



STUDIO CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Your Advocate for Studio City

May 2020

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APPLICATION TO PLANNING BY HARVARD-WESTLAKE

Harvard-Westlake has filed its initial Application with the Department of City Planning for its Sports Campus on Whitsett.

City Planning will proceed to review the initial application, confer with HW to resolve/clarify any and all queries from Planning before the Application can be finalized by Planning and released to the public.

Harvard-Westlake will have to justify:

- That the project will enhance the surrounding neighborhood or will perform a function or provide a service that is essential or beneficial to the community or region.
- That the project's location, size, height, operations and other significant features will be compatible with and will not adversely affect or further degrade adjacent properties, the surrounding neighborhood, or the public health welfare and safety.

SCRA, SLAROS, their consultants and attorneys, have reviewed the preliminary documents on file. When the official Application is released to the public it will be reviewed again.*

Special Events

Planning Form CP 7768: "Will there be special events not normally associated with day to day operation (e.g. fund raises, pay-for-view events, parent-teacher night, athletic events, and graduations)?"

Harvard Westlake's response: "Special events are proposed through the year that would go beyond the standard hours of operation".

Standard Hours of operation as identified by Harvard-Westlake

Outdoor use: Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m.

Interior use: Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Interior use: Saturday and Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Athletic activities from 9:00 a.m.to Sunset on Saturdays.

No athletic event or practices will occur on Sunday.

Federal Holidays: activities between 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

All the above are subject to special events exceptions.

The Gym, 2 Basketball courts, 80,249 sq. ft., 1,026 seats for "variety of sports programs including special events" including Sundays with 500 cars exiting the underground parking garage onto Whitsett.

Traffic Circulation within 1,000 feet of the property:

"Whitsett Ave, Valley Spring Lane, Bellaire Ave, Ventura Blvd"

Security: Visitors will be screened before entering the

(Continued, Page 2)

FROM YOUR BOARD: SCRA COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Sadly, due to the current Safer at Home order, the SCRA will not be able to hold its bi-monthly Community Meeting. Our May 12th meeting has been cancelled and we will keep members informed as to the status of our next meeting, tentatively scheduled for July.

These community meetings are a great place where you can gather information about your community on issues that affect you. They are a place to meet your board and to ask questions about issues that concern you now or in the future. We aim to invite speakers who are experts on topics related to recent laws passed, planning issues, crime & safety and a myriad of other interesting and timely topics.

The SCRA board sincerely hopes to resume the meetings at Bridges Academy with our July 14th meeting, if conditions permit.



(Harvard-Westlake, cont'd)

premises. A fence surrounds the athletic facilities that are not available to the public. 24 hour security on site. 8-11 feet high interior privacy wall.

Tennis Courts Reduced from 16 courts to 8 courts. 100 spectator seats. 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. 7:00 a.m. to 6:00p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Available to the public based on the Harvard-Westlake's use of the courts.

Two Outdoor athletic fields

Field A: Six 60 ft light poles; 40 x12 digital score board; 488 bleacher seats; 6,499 sq. feet of locker rooms and restrooms.

Field B: Eight 50 to 80 ft tall light poles; 40 x12 digital score board; 255 bleacher seats; six-lane track.

50-meter pool and ancillary buildings including locker room and restrooms, changing rooms; score board; diving board; 348 seats; Two fifty-foot light poles at the east and west side of the pool and two canopy lights 26 feet above the deck.

532 parking spaces above and below grade but seating for 2,187 spectators 1,655 people unable to park on site.

Spectators, athletes, coaches, students and staff, and people eating at the clubhouse. Possibly having 2,500 people at the Sports Campus at peak times.

Trees: Matures trees removed along Valleyheart and at Weddington. No plan to relocate them onsite or save them and replant once construction is complete. Replacement trees as proposed will take 20+ years to maturity.

* When the Application is deemed complete by Planning; SCRA, SLAROS, their consultants and attorneys will again review the final Application. SCRA Members will be informed of the results of the review. Responses will be filed by our attorneys and consultants.

2021 SCRA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ONE LESS THING TO WORRY ABOUT, THIS YEAR YOUR RENEWAL IS... FREE!!

As our community struggles with the added stress of this pandemic, the SCRA board has unanimously approved extending the membership for all current SCRA members by one year. The majority of members will be automatically renewed through June 30, 2021, and for those few who have already renewed, we thank you and you will be extended through June 30, 2022.

You can continue to use your current SCRA Member card, which expires on June 30, 2020, until you receive your new member card. New cards, along with an updated list of

participating businesses will be mailed sometime late May/early June. It's important that SCRA supports our local Studio City small businesses so we encourage our members to check our website for the most current listing of participating businesses and their offers. We encourage you to savor Studio City and shop and eat at these establishments. Visit StudioCityResidents.org.

If you would like to support our two sister nonprofit organizations, SLAROS or SCBA, they would welcome donations which would be used as follows: A donation to SLAROS will support the fight to keep as much space as possible open to the public and to minimize any impact on the community by development of a Sports Campus at Weddington Golf and Tennis. A donation to SCBA will help keep the mini parks and median improvements looking well cared for and attractive. Visit studiocityresidents.org to find links to the SLAROS and SCBA websites, respectively.

The SCRA wholeheartedly welcomes new members, please invite friends and neighbors to check us out at studiocityresidents.org

SCRA continues to be the "go-to" resource for all things Studio City.

THE CHICKEN AND THE EGG

The SCRA was asked to look into a Nextdoor.com message regarding the chicken coop at Bridges Academy.

"We were walking past Bridges Academy on Laurel Canyon and heard some chickens sounding distressed (making distressed noises) on the other side of the fence. We peeked through the fence and saw that there was a chicken coop with a few chickens inside however they did not have any access to the outside and seemed to be locked in the coop (could not see any food or water sources). Assuming they were in there overnight as well, we were concerned that they were locked in the small space all night and day and perhaps longer. Our main concern is that since the school is closed (only virtual classes right now), that there are not people taking care of these chickens (we are afraid they could get forgotten or neglected with no consistent care). Does anyone know someone at Bridges Academy who would know about the situation? Or does anyone have a recommendation of what we can do to ensure they are receiving food/water/care?"
SCRA contacted Cristhian Camacho from Bridges Academy who assured us that the chickens are safe, feed and watered.

They are kept in the coop over night because coyotes have been able to get onto the campus. The chickens are let out every morning and have free range of the area. If the chickens are not let out at their regular time they get very agitated. On the day in question the chickens were let out later in the day, they were upset that their schedule was altered and let everyone know. All is well with the chickens

(Continued, Page 3)

(Chickens, cont'd)

and if anyone has any concern about Bridges Academy they can reach Cristhian at (818) 506-1091 (274). By the way, we are told that these chickens lay the best eggs ever.

BEAUTIFICATION UPDATE
Meg McDonald Seltzer, SCBA President

In a world that's keeping us apart during this coronavirus pandemic, we are still neighbors with close ties to our neighborhood and each other. We know there will be better days ahead and we will all get through this together.

The normalcy we used to take for granted is being frayed around the edges creating a new version of what is normal. Change comes hard. We want the normalcy that used to be normal.

In our own way, Studio City Beautification Association can offer you a comforting slice of neighborhood normalcy. Landscapers and gardeners are included on the city's list of essential activities and businesses that will stay open within the city of LA during this crisis. So SCBA can assure you that your beautification sites will continue to look like their normal selves with maybe even a slight face lift. SK Landscaping will carry on maintaining our sites and keeping them looking green and healthy for the day we are all able to enjoy the great outdoors again.

Recently, the Oakdell Bird Sanctuary on Laurel Canyon just south of the Fryman Canyon trail head received a beauty treatment. Our maintenance crew added much needed mulch and planted 60 1-gallon Foothill Sedge grasses (Carex tumulicola) in and around the parkway.



And the Coastal Live Oak that was at the Eastside Median on Ventura Boulevard near Lankershim (across from the BLVD Hotel) has a new home at the Oasis pocket park across the street from Marshalls. SCBA moved the tree because it was going to grow too large for the space and could have become a visual safety hazard for drivers. At the Oasis this beautiful tree will be able to stretch out its roots and grow as big as it wants.



I normally close our Beautification report saying, "See you in the neighborhood."

But for now, we close by saying... Stay at home. Stay safe. We are all in this together and when it's over we will see each other again in the neighborhood.



TO THE MARKET

The outdoor Studio City Certified Farmers Market (SCFM) is co-sponsored every Sunday morning by the Studio City Residents Association and the Studio City Chamber of Commerce Foundation. SCFM is a nonprofit who for the past 20 years has provided healthy nutrient rich foods to our community.

Its springtime and our farmers have an abundance of fresh produce. There is nothing like fresh carrots, brussel sprouts, garden fresh garlic, apples, lettuce, leeks, and eggs. Come see what is available.

After costs and expenses, proceeds from the Market are used to fund a variety of local community groups, to support Chamber projects such as the Adopt-a-Senior program, and goes to maintain SCBA's mini parks and median projects.

In order to provide essential foods to the community during the COVID-19 crisis, the Farmers Market Managers and volunteer Board Members have reduced overcrowding by establishing one entrance and one exit and making sure that everyone maintains a social distance of at least six feet. Booths have been spaced further apart from each other and cordoned off with caution tape, produce is ONLY handled by the vendor. The Market is in full compliance of all city and county guidelines during this time and has been expanded to the Chase parking lot to allow a safer distance between booths.



Social distancing at the Studio City Farmers Market.

Keeping the Farmers Market open and safe has been uppermost in all the efforts of the Market's upper management. We look forward to the day when the Market may be permitted to bring back the ever popular children's section.

UPDATE ON MARCH 2020 SCRA COMMUNITY MEETING ABOUT FOLAR

Our March 2020 SCRA Community Meeting featured our guest speaker Chip Meehan, Director of Corporate Partnerships, Friends of the LA River. (FOLAR). Chip covered many aspects of all things relating to the LA

(Continued, Page 4)

(FOLAR, cont'd)

River and was very informative. Thirteen river adjacent sites in 2019 organized by FOLAR were cleaned up along the Los Angeles River. Fifteen more sites had been "tagged for 2020" but for now have been put on hold until October. To keep abreast of the cleanup schedule, you can visit folar.org.

Harvard-Westlake development was mentioned. Response was that they had recently submitted an Application to Los Angeles Planning Department for their development of the Weddington Golf and Tennis site. The Application will be reviewed by Planning and sent back to Harvard-Westlake to correct or complete the application before the final proposals are formalized and made available. Several questions were about the procedure and a Conditional Use Permit and whether input by the public could be made. In normal times this takes several weeks. To date Planning has not completed its review of the Application. Please see the front-page article, Application to Planning by HW.

COMING SOON!



Your new SCRA Member Card will be hitting mailboxes in late May/early June. You can continue to use your current card in the meantime for those businesses that are open.

Participating Businesses include:

*Auto Plaza * Belle Bakery * BLVD Hotel and Spa * Ceremony * Charlie's Shoe Repair * Classic Toys * Dana Kathryn Jewelry * Danielli Menswear * Eye Candy Optometry * Flair Cleaners * Gangadin Indian Cuisine * Indian Art Center of California * James Thomas Stained Glass * Kit Kraft * La Knitterie Parisienne * Lemonade * Matthew's Jewelry Store * Mister O's * Panache Boutique * Pepe's NY Pizza * Pinz Bowling * Rain Bar & Lounge * Rudy's Barber Shop * Spa Le' La * Sportsmen's Lodge * Victoria's * The Village * Vintage Wine+Eats * Vitello's * Wild Flora and The Yellow Balloon.*

For more information on each business' offer, go to: studiocityresidents.org/scra-member-card

OR

View using this QR code:



FULL COLOR DIGITAL FORMAT NOW AVAILABLE! RECEIVE THE SCRA BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

We are always working on ways to enhance your membership and are happy to announce that a full color version of the SCRA Newsletter is now available for email delivery in digital form.

If you would like to begin receiving the SCRA Newsletter in digital form, 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 form and you will begin receiving it to your email address starting with the next publication.

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

DEPLOYMENT OF 5G

Deployment of Wireless during Quarantine Can be Stopped Legally

Following the Homeland Security and the FCC orders, local authorities have emergency powers to place a moratorium on non-essential activity, including to pause all pending wireless zoning and right-of-way applications and to shut down new wireless construction.

Some telecom companies are using the COVID-19 emergency as cover to expand and cement their rapid and virtually unsupervised deployment of harmful wireless infrastructure and to advance their agenda.

If you see cellular antenna installations, they may be being installed without the knowledge or consent of the community and without local government oversight, application approval, public noticing, community participation, environmental review, and most importantly, transparency. You can write to Mayor Garcetti mayor.garcetti@lacity.org and copy his West Valley Representative, Tanaz Golshan tanaz.golshan@lacity.org. Ask that the Mayor impose a moratorium on "small cells" and other wireless infrastructure permits process and deployment until the COVID-19 emergency is over.

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.

Q: I noticed that several street trees on Moorpark just west of Tujunga have either been cut down or harshly pruned. I know the City installed the trees several years ago. What happened?

SCBA: The Studio City Beautification Association went to the property in the 11400 block of Moorpark. Workers said that the new tenants asked the owner of the building to clean up the trees to avoid blocking their businesses. The SCBA reported this issue to Councilman Krekorian's office. The SCBA was told the City's Urban Forestry division was investigating.

Q: We have a question about an item in the SCRA newsletter (March 2020). In the article on page 2, it mentions "the large development that is proposed across from Staples." Can you tell us, please, what is the large

development that has been proposed across from Staples?

SCBA: We spoke to Paul Krekorian's Chief of Staff, Karo Torossian. Karo has had conversations with the owner. The owner has been saying that he will develop this hillside for that last 7 years. To date, there is no application on file with the city. When an application is filed SCRA land use experts will become involved.

Q: How would I request this bush be trimmed back? The house appears to be vacant; this has been a problem for several weeks now.

SCBA: It's hard to tell by these pictures, but it appears that this plant is growing out of the public right-of-way and not the actual property. If it is growing out of the public right-of-way, you would want to visit Myla311.lacity.org - Create Service - public-right-away. If it is on what is considered to be the owner's property, visit Myla311.lacity.org - Create Service -trees and Vegetation. It would be best to report to both and let the city decide if it is public or private.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Alan Dymond*

"Happiness and freedom begin with one principle. Some things are within your control and some are not."
- Epictetus, Greek Stoic.

The Studio City Farmers Market operates in strict compliance with the protocols imposed by both City and County authorities, there is control. Similarly, when safety measures are adopted for one's personal protection, there is control. Some things are beyond one's control but it does not mean that nothing can be done about it, quite the contrary.

The Market is going strong. The sale of prepackaged foods is once again permitted to be sold by a ruling from the County Health Department because the Studio City Farmers Market is a Certified Farmers Market. So, we will look forward to the day when the Market will be in full swing. Kid's Section, Morning Coffee, Lunch on the Lawn. And of course the incredible selection of produce and other food vendors. "Happiness and Freedom" as defined by Epictetus may not begin at your Market, but it will once again be a great place to go on Sunday mornings and enjoy freedom to mingle.

Thank you to all members, friends and neighbors who came out in support of the Market. The Farmers and Vendors really appreciated it as it helped them stay in business and pay their workers. The management team and volunteers too, appreciate the encouraging emails sent to the SCRA board.

TMZ published statements and photos that implied the Farmers Market was in violation of the Mayor' mandates. The Market's attorney demanded the photos, since they are not from the Studio City Farmers Market (three of the four photos) be taken down and that TMZ publish the Market's rebuttal letter.

The SCRA office is temporarily closed but messages are still being picked up, and emails are being responded to. Let us know what you are seeing out there, especially any "unusual" activity. Also being watched closely, is that the Virus should not be an excuse to short cut the usual review process and approval of projects such as mobile phone relay stations and construction activities.

Once things return to a semblance of normalcy, it is to be expected that items that have been on hold will come to the forefront. There are many bills pending in Sacramento being monitored, bills that directly affect our neighborhoods. So expect further notifications of what is brewing and will need our attention.

Alan Dymond

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Claudia Freedle, Admin. Vice President
Connie Elliot, Secretary
Charles Blakeslee, Treasurer

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Studio City Farmers Market

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**STUDIO CITY
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 1374, Studio City, CA 91614



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There is strength in numbers!

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**SCRA
COMMUNITY
MEETING**

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

CANCELLED

MEETING LOCATION:

**Bridges Academy
COMMUNITY ROOM
3921 Laurel Canyon Blvd
Studio City, CA 91604**

*One block south of Ventura Bl. at
Laurel Canyon Bl. and Maxwelton Rd.
Parking off of Maxwelton Rd. Free
parking is available in the school
parking lot. Enter from Maxwelton Rd.
Security will assist.*

