



# STUDIO CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Your Advocate for Studio City

January 2021

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## ANNUAL GENERAL ZOOM MEETING

January 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM for our virtual Annual General Meeting



Los Angeles City Attorney, Mike Feuer is the SCRA's Guest Speaker. Mike will be able to address the status of the City's lawsuit against the FAA regarding Airport noise over the Valley. He will also be able to talk about any progress or setbacks on homeless issues.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in Los Angeles in early March 2020, Mike has been a national leader in grappling with a broad array of issues, including price gouging, taking action against dangerous advertising claims about purported preventions, and has launched #BehindClosedDoors to help victims of domestic violence, child abuse and elder abuse.

### HOW TO RECEIVE A ZOOM INVITATION TO THE MEETING:

Email SCRA no later than January 8th at [ZoomMeeting@studiocityresidents.org](mailto:ZoomMeeting@studiocityresidents.org), and we will place you on the invitation list for this meeting. On the morning of the meeting, SCRA will email you an invitation link to attend this meeting on Zoom.

### PREPARING TO ATTEND THE MEETING:

We recommend that you download the Zoom app onto your device (computer, tablet, iPod, or smartphone) before the Community Meeting, as it can take a few minutes to do this and set up the app, so best to do so before the meeting. You need not sign up for a paid Zoom account to participate in the meeting. The app is available at [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) and through your device App store.

### JOINING THE MEETING:

When you click on the link provided, your device, or Zoom, may ask you to allow using the Zoom App, using your video, and using your audio. Allow these, then enter your name and email address as requested to join the meeting. There will also be instructions for joining by phone.

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## THANK YOU AND FAREWELL

Over its long history, the SCRA has been fortunate to have had many dedicated volunteers. We would like to thank and pay tribute to three office volunteers who have served us for a long time and are now retiring: Joie Felts, Carol Hill, and Susan King. We are grateful for your many years of service to the SCRA members and with your work on the frontlines.

SCRA's office workload continues and we are looking for office volunteers who can work out of our Studio City Office on Ventura Place, specifically on Thursday mornings from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. (Hours can be adjusted as needed.) The job includes answering the phone, forwarding messages and some light computer work. The volunteer should be familiar with Microsoft Word and Excel and have a basic knowledge of computer functions, Internet knowledge is not necessary. The computer work will involve updating membership statuses and making changes to members' addresses. We have an excellent Office Manager who will train the new volunteer and be available for any problem-solving. If you are interested, please email us at [SCRABoard@studiocityresidents.org](mailto:SCRABoard@studiocityresidents.org) or call the office at 818-509-0230.



**(Meeting, cont'd)**

As a meeting attendee, you will only watch and listen (your camera will be off, and your microphone muted). So, don't worry about anyone seeing you on-screen during the meeting.

**MEETING Q & A:**

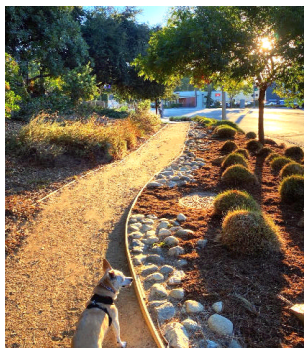
We hope to provide you the opportunity to ask questions for LA City Attorney Feuer to answer after his presentation. Look for more details on this in your invitation link email.

**BEAUTIFICATION UPDATE**  
**Meg McDonald Seltzer, SCBA President**

*Happy New Year from the Studio City Beautification Association and welcome to 2021 and the hope it brings for health and happiness.*

*We're happy to start off the first Beautification Update of the year with good news for you about SCBA's consulting partnership with the Studio City Business District (BID) to beautify the south side of Ventura in front of the Crown Media building. This Adopt-A-Median Project for the Fairway/Ventura Slope and Parkway has been officially approved by the city. Permits are on the way and discussion with LADWP about the water meter is in progress. We'll keep you posted.*

*Speaking of beautifying, the Oasis Pocket Park (across the street from Marshalls) got a major end of the year clean up and makeover with new mulch and Agave plants, newly pruned grasses, pathway patching, and a beautiful Coastal Live Oak tree. We thought you'd enjoy these two beauty shots showing off the newly cleaned up Oasis.*



*And we ran into a bit of a slow down on our road to getting approval from the city to adopt and beautify the Vineland Medians at Bluffsides and in front of The Garland. Turns out some of the forms have been revised since SCBA applied for the project which required us to submit new paperwork, which we did. Stay tuned.*

*It truly takes a team to keep Studio City looking beautiful. SCBA is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to the beautification and improvement of our community and we'd like to invite you to join our volunteer team. If you are interested please call the office (818) 509-0230 or send us an email at [studiocitybeautificationassoc@gmail.com](mailto:studiocitybeautificationassoc@gmail.com)*



*We are still living in a coronavirus pandemic world that keeps us apart. Stay safe. We are all in this together and when it's over we will see each other again in the neighborhood.*

**SCRA NOVEMBER VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETING WITH ASSEMBLYMEMBER ADRIN NAZARIAN**

Even though we were not able to assemble in person, the SCRA Community meeting with Assemblymember Nazarian was a success. The Assemblyman hopes to re-introduce a number of high-impact bills, including a comprehensive disaster preparedness bill, in the New Year.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced legislators to reduce the overall number of bills brought to a vote to better focus on protecting Californians from the virus. As chair of the Long Term Aging & Care Committee, the Assemblyman blocked a proposal from the Governor that would have cut more than \$40 million from senior services including Aging & Disability Centers and Meals on Wheels.

The following bills introduced by our ASM were passed. AB 1981 - Extends LAUSD's Best Value Procurement program by another five years so the state can continue to evaluate this cost-saving measure as a model for other school districts.

AB 2199 - Plasma Testing Tissue - Extends authorization for plasma collection in clinical labs to a broader range of qualified individuals, particularly important for enabling rapid study of the COVID-19 virus in clinical environments.

AB 2275 - Provides greater powers to cities using state armories as homeless shelters by eliminating a statutory barrier and requiring cities to notify law enforcement when armory sites are designated as shelters. This bill makes it easier for cities to get unhoused individuals off the street and into shelter spaces.

AB 2821 - Extends the period within which the state Parkinson's disease Program (PDP) may gather data with already-allocated funds. The PDP provides critical information to the Department of Public Health to track the impact of Parkinson's disease and allocate resources to Parkinson's research and treatment efforts.

**WORD ON THE STREET IS THAT SPORTSMEN'S LODGE IS TO BE DEMOLISHED**



To date, no application has been filed with the Planning Dept. The owners have floated a proposal to demolish the hotel and then build over 500 apartment units with mixed-use retail, a seven-story high building, and three stories of 1300 underground parking spaces. Also included is improved access to the south riverbank at Coldwater, installation of stoplights at Goodland and Ventura, and at Valleyheart and Coldwater. SCRA is closely following this proposal.



# RIDGELINE ORDINANCE - STOP BUILDING ON TOP OF OUR MOUNTAINS

For over a decade, activists have been working to create a ridgeline ordinance that would curtail buildings being built on the top of Los Angeles' mountains.

Councilmember Paul Koretz has taken the lead on this issue by introducing and passing CF11-1441 causing the Planning Department to collect community input to create a Ridgeline Ordinance called Supplemental Use District (SUD). Once the ordinance language is established there will be a pilot program in Hollywood Hill on the Hollywood side from Laurel Canyon to the 405 Frwy. All other areas must request the SUD to be written into their Community Plan update.

The object of the SUD is to protect what is left of our ridgelines from grading and to keep the views of the ridgelines that have not yet been disturbed. The process, going forward, is for planning to incorporate community input from the November 20th workshop, and move to the next public hearing. To be placed on the notification list send an email to Patrick Whalen at [patrick.whalen@lacity.org](mailto:patrick.whalen@lacity.org). Subject: Ridgeline Ordinance CF 11-1441.

# HILTON UNIVERSAL EXPANSION CASE NUMBER: ENV-2017-5424-EIR

Hilton Universal has filed its notice with planning to add additional guestrooms for a total of 890 rooms. SCRA Vice President Barry Johnson filed an extensive response, on behalf of our membership, to the Hotel's filing.

The Project would include a new 20-story Hotel Expansion Building, that on the 17th Level, would include a restaurant (5,000 square feet), an indoor/outdoor bar (1,500 square feet), and the Rooftop Pool Deck.

SCRA will take a really close look at the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) when it is filed. Some of the major concerns are traffic, noise, hillside views, and light pollution.

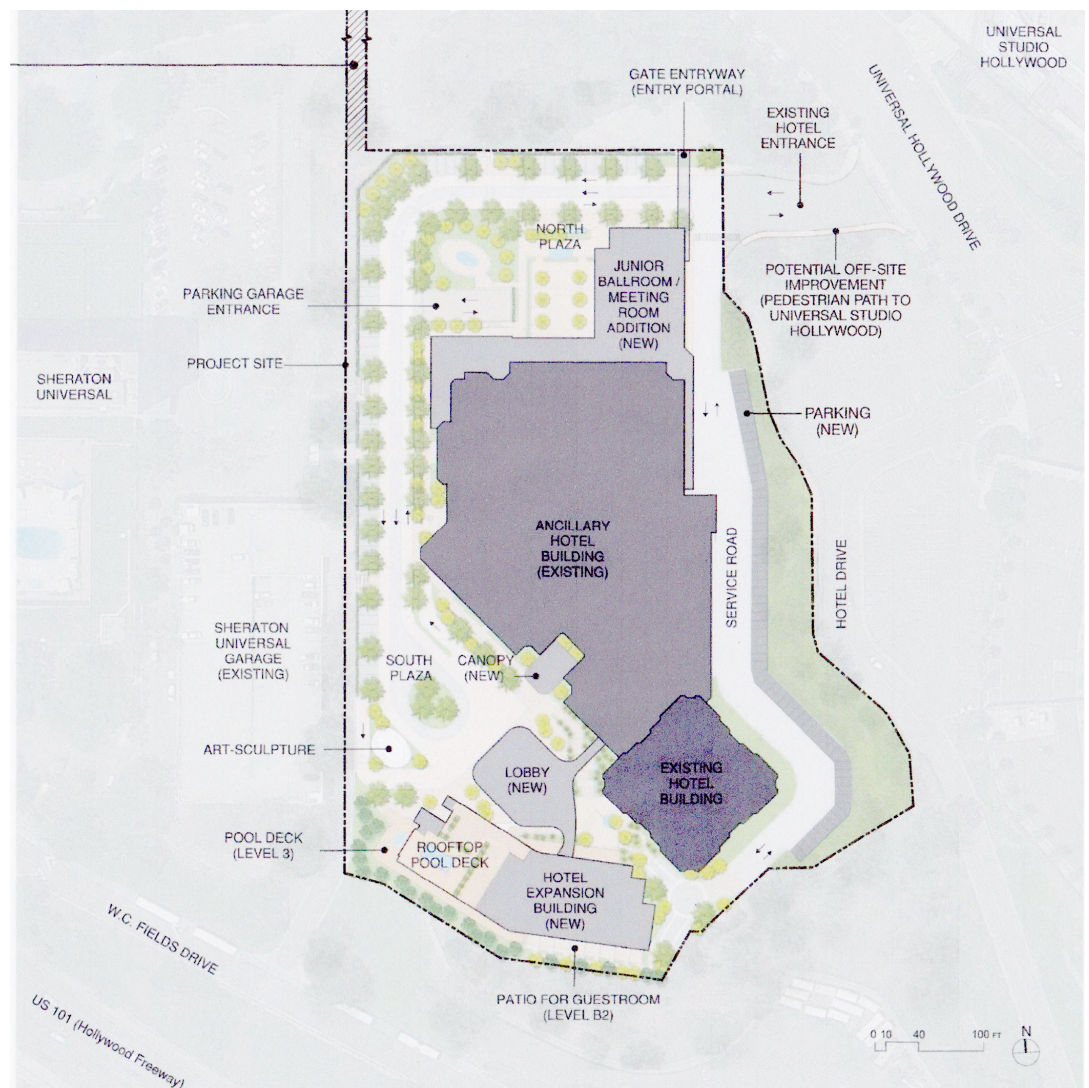


# TO THE MARKET

The Studio City Farmers Market is pleased to announce that the LA County Department of Public Health has lifted the ban on prepared foods at farmers markets. It was a long eight months without prepared foods and market management is grateful to every community member who signed the [change.org](http://change.org) petition urging the Health Department to reconsider the ban.

Already back at the Market is Meños Juices with their fresh-squeezed organic juices, Baja Burritos with their delicious breakfast burritos and tacos, Tropical Islands with their bacon-wrapped hot dogs and aguas frescas, and Pupusas Salvadoreñas and Tamales Treats and More, who were only selling frozen items and are now also selling hot food items. Pupusas Salvadoreñas recently introduced chiles rellenos to their menu and they are delicious. They come with rice and make a great lunch or dinner any day of the week.

Due to the pandemic shoppers are not allowed to eat at the Market, and masks are required.



# NOMINATIONS FOR SCRA OFFICERS 2020

Any person residing in the household of a Regular or Senior Member may nominate a member in good standing as an officer of the SCRA by filing a petition bearing original signatures of a minimum of twenty-five (25) members in good standing and an acknowledgment signed by the proposed officer with the Association's office no later than December 1, 2020.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

No such petition has been filed at the Associations' office by a candidate seeking election as an officer of the SCRA therefore the nominating period is closed.

The Studio City Residents Association (SCRA) Nominating Committee therefore has nominated the following candidates as officers of the association for the year 2021:

President, Alan Dymond; Vice President, Barry Johnson; Treasurer, Charles Blakeslee; and Secretary, Connie Elliot.

The SCRA Nominating Committee nominations for officers of the association for the year 2021 stand and so will be duly appointed at the Annual General Meeting as follows:

President, Alan Dymond; Vice President, Barry Johnson; Treasurer, Charles Blakeslee; and Secretary, Connie Elliot. The office of Administrative Vice President is an SCRA board appointment. Claudia Freedle is so appointed to this office. The nominating committee wishes to thank the past officers for their work over the past year.

## WANT TO RECEIVE THE SCRA BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL?



If you would like to begin receiving the digital version of the SCRA Newsletter instead of a print copy, you need to opt-in by emailing us your request, to:

SCRANewsletter@studiocityresidents.org. Just let us know you prefer the digital format and you will begin receiving it to your email address starting with the next publication. Digital Format Available in **FULL COLOR**.

If you prefer to continue receiving the print version, no action is needed on your part. The choice is yours.

## ASK THE SCRA

*One of the functions of the SCRA is to empower its members, who are the eyes and ears of the community. The SCRA can assist by providing opportunities to make all of Studio City a better place to live. Please send questions to [scraboard@studiocityresidents.org](mailto:scraboard@studiocityresidents.org).*

**Q:** Ventura Blvd at Rhodes Ave is the most dangerous

crosswalk in Studio City. With reports of more pedestrians being hit every day in this city. After years of requests to the city, what is the delay in the installation of a stoplight at Rhodes Ave?

**SCRA:** The City's response to the SCRA inquiry: The contract was awarded back in Sept. 2020, but given the current financial situation there are cost constraint measures in place. The contract is waiting for the Chief Administrative Officer to review and submit approval before the mayor's approval. SCRA will continue to push to get this much-needed pedestrian safety light installed.

**Q:** I live in an area of Studio City that is in the flight path of aircraft taking off from BUR. Obviously, I don't like it, but I might be accepting if it is the safest route from an aviation safety standpoint. Through years of discussion, I have not heard or read anything about that. Has a safety evaluation and comparison of flight paths ever been conducted by a qualified, impartial party?

**SCRA:** The safety issue is a question for the FAA. The FAA has been involved with the task force, made up of local officials from Glendale, Burbank, Pasadena, and LA. The FAA is charged with all safety issues concerning the Burbank Airport. You could write US Senator Dianne Feinstein or Congressmen Adam Schiff and Brad Sherman with your inquiry. Also, join the SCRA Zoom Annual General Meeting on January 12th at 7:00 PM. The speaker will be City Attorney Mike Feuer whose office has filed a lawsuit addressing the noise and safety issues over the San Fernando Valley.

**Q:** Good morning. We live on Dona Rosa and are members of the Studio City Residents Association. I have never contacted you before but we are being driven crazy with the party houses popping up in our area off of Mulholland. The last one is at 11310 Dona Lisa. They had a party that started yesterday afternoon and went into the evening. I felt that the DJ was in my home next to me, it was so loud. The attendees park all over the neighborhood and often block our driveways. When they leave, they leave their trash along the street. It is especially upsetting in this horrible Covid time we are all living with. Any suggestions you might have would be appreciated!

**SCRA:** Yes, we have heard about all the party houses especially along Mulholland. What you need to do is call LAPD lead officer Shawn Smith (818) 634-2593 or email him at 33751@lapd.online. If this is a reoccurring address, report it as such. If it is a one-off party, call North Hollywood LAPD at (818) 754-8300 with the address at the time the noise is going on. If no one answers call 311 and report the problem.

Also, for reoccurring partying, you should contact the Mayor. He has threatened to cut off the electricity to party houses. Mayor Eric Garcetti, City of Los Angeles, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90012 - [mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org](mailto:mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org)

**Q:** One particular Sportsmen's Landing issue that may spill over to the Harvard Westlake Sports Complex project, is the issue of increased traffic created by new Sportsmen's Landing over its previous incarnation as a sleepy Event Center. The

(Cont'd, Page 5)



## (Ask SCRA, cont'd)

potential additional Sportsmen's generated traffic must be included in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Harvard Westlake and the EIR must be delayed until the new stores, restaurants, market, and gym have time to establish themselves and a new, accurate traffic baseline can be determined. Many of us are concerned that the combined traffic from all of the new uses at Sportsmen's may create overlapping uses with unforeseen additional traffic issues.

**SCRA:** In response to the increase in traffic loading at Coldwater/ Ventura Blvd due to the anticipated increased development at Sportsman's Landing and Lodge sites along with the cumulative effect on the traffic generated by the Harvard Westlake development on Whitsett, SCRA's attorneys and traffic engineers have been alerted to the points you have addressed. They will certainly address and include all traffic data and other issues and so be prepared to respond to the Draft EIR. Should you hear of any other projects that might generate traffic impacts please let us know.

**Q:** There is a lot of trash in the parking lot behind the CVS and other stores on the south side of Laurel Cyn and Ventura. The bins are unsightly and are overflowing with trash that doesn't get picked up with the bin so the parking lot has become filthy. The dumpsters are next to the rear wall. Thank you for looking into this.

**SCRA:** Vicki Nussbaum, Executive director of the Studio City Business District (SCBD) has contact with the business backing onto this parking lot. SCRA contacted her and she did a drive-through and reported that there are no bins along the back wall. These have been moved close to the businesses and it seems to have made a difference in the mess. Bins are overflowing along Vantage and she will contact the business responsible for them. The dumpster pick up contractor will not pick up trash outside the dumpster. Vicki will contact the business and request that they clean it up. Thank you for your inquiry. Our member's eyes are what help keep Studio City beautiful.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Alan Dymond

*A proposal to develop wildlife corridors in the Santa Monica's was in danger of being terminated due to funding problems. SCRA had suggested that rather than terminate and start over, why not put it on hold? Keep the work and process done to date in place until funds became available and then reactivate. That part was achieved. Then, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority placed measure HH on the ballot in November. It was a modest property tax for property owners in the adjacent mountain areas. The benefits, if passed, would not only protect and expand wildlife corridors to ensure survival for wildlife but also provide ranger patrols in times of high risk of wildfires, brush clearance, improvement to water quality in streams and reservoirs, and acquisition of and protection of open space. The measure passed by a margin of 82%.*

*Studio City is one of the great places in the Los Angeles area. Tremendous involvement and generosity in matters that truly mean so much. To everyone who continued to give to the North Hollywood LAPD and Council District 2's food and toys drives and the Chamber's Adopt-a-Senior program, A big thank you. All gifts were gratefully received.*

*And now it is time to act and have our voices heard once again. Not because we are "Nimby's" but because SCRA and SLAROS believe the benefits enjoyed to date, at what used to be Studio City Golf and Tennis, should continue to be there for future generations. But Harvard-Westlake wants to create a sports complex on this site for their students and visitors and hold 30 days of unidentified Special Events at a sports complex misnamed "River Park". That is not what it is, not even close to a "Park" as that term is usually understood. So once again it is necessary to protect this property through attorneys, consultants, and many stakeholders. Together, whether volunteering time, expertise, funding, and physical efforts we can insist that Harvard-Westlake live up to its promise of tranquility. The October 30, 2017 letter from the Head of School, Rick Commons: "...Finally, we value the tranquility of the Weddington property and know that its neighbors do as well. Our intention when designing the athletics center is to preserve as much open space as possible..."*

*Alan Dymond*

**SCRA Officers**

Alan Dymond, President  
Barry Johnson, Vice President  
Claudia Freedle, Admin. Vice President  
Connie Elliot, Secretary  
Charles Blakeslee, Treasurer

**Board Members**

Beth Dymond  
Martha Hanrahan  
Stephen Sass  
Robin Seidel  
Karen Younce

**Beautification Association**

Meg McDonald Seltzer, President  
Beth Dymond, Vice President

Connie Elliot, Secretary  
Charles Blakeslee, Treasurer

**Board Members**

Andy Epstein  
Christine Hsia  
Barry Johnson  
Chip Meehan  
Karen Younce  
StudioCityBeautificationAssoc@gmail.com

**Save L.A. River Studio City Open Space Officers**

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Beth Dymond, Secretary  
Charles Blakeslee, Treasurer

**Board Members**

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**Studio City Farmers Market**

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**Newsletter**

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**STUDIO CITY  
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

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**SCRA  
VITRUAL  
ANNUAL  
GENERAL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, Jan 12, 2021**

**ZOOM  
MEETING**

Refer to Page 1 for detailed information on joining the Zoom Meeting. Sign-up required by Jan. 8th.

**AGENDA**

**7:00 p.m.** Election of Officers,  
Guest speaker: LA City Attorney  
Mike Feuer

