month that have taken hundreds of years to grow. Developers are actually pleased to find out that Tujunga is part of Los Angeles and not other surrounding cities as that makes it much easier for them to cut them down.

What is your position on strengthening the Oak Tree Ordinance?

Thank you for your prompt reply.

New Business #6

Stone, Louise

Subject: FW: FW: April program

-----Original Message-----

From: I lynn [mailto:llkkatiebug@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2005 3:46 PM
To: Stone, Louise
Subject: RE: FW: April program

I move to send a follow up letter to Wendy in response to the Feb. 24th hearing regarding the whitebird/canyonhills project and slope density. Would like to cc it to Laura Chick.

DRAFT ONLY

Draft

Re: response to Public meeting file 242005 February 24 2005
And STNC letter sent to Planning Commission March 11, 2005

To: ««GreetingLine»»

Cc: PLUM committee members:
Councilmember ED Reyes
Councilmember Tony Cardenas
Councilmember Jack Weiss
Mayor James Hahn
Laura Chick, Controller
Supervisor Mike Antonovich
Congressman Brad Sherman
Congressman Adam Schiff

Case NO: CPC 2004-4344 GPA/ZC
VTM No. 61672-1A
CEQA: EIR 2002-2481
Location: 7000-8000 La Tuna Canyon
Plan Area: Sunland-Tujunga Lakeview Terrace-Shadow Hills-East La Tuna Canyon

Dear Wendy,

The outcome of this meeting was to allow 230 homes all on the north side of Whitebird's development. Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council would like to express our dissatisfaction with the City Planning Department and Planning Commissions disregard for Sunland Tujunga's request that the Slope Density Ordinance be followed and adhered to along with the City General Plan, the Community Plan, the zoning and the Scenic Corridor Plan. In addition a previous letter sent to the Los Angeles City Planning Commission was not addressed and our direct questions received no response. As a reminder per the charter our mandate as

NC's is to monitor and assess the quality of the Departments (Planning included) and the services they provide. As you are aware the Slope density ordinance 162144 requires that the study be based at no more than 25 foot contours at 1" = 100' or 200' (appropriate scale for accuracy). By this requirement we feel the ordinance establishes the accuracy and reliability expected in making these determinations and the professional product of a professional engineer. The ordinance limits the interval to 25 feet to reasonably represent the ground.

It is long been common knowledge that Whitebird/Canyonhills used a USGS map at 40-foot intervals with their engineer interpolating to 25 feet. It doesn't matter if it was interpolated at 5' contours it is still a 40 foot contour map. Jack Rubin also stated it in open forum, counsel for Whitebird, that it was City Planning who advised this method on how to conduct the slope density study submitted by Whitebird.

Also you have been presented with information stating that both United States Geological Survey and the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

have both stated that a 40-foot contour map is not accurate enough for such an analysis. Bill Eich pointed out to the commission that the density calculations performed by Whitebird were incorrect which Commissioner Thomas Schiff acknowledged. It was acknowledged by the city that by applying the .05 entitlements to each sub area the negative values were ignored and replaced with positive values, as if the steeper of the slopes just simply did not exist. This study resulted in finding significantly more housing than would be found if the ordinance was followed correctly.

An independent study was conducted by Don Keene and Associates a civil engineer and surveyor. Mr. Keene has prepared a study based on the City Ordinance 162144 using the Los Angeles city Series M574 topographic maps. Given that these maps do exist by the city there was no need for Whitebird to resort to the USGS 40 foot maps except to try to beat the SD ordinance. Summing the 25-foot interval contours and applying the slope equation, the average slope is 55%. The Density equation therefore yields a final figure of minis 0.14 dwelling units, which says the hills are too steep to build a major subdivision. The Alternative is to resort to the .05 entitlement factor, times the gross acreage, which yield 45 units, which the developer is entitled to build.

The practices by the city to purposefully circumvent the Slope Density Ordinance in order to gain more housing are the elements with which the community is greatly concerned and rightfully angry. This not only affects our current situation with the whitebird project but every other similar project within our district and every other district as well. This is a citywide issue. These practices undermine the communities and the neighborhoods that have worked so hard, with the city, to implement such ordinances. The foothill communities faced with the current questionable practices of the City Planning Department with intent will suffer continuous loss of hillsides, over growth, grid lock such as Santa Clarita, slope failure, loss of homes and life.

There is no community value in over riding the Slope Density Ordinance changing our zoning, city and community plans to profit one developer. There is no reason to gift a developer whose allowable building right is 45 homes a bonus of 230 homes. This severely impacts and undermines our community on this project alone and portends, by precedence, other such egregious projects approved by the City Planning Department with deception in the future.

Wendy we request that you very carefully look at the City Planning Department and these practices and support our community in our struggle to ask them to adhere to the laws. If the laws and ordinances are followed as is without change there is no takings. Regardless of the change in zoning that now allows Whitebird to not be accountable to the slope density, these intended practices by the planning department cannot continue.

In Closing: if the planning department continues to over build in our hills there is NO TURNING BACK these hills are gone forever. Damage is done. In addition there is a huge failure to fulfill their big picture responsibilities that extend far beyond the needs or want of any individual developer. Where are the needed transportation systems? To ignore these issues is to completely abandon their responsibilities and succumb to single-minded excuse of "any housing at any cost". Quality of life in the Los Angeles basin has already reached near crisis levels and without proper infrastructure and planning we continue to add to an already grid locked freeway and local system. The over building of Santa Clarita has already made every freeway artery into the valley immovable during rush hour traffic. A community consists of more than just endless housing it should have places to play and ways to enjoy the world around us. Our laws and ordinances insure such ideas not deals and trades made with developers.

Thank you in advance, STNC

Cindy Montañez
39th state assembly district

car buyer's
bill of rights
(AB-68)
education forum

save the date: april 21, 2005
at 7 PM

official flyer coming soon
call (818) 838-3939

Michael Cortez--Distict lead on AB-68

If you wish to be removed from my mailing list of legislation updates, e-newsletters, e-invitations, and other internet based communications email:

victor.cuevas@asm.ca.gov

47



THE HAHN PLAN: MORE POWER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

Four years ago, there were no Neighborhood Councils. Today there are 85, and they're transforming the way government works in Los Angeles. Power in Los Angeles is moving from City Hall to where it belongs – in our neighborhoods. I gave Neighborhood Councils a real voice in the city budget for the first time last year, and they, loudly and clearly, told me what they wanted. This year, we prioritized putting more cops on the street, increasing paramedic services and doubling the miles of street improvements. Neighborhood Councils have proven to be a powerful and needed voice in guiding the overall vision for Los Angeles. And Neighborhood Councils have used their \$50,000 budgets to directly impact their neighborhoods by buying school books, playground equipment, and radar guns for traffic officers. The experiment is working. Now, I am taking Neighborhood Councils to the next level by incorporating them in the day-to-day operations of our city to further improve our quality of life through:

- ★ Neighborhood Council Representation on Every City Commission
- ★ Neighborhood Council Involvement in Every General Manager Selection
- ★ Neighborhood Council Performance Review of Every City Department
- ★ Neighborhood Council Involvement in Every City Budget
- ★ Neighborhood Council Representation at Every Teamwork LA Meeting
- ★ Neighborhood Council Participation in the Eyes on the Neighborhood Program
- ★ Neighborhood Watch Training for Every Neighborhood Council
- ★ Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training for Every Neighborhood Council

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1314

Introduced by Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas

February 22, 2005

An act to add Section 54963.5 to the Government Code, relating to neighborhood councils.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1314, as introduced, Ridley-Thomas. Neighborhood councils: open meetings.

(1) Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, provides that the meetings of legislative bodies of local agencies shall be open and public and all persons shall be permitted to attend, with specified exceptions. For this purpose, a local agency includes any commission, committee, board, or other body of a local agency, whether decisionmaking or advisory, that is created by charter, ordinance, resolution, or other formal action of a legislative body.

Various provisions of local agency charters and local ordinances create or authorize neighborhood councils for the general purpose of enabling citizens to join together to discuss issues of local interest and providing a vehicle through which these citizens can communicate with local agencies.

This bill would provide that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Brown Act shall not apply to a neighborhood council that is community-based, comprised of volunteers who receive no stipend for service and have no assigned or paid staff, is primarily advisory, and has authority over no significant amount of public funds. It also would provide that, notwithstanding the inapplicability of the act, any meeting of a neighborhood council shall be open to the public, any member of the public shall be able to address the council during a

meeting on any item within its subject matter jurisdiction, and the council shall be required to post an agenda, as specified.

(2) Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would find that, in order for a neighborhood council that is community-based, comprised of volunteers, is primarily advisory, and has authority over no significant amount of public funds to operate without the costs and burdens associated with compliance of all aspects of the Ralph M. Brown Act, while still being subject to general requirements that its meetings be open to the public, that any member of the public shall be able to address the council, and that it post an agenda of its meetings, it is necessary that the act not apply to a neighborhood council.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 54963.5 is added to the Government
2 Code, to read:

3 54963.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
4 this chapter shall not apply to a neighborhood council that is
5 community-based, comprised of volunteers who receive no
6 stipend for service and have no assigned or paid staff, is
7 primarily advisory, and has authority over no significant amount
8 of public funds.

9 (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), any meeting held by a
10 council specified in subdivision (a) shall be open to the public
11 and any member of the public shall be able to address the council
12 during the meeting on any item within the subject matter
13 jurisdiction of the council. Notice of the meeting shall be posted
14 at an appropriate place accessible to the public, at least 72 hours
15 before the time set for the meeting. The notice shall specify the
16 date, time, and location of the meeting and contain an agenda
17 describing each item of business to be discussed or acted upon.
18 The council shall not take any action on any item of business
19 unless that item appeared on the posted agenda or unless the

1 council members present, by unanimous vote, find that there is a
2 need to take immediate action and that the need for action came
3 to the attention of the council subsequent to the posting of the
4 agenda. If a council violates the procedural meeting requirements
5 of this section and upon demand of any person, the council or
6 committee shall reconsider the item at its next meeting, after
7 allowing for public input on the item.

8 SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that Section 1 of
9 this act, which adds Section 54963.5 to the Government Code,
10 imposes a limitation on the public's right of access to the
11 meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and
12 agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the
13 California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision,
14 the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the
15 interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting
16 that interest.

17 In order for a neighborhood council that is community-based,
18 comprised of volunteers, is primarily advisory, and has authority
19 over no significant amount of public funds to operate without the
20 costs and burdens associated with compliance of all aspects of
21 the Ralph M. Brown Act, while still being subject to general
22 requirements that its meetings be open to the public, that any
23 member of the public be able to address the council, and that it
24 post an agenda of its meetings, it is necessary that Ralph M.
25 Brown Act not apply to a neighborhood council.

O

(51)

YAHOO! MAIL

Print - Close Window

Subject: FW: DONE: News 4-11-05
Date: Mon, 11 Apr 2005 18:14:45 -0700
From: "Stone, Louise" <Louise.Stone@mto.com>

-----Original Message-----

From: DONE [mailto:done@MAILBOX.LACITY.ORG]
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2005 5:48 PM
To: DONENEWS@LISTSERV.LACITY.ORG
Subject: DONE: News 4-11-05

Date: April 11, 2004
To: Neighborhood Council Leaders
From: Greg Nelson, General Manager, Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment
Subject: PERMITTING NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL "MOTIONS"? COOL IDEA #6 – CREATE A GIFT BOOK.

PERMITTING NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL "MOTIONS"?

And the hits just keep on coming! I realize that the list of new legislative issues may be coming too fast, but progress marches on.

If you go our home page, you will find a communication from the City Clerk to the City Council. The letter was generated after the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council wrote a letter to the City Clerk asking that an official City Council file be created regarding their request for the City Council to, among other things, take a position on a particular state legislative issue. They asked that their request be referred to a City Council committee just as is done with similar communications from city departments.

In his communication, the City Clerk has presented this policy issue to the City Council for further examination and clarification.

It is Council File 05-0575. It was referred to the Education and Neighborhoods Committee, but a time for its consideration has not yet been set.

COOL IDEA #6 – CREATE A GIFT BOOK.

Create a list of things that your Neighborhood Council needs, or things that the schools and organizations in your neighborhood need – tables, chairs, books, office space, the services of a carpenter, adults who will volunteer to keep an eye on the kids as they walk to and from school, whatever. Put the list on your website, give printed copies to businesses and others who want to help the people in your neighborhood. Give it to us and we'll post it on our website.

TO OPT OUT OF NEWSLETTER LIST:

If you would like to be removed from our newsletter list, click [here](#). Then enter your e-mail address, and click on Leave the List.

www.lacityneighborhoods.com done@mailbox.lacity.org 1 (866) LA HELPS

52