



STUDIO CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Your Advocate for Studio City

November 2011

IN THIS ISSUE:

Code Enforcement Page 2

Winter Holiday Festival Page 3

River Revitalization Page 3

Studio City Residents Association & Studio City Recreation Center present

WINTER FAMILY FESTIVAL

STUDIO CITY RECREATION CENTER
BEEMAN PARK
STUDIO CITY, CA

December 4, 2011 1:30p.m. - 5:30p.m.

PLUS
A TASTE
OF THE
HOLIDAYS

FEATURING Festival of Giving



Please bring canned and packaged food (no glass); new, unwrapped toys; children's clothing; pet toys/ canned pet food; pet supply gift cards; and slightly used children's books to donate.

Benefits the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry, the LAPD North Hollywood Division Gift and Food Drive, St. Charles Borromeo Church Food Pantry, Pet Orphans, BookEnds and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles.

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH A FREE FESTIVAL FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

- Music (local schools and community groups)
- Arts and Crafts
- Free Photos with Santa
- Radio Disney Road Crew
- Classic Cars
- Face Painting
- Holiday Food/Toy Drive
- Food Trucks
- Radio Disney Festival of Giving
- **AND TONS OF SNOW!**

For more information about the Festival and parking, visit www.studiocityresidents.org/festival



CODE ENFORCEMENT: COMING TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

Councilmember Paul Koretz and City Attorney Carmen Trutanich have been working together for almost two years to put together an efficient way to enforce building and safety, zoning and other city codes through an Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) ordinance. The proposed ordinance is being considered as an alternative to criminal prosecution by authorizing police officers, code enforcement officers and other law enforcement officials to address low-grade "quality of life" violations by issuing citations. This approach allows them to bring code compliance to neighborhoods in a cost-efficient manner by fining violators instead of taking code violations through the criminal court system. Code violations, such as barking dogs, noise disturbances as well as building and safety violations, are presently resolved through a time-consuming process and expensive consumption of resources of the city attorney's office.

Comments about this approach from landlords and property owners, homeowners associations, businesses and neighborhood councils at the Los Angeles City Council's Budget & Finance Committee on Monday, October 3, 2011 were mixed. Concerns were raised about providing fair notice before issuing citations; diversion and mediation for violations; compatibility with other code enforcement ordinances; shifting the burden of proof to the person(s) cited; grandfathering in existing code

variances and neighbor-on-neighbor disputes; and an administrative hearing process for those cited to be able to contest cited violations.

Councilmember Koretz urged the committee to approve a pilot program with the LAPD and, upon evaluation by the City Council, a phased-in implementation to other select city departments. Councilmember Rosendahl raised concerns that the proposed ordinance didn't offer "Notice to Correct" violations before citation and that the program could be driven by neighbor on neighbor complaints rather than city department inspections, which is how violations are enforced currently. He also questioned a structure that imposed a fine based on existing maximum penalties for violations, and, where none exist, fines to be determined by each department.

Councilmember Englander questioned the cost of operating the program and what criteria would be used for selection of the administrative officers who would be hearing cases. He voiced concerns that the proposal is written as a "phased-in implementation," rather than a pilot program that can be assessed and amended prior to roll out to other city departments.

Councilmember Parks, chair of the committee, gave specific instructions to the city attorney's office and the office of the chief administrative officer, calling for clarification of certain issues to which he wanted responses. The Budget & Finance Committee called on the city attorney and chief administrative officer to report back within 30 days and on the chief legislative analyst to conduct community hearings and outreach on the draft ACE Ordinance. The SCRA will attend the next committee hearing.

OP-ED: A NOISY ISSUE AT BOB HOPE AIRPORT

By Chris Barnes, chair, Airport Committee

After a nearly 30-year legal and political battle over the development of the Burbank Airport (now known as the Bob Hope Airport) the City of Burbank and the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority have essentially reached a standstill. The Authority has ceased to pursue enlargement of the main terminal at the airport, and the City of Burbank has agreed to limited development of airport property located within the city. However, the issue of nighttime flight noise remains. The SCRA, along with other residents and homeowners associations, has worked for a long time to reach a compromise with the Authority on the noise issue.

The airport has no mandatory curfew for nighttime flights. Instead, it operates on a voluntary curfew between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. However, the voluntary curfew does

not protect residents from nighttime flight noise, and there is no guarantee that it will provide even the modicum of protection as air traffic at the airport continues to grow.

The SCRA has worked with its sister associations, private businesses affected by aircraft noise and numerous government agencies, including the FAA, to obtain a mandatory curfew. Failing that, the SCRA supported the Authority's attempt to contract directly with the airlines for agreement to a mandatory curfew, limited, of course, to the Bob Hope Airport. This last option was a particularly positive and mutually beneficial alternative to pursuing, for example, new legislation or regulation. Unfortunately, the airlines have thus far been unwilling to enter into such an agreement.

The SCRA strongly believes the airlines must reengage in a discussion of a contractual resolution to this decades old problem. As a result of recent talks with the Authority and the City of Burbank, the SCRA believes these parties are closer than ever on how to resolve this long-standing issue. After meeting with the SCRA, Congressman Howard Berman subsequently submitted a letter to the FAA encouraging further efforts at finding a compromise solution to this issue. The SCRA, with the support of Congressman Berman and the involvement of Senator Feinstein's office, believes that impetus to the FAA and to the airlines could achieve a compromise.

The SCRA has also met with Senator Boxer's representative on this issue and has arranged to meet with Senator Feinstein's representative as well in early November.





TO THE MARKET

The Studio City Farmers Market continues to add vendors and events on a weekly basis, most recently kicking off the first ever "Cooking with Locals" demonstration. Chef Adam Horton of Studio City's Raphael's restaurant was on hand on a recent Sunday to provide

cooking demonstrations and samples using the freshest ingredients - all purchased at the Studio City Farmers Market that very morning. "Cooking with Locals" events will be at the Market once a month.

As fall settles in, don't forget to include the Market when preparing the Thanksgiving menu. Winter squash, sweet potatoes, yams and brussels sprouts are plentiful and the perfect accompaniment for the holiday dinner table.

Beginning in November 2011, the Market will be accepting EBT cards as part of the quest to make the healthiest foods available to everyone.

Once again the Studio City Farmers Market has been featured in Los Angeles Magazine as one of the best Farmers Markets in the area. Stop by and see why! The Studio City Farmers Market is presented jointly by the Studio City Residents Association and the Studio City Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Free parking is available at the CBS lot on Radford.

ON THE AIR ABOUT THE POTENTIAL LA RIVER NATURAL PARK



KPCRadio.com, an internet radio station operating out of Pierce College, interviewed Alan Dymond, president of Save Los Angeles River Open Space, on the evolution and ongoing process to establish the Los Angeles River Natural Park and how it evolved over the years to its present configuration.

Chantel Zimmerman, the station's assistant program director, explored with Dymond what is meant by the term "open space," how the project ties into water reclamation and the benefits to the surrounding community. Dymond explained that the national recommendation for accessible parkland is between 4-10 acres per thousand, while the San Fernando Valley has less than one acre per thousand. They also discussed the use of the term "wetlands." Dymond explained the term is not applicable to the park as the park concept calls for a stream, technically a "bio swale," which cleans up the runoff from the surrounding neighborhood by use of plant life. The traditional usage of the term refers to the wetlands along the California coast with its greater diversity of life forms.

Dymond also said the SCRA is supporting a proposal to have the area on the north side of the river adjacent to the park landscaped with more than 3,000 trees and shrubs and the installation of a pedestrian path from Whitsett Avenue to Coldwater Canyon Blvd. KPCRadio.com plans to continue to explore the river revitalization story and what it means to the community. Interested parties may follow the story by logging in to www.KPCRadio.com.

JOIN US FOR STUDIO CITY'S FIRST WINTER FAMILY FESTIVAL

The SCRA and the Studio City Recreation Center are bringing the community the first "Winter Family Festival" on December 4, 2011 from 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at Studio City Recreation Center (aka Beeman Park). Guests at the free holiday celebration will enjoy a 50-ton snow field with two slides and snowman building, music provided by local school and community bands, the Radio Disney Road Crew, free photos with Santa, classic cars and an antique fire truck, food sampling by local restaurants (A Taste of the Holidays), arts and crafts, food trucks and more.

The festival will feature a special opportunity for attendees to give back for the holidays at Radio Disney's Festival of Giving. Guests are encouraged to bring canned or packaged food (no glass) and new, unwrapped toys to benefit the LAPD's Gift and Food Drive, the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry and the food pantry at St. Charles Borromeo Church. Radio Disney will be adding other categories for donations. Check studiocityresidents.org/festival for more details in the coming weeks. The SCRA will also collect new unwrapped toys and canned/packaged food at the November 8 SCRA Community Meeting. Volunteers to help on the day of the event are needed. Please e-mail Ann Husvar at annhusvar@keynoteeventsinc.com.

IS REVITALIZATION OF THE RIVER REACHING "CRITICAL MASS?"

More than 200 people attended a recent hearing with representatives of state government on the LA River. Senator Fran Pavley and Assembly member Felipe Fuentes co-chaired a panel to discuss the future of the section of the Los Angeles River in the San Fernando Valley and its tributaries. Senator Kevin De Leon and Assembly member Bob Blumenfield joined them as panel members.



The legislators heard a comprehensive overview of the progress made on Los Angeles River revitalization to date. Many organizations from Arroyo Calabasas to Griffith Park came to speak, including Save LA River Open Space (SLAROS), which addressed the proposed LA River Natural Park on Whitsett Avenue. The discussions focused on how to create a place for families, develop commuter and recreational bikeways, provide pedestrian paths and horse trails and increase places for canoeing and kayaking in the river, all by bringing back the river's natural habitat.

During the discussions, emphasis was placed on efforts to connect the completed projects and the ones still on the drawing board (some funded and some still unfunded). Friends of the Los Angeles River (FOLAR) www.folar.org presented a comprehensive outline of what will help advance revitalization of the river. FOLAR pushed for legislation to

(Continued, Page 4)



(Revitalization, cont'd)

remove the "dry season" flood control act, make the river

accessible year round, clarify right of access and use, address the need for public safety by using flood protection technology and create proper signage. Others expressed the need for a method to expedite public hearings on river development.

A theme that ran throughout the hearing is that a one source oversight organization is necessary, possibly at the state level, to bring all of the organizations under one banner with the purpose of coordinating all involved organizations, including the city, the state and federal interests. Many stressed revitalization of the river will result in permanent jobs when this environmental eyesore becomes an environmental asset, bringing healthy living, recreation, open space, a commuter bike corridor, clean reusable water and many other economic benefits.

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: Can you tell me when they are going to reopen Halkirk Street? It has really made a mess of the neighborhood, and I'm sure Ralphs doesn't appreciate all the people cutting through the store's parking lot.

SCRA: The contact person for the Department of Water and Power on the trunk line construction at Coldwater Canyon Blvd. is Todd Le (see below). If you contact him, he can give you the update on Halkirk. You can also ask to be included in his e-mail contact list to receive all the updates.

Todd P. Le, P.E.
Construction Engineering Supervisor
Trunk Line Construction Management
Water Distribution Division
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
todd.le@WATER.LADWP.comAsc

Q: I thought your front page piece [in the October 2011 issue] on the river walks was misguided. I have given up walking on the south side of the walk between Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Radford because of uncomfortable encounters with apparently camped-out homeless. Those walks are not "...getting even better."

SCRA: Studio City Senior Lead Officer Mike Lewis is aware of the situation on the river walk; however, the focus is between Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Whitsett Avenue. From time to time, this area gets cleaned out by LAPD officers and the Studio City Business Improvement District. It's an ongoing trouble spot and needs constant attention. You mentioned the Radford/Laurel Canyon Blvd. section; the SCRA will notify the LAPD.

Q: Thank you for the news regarding the cooking

demonstration to be held at the Studio City Farmers Market. Also, I would like to know how many years the Studio City Farmers Market has been in existence.

SCRA: The Studio City Farmers Market is a joint effort between the Studio City Residents Association and the Studio City Chamber of Commerce Foundation. The Farmers Market was founded in 2001 and has been expanding ever since. The market is a not-for-profit enterprise; all proceeds from the Market go back into the community for beautification capital projects and maintenance, for the Fourth of July event and for other activities that benefit the community, such as the SCRA's new holiday event, "Winter Family Festival," which will be held at Studio City Recreation Center (aka Beeman Park) on December 4, 2011. The Market considers school programs and charities for grants for special projects.

SCRA TO HOST CONGRESSMAN HOWARD BERMAN



Please join the SCRA for a special discussion with U.S. Congressman Howard Berman at the November 8, 2011 SCRA Community Meeting. Congressman Berman will address two pieces of legislation he is currently sponsoring, including one that focuses on making the curfew

permanent at Bob Hope Airport as well as one that addresses helicopter noise. Berman, who has a long career as an elected official, spent time in the California State Assembly where he became Assembly Majority leader, the youngest person ever to serve in that capacity. He was elected to Congress in 1982, where he was named to the Foreign Affairs and Judiciary Committees.

The meeting will be held at Beverly Garland's Holiday Inn Theatre Room at 7:30 p.m. Light refreshments and an opportunity to meet community members and neighbors begin at 7:00 p.m. The SCRA thanks Beverly Garland's Holiday Inn for hosting the organization's community meetings.

FROM YOUR SCRA BOARD

Board Resignation

After many years of service, SCRA board member and executive vice president, Mark Batterman, tendered his resignation from the SCRA Board. A long-standing boardmember, Batterman chaired the SCRA Budget Committee and was the SCRA's Parks Advisory Board Liaison. Mark is thanked for his service: he will continue as liaison with the Parks Advisory Board.

Treasurer Position

Bryan Abrams was elected assistant treasurer to the SCRA Board. Laura McKinzie is stepping down from that role at the end of the year. The SCRA expects Bryan Abrams will be elected treasurer at the beginning of 2012.

Billboard Ordinance Report

The City of Los Angeles Planning and Land Use Management

(Continued, Page 5)

(SCRA Board, cont'd)

committee (PLUM) met on October 18, 2011 to discuss the latest revisions proposed for a new billboard ordinance (City File No. 08-2020). The meeting had a standing room only crowd of 200 people, of which 70 signed up to speak. Of those 70, 60 were against the ordinance's latest revision, which included "grandfathering" at least 10 new proposed sign districts now in the permitting review process. (Both of NBC/Universal's proposed sign districts are included in this group). An earlier version of this ordinance did not have this grandfather provision, and community groups in attendance were puzzled as to why this "grandfathering" provision suddenly appeared. The original draft ordinance did not grandfather in the 10 proposed sign districts. Nearly all of the 60 people who spoke against the current version of the ordinance said they were not in favor of this "grandfathering." In addition, many stated there was no protection for single-family homeowners who surround the majority of the 10 proposed sign districts. PLUM committee members Ed Reyes, Jose Huizar and Paul Krekorian sent the Planning Department back to the drawing board with the next revision due in 60 days.

City Council Redistricting Report

The committee to draw the new Los Angeles City Council districts met to formulate a plan on how to proceed with redrawing the council district maps. There will be numerous public hearings for input from the SCRA and other organizations. The SCRA will be proposing the boundaries of the council district to the committee.

SCRA SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2012

The SCRA nominating committee did not receive additional nominations for the SCRA Board of Directors outside of those recommended by the committee. To that end, the nominating committee recommends the following candidates for the 2012 SCRA Board of Directors - president: Alan Dymond; executive vice president: Bonnie Goodman; treasurer: Bryan Abrams; secretary: Connie Elliot. Each has agreed to serve in his or her respective capacity. Therefore, pursuant to the SCRA bylaws the above-named officers will be deemed elected at the Annual General Meeting of the SCRA on January 10, 2012.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Alan Dymond

One thing I have learned since I was elected president of the SCRA and headed its beautification committee (now its own nonprofit corporation) is how closely related are the departments in the City of Los Angeles. Each department, which has its own area of responsibility, can lead to a certain amount of frustration because it appears the City takes too long to get anything done. For example, the median at Coldwater Canyon Blvd. by the 101 off ramp recently was heavily damaged by a car out of control. The Studio City Beautification Association (SCBA) had adopted this median, installed plants and an irrigation system. As part of the adoption process, the SCBA had to contract with the City to maintain the median. The responsibility to reinstall the plants and irrigation is clearly defined. However, what is unclear is which department is going to replace the curbs, and where the Department of Water and Power fits in to ensure there is no "backflow" caused by damage to the irrigation system, leading to possible contamination of the water supply system. All of this has to be completed before the SCBA can do its work. Fortunately, the SCBA and the SCRA have had a good working relationship with our council office staff. The council staff knows where to direct us when necessary so we reach the right department decision makers. These staff members are a great help in resolving problems that occur from time to time.

Now for some really serious things that need our immediate attention. The first is the question of who is going to pay to repair our sidewalks? We have been reporting on this matter for some time, but we are now approaching the tipping point in a recommendation that will be made at a joint committee hearing and sent to the City Council for action. A State law passed in 1911 mandated that adjoining owners are responsible for repairs to sidewalks. In 1974, more than a quarter of a century ago, the City passed an ordinance that it would do the repairs at its own expense. But now, this ordinance is being revisited by the joint committee (as it has for the last six months) with a viewpoint that might lead to homeowners getting stuck with the bill. At an estimated \$80.00 per square foot just for the sidewalk portion, this will create an incredible hardship.

Second, who thinks that it is a good idea to have advertising in parks? Do we want to see "Eat at Joes" and other advertisements while watching the kids play or taking a breather from the city noise and activity. Do not be lulled into thinking that it may only be a stop gap measure until things get better. Once that toe is in the door, just try getting it out.

Finally: Why does Studio City Patch once again use the phrase that the SCRA has "abandoned" the holiday parade for the "second year running"? The parade was not abandoned a "second year running": the parade was never started. Feedback from SCRA members led us to create an alternate holiday event. Don't miss the "Winter Holiday Festival" featuring Radio Disney's Festival of Giving on December 4, 2011 at Beeman Park. Let's take a positive approach in reporting on what is being done for our community and encourage residents and their guests to enjoy a fun holiday celebration for all.

On your "to do" list: if you are in agreement with the recommendations of the SCRA Board on the sidewalk ordinance and other issues, please let your councilmember know. Remember SCRA encompasses three council districts, Council Districts 2, 4 and 5. Let our councilmembers know they have your support.

Councilmember Paul Koretz 818-971-3088 E-mail: paul.koretz@lacity.org
Councilmember Paul Krekorian 818-755-7676 E-mail: councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org
Councilmember Tom La Bonge 818-755-7630 E-mail: tom.labonge@lacity.org





SCRA COMMUNITY MEETING

November 8, 2011

AGENDA

- 7:00 p.m.** Refreshments
- 7:30 p.m.** Congressman Howard Berman on Bob Hope Airport curfew and community billboard blight.

CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS

North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry
The October 2011 SCRA newsletter article, "Faith in the Pantry for Food," inadvertently misstated the representatives of the food pantry. Florence Adler, Marij Luke, Eleanor Hirsch, Mary Louise Smith and Gilmer Reinhardt were the founders of the North Hollywood Interfaith Pantry 28 years ago. Today the pantry has representatives from 11 different Jewish and Christian congregations in the area.

SCRA Office Workers
The October 2011 SCRA newsletter article, "SCRA Thanks its Office Team" inadvertently omitted the names of the SCRA office workers whom the organization honored during the summer. They include Joie Felts, Katie Bull, Sally Gutman, Carol Hill, Susan King, Barbara Robbin and Ann Udeil.



Officers

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Bonnie Goodman,
Exec. Vice President

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Admin. Vice President

Connie Elliot,
Secretary

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Art Howard
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Newsletter

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Meeting Location

**Beverly Garland's Holiday Inn Theatre
4222 Vineland Avenue, Studio City**

When entering the hotel driveway, turn left and go through the parking turnstile. Drive to the end and turn right. Go to the large back lot. The handicap entrance is from this lot. Walk to the southwest corner of the lot, and signs will direct you to the Beverly Garland Theatre. PARKING WILL BE VALIDATED at the sign-in-table.

The SCRA thanks Beverly Garland's Holiday Inn for continued support of the monthly SCRA Community Meetings

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