



STUDIO CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Your Advocate for Studio City

September 2013

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ASSEMBLYMEMBER ADRIN NAZARIAN PROVIDES INSIGHTS ON KEY LEGISLATION AFFECTING STUDIO CITY RESIDENTS

Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian provided the community with encouraging news about California's finances at the July Studio City Residents Association (SCRA) Community meeting. The state budget, which passed on time, was the first balanced budget in a decade. The so called "Wall of Debt" created by borrowing from or deferring payments to school districts, local governments, special districts and special funds was paid down by \$4.2 billion. More than \$96 billion was allocated to General Fund Expenses, keeping the promises of Proposition 30, and there were new investments for K-12 and higher education. Proposition 98 funding for K-14 totals \$55.3 billion. The budget is based on the Department of Finance's General Fund revenue projections (\$97.2 billion) rather than the legislative analyst's more optimistic forecast of \$100.4 Billion. The budget shows a reserve of \$1.1 billion.



Adjustments were made to the Local Control Funding Formula for education, and funding was increased for the University of California, California State University and California Community College systems. For compliance with the Affordable Care Act, California is assuming \$1.5 billion in federal funds to implement the Medi-Cal expansion.

More funding will be provided for trial courts, and to clear up the veteran affairs backlog and provide assistance so that veterans can gain access to federal benefits. Additional funding will be provided to decrease the business filing backlog and maintain a five-day business processing time. More than \$3 million will be allocated to the Department of Justice to support background checks associated with new firearm purchases.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER PAUL KREKORIAN TO UPDATE RESIDENTS AT THE SEPTEMBER SCRA COMMUNITY MEETING



City Councilmember Paul Krekorian will visit with Studio City residents and provide an update on issues of importance to the community at the upcoming September 10 SCRA Community Meeting. The Councilmember will discuss the outcome of the proposed DWP contract agreement and other relevant matters.

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.

In response to a follow-up request by the SCRA, the assemblymember will make his extensive notes about the budget available to any SCRA member. These notes also cover the status of the bills that the assemblyman has carried and how they are progressing in the State Senate. If any member would like a copy of the notes, please email Assemblymember Nazarian's Field Representative, Steven Butcher, at Steven.Butcher@asm.ca.gov

During his presentation to the SCRA, the assemblymember also provided an update on other assembly bills, such as AB320, which would require school districts to adopt and implement a tobacco free campus policy, and AB649, which calls for a moratorium on fracking in the state. Both are presently on hold in the Assembly Appropriations Suspend File.

CAR FREE/CARE FREE SUNDAY IN STUDIO CITY



CAR FREE SUNDAY
STUDIO CITY • SHERMAN OAKS

Studio City and Sherman Oaks will participate in a car free Sunday on September 22, 2013. The goal is to take cars off the street, reduce congestion and create a greener environment.

Event organizers will hold a community picnic at the Los Angeles River from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. with special promotions during the day. Those who choose to keep their cars at home are being encouraged to walk, bike, take the Metro, hike, skateboard, visit the Studio City Farmers Market, play tennis or golf, shop, nap and much more.

For more information, visit facebook.com/carfreesundaystudiocity
Event supporters include:

- FAST (Fixing Angelenos Stuck in Traffic)
- City Councilmember Paul Krekorian
- Studio City Farmers Market
- Studio City Chamber of Commerce
- Briarcliff Improvement Association in Fryman Canyon
- L.A. River Revitalization Corp
- Studio City Residents Association
- Big Sunday

BEAUTIFYING STUDIO CITY

Beautification's 2013 Fundraising Drive Begins

This newsletter includes an informational brochure about the work of the Studio City Beautification Association (SCBA), an all-volunteer sister organization of the Studio City Residents Association, and the leading organization of its type in Los Angeles. The brochure updates the community on SCBA's ongoing community improvement efforts.

The SCBA needs the support of the community to help it continue to improve Studio City. The SCBA board and volunteer members spend thousands of hours each year planning and managing professional crews to keep Studio City truly exceptional. Contributions are used prudently, and 100 percent goes toward capital improvements in the community. All contributions are tax-deductible.

The SCBA thanks members who have already sent in their support this year.

New SCBA President

The SCBA board has elected Bill Harmond as president of the SCBA, following the resignation of Beth Dymond.

For four years, beginning in 2008, Harmond successfully led the SCBA. Given Harmond's prior experience, the SCBA expects to have a smooth transition. The SCBA will continue adopting, improving, landscaping and maintaining city right-of-way throughout Studio City.



Hats off to Beth Dymond! Beth has stepped down after leading the SCBA as president from January 2012 to the present. Beth continues her many leadership roles with the SCRA, Save LA River Open Space and the Studio City Farmers Market.

Eastside Median Update

Work on the median located on Ventura Blvd. between Lankershim Blvd. and Campo De Cahuenga Way continues. The infrastructure and preparation is nearly complete, and planting will begin in October. The optimum time to plant California native plants is in the fall when cooler weather begins.

STUDIO CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS ELECTION: FY2014

In accordance with the SCRA bylaws, a nominating committee comprised of Alan Dymond, Martha Hanrahan and Barry Weiss has been appointed to develop a slate of candidates for the Studio City Residents Association executive board.

SCRA members are invited to submit nominations for the following positions: president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. Name submissions may be made to the Studio City Residents Association, Officer Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 1374, Studio City, CA 91694

The deadline for submission of nominations is no later than close of business October 15, 2013.

NEW SIGN VALIDATES THE UNIVERSAL CITY/STUDIO CITY METRO STOP



At long last, following much effort on the part of SCRA Board Member Barry Johnson (and repairs by Metro to a crane), the Universal City-Studio City sign is in place at the entrance to the Redline Station on Lankershim Blvd. The sign now welcomes travelers to what has always been part of Studio City. There were many

twists and turns, one of which was a compromise structured by Metro to keep the significance of Universal City, but yet acknowledge Studio City. Barry Johnson had sought a Studio City designation but realized this compromise was an acceptable one. In addition, the conductors now announce "Universal City/Studio City" as the trains approach the station.

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: What are the rules and regulations of parking recreational vehicles (RVs) long term in Studio City, specifically between Sarah Street and Moorpark Avenue and/or between the 101 South Freeway exit at Tujunga Avenue and the freeway overpass at Sarah Street? Is there a specific person in charge of determining when an RV violates parking regulations? If so, I would like to get that person's name and contact information as well.

SCRA: LAPD Senior Lead Officer Mike Lewis provided the following response:

"As you may or may not know, for years I had a big problem with RVs parking under the 101 Freeway at Tujunga Avenue. About six months ago, the Department of Transportation (DOT) finally installed no parking signs on Tujunga Avenue under the overpass."

"As for the rules and regulations governing RVs, including vehicles parking on the city streets, it is illegal to park a motor vehicle on a city street for more than 72 hours. The DOT is tasked with marking these vehicles and following up on them to make sure they have moved within this time period. If the vehicles are not moved, they can be towed."

"Please report any vehicles in violation by calling 1-800-ABANDON. I often mark and tow vehicles as well. If there is a problematic RV or vehicle, please let me know. I can usually beat DOT in marking it." You can contact Officer Lewis by email at 31575@lapd.lacity.org or by calling 818-634-2593.

Q: Are the newsletters printed only, or do you also email digital copies?

SCRA: The SCRA board periodically discusses issuing the SCRA newsletter in a digital form; however, from our discussions with SCRA members, we have learned the newsletter reaches more in a printed format. That is because not all members provide their e-mail address or have computer access. Young mothers said they liked the printed newsletter: they could take it with them to read while waiting to pick up their children from school. Meanwhile, many senior members prefer the hard copy as opposed to reading it online. Volunteers who write articles like to see their work in print so their submissions do not get lost in the email blitz that many of our members report. The newsletter is mailed to all elected officials and opinion leaders who represent Studio City, making it accessible by all office staff. The newsletter is eventually posted on the SCRA website, typically one-to-two months after publication. The SCRA does provide important breaking news to members via email through its News and Notes alert system.

Q: There has been an increase of homeless people sleeping on the river walk on Laurel Canyon Blvd., especially at the path

TO THE MARKET



As summer winds down, there is still time to enjoy the fruits of the season. The stone fruits just about everyone loves will be available for another month or so. It's not too late to bake a few peach pies with fresh peaches from Tenerelli Farms, Nicholas

Farms, Arnett Farms, Sweet Tree Farms and Island Farms.

Back by popular demand is the Second Annual Pie Baking Contest to be held on September 8, 2013. Categories include fruit, savory, other pies (such as chess or pecan) and a junior baker category. First, second and third place prizes will be given in all categories along with Best in Show. Judges will be local chefs who will look for originality, taste and presentation in their judging efforts. Applications are available at the market manager's table and on the website at www.studiocityfarmersmarket.com. The entry fee is \$5.00. Prizes consist of market dollars to be spent at any booth in the Studio City Farmers Market. The deadline to enter is Friday September 6, 2013.

As the kids head back to school, Studio City Farmers Market vendors have been busy providing Studio City families with healthy alternatives to the traditional school lunch. Many vendors have fresh jams made from Farmers Market fruits. Fat Uncle Farms has a delicious almond butter that is very popular, and Homeboy sells rainbow bread. Together they make a nutritious and fun sandwich, which kids love to find in their lunch boxes.

The Studio City Farmers Market is presented jointly by the Studio City Residents Association and the Studio City Chamber of Commerce. Free parking is available at the CBS lot on Radford. Stop by and visit! The Market is open on Sundays from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

entrance. There are empty alcoholic beverage bottles strewn about the area together with the belongings of these homeless. I know this is a difficult problem; however, having people sleeping along this path makes it problematic and is a deterrent to enjoying the environment.

SCRA: SCRA members are the eyes and ears in the community. The condition of the river was brought to the SCRA's attention by several members; as a result, the SCRA has been developing a plan with Geoff Yazetta, field representative for City Council District 2 (Paul Krekorian).

This is a three-phased project:

1. The Los Angeles Police Department first gives notice to the homeless to remove their goods;
2. The debris and trash need to be cleaned up; and
3. The area needs to be weeded, and plants and a watering system restored.

The SCRA is working towards having this area cleaned up in time for the "Studio City Car Free Event" on September 22, 2013 and can use volunteer help. Go to www.studiocityresidents.org and click on "Hot Topics" for more information.

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Q: Is there any recourse about the street damage and construction debris left after a construction project at the top of Berry Drive? Twice this summer they left a trail of considerable damage from the top of Berry Drive down to Ventura Blvd. This time the debris stream extended a couple of blocks down Ventura Blvd. Can they do this without impunity, or are there regulations we can invoke to get them to fix it?

SCRA: The SCRA recommended that our member reach out to Geoff Yazetta, field representative for City Council District 2 (Paul Krekorian), to learn which agency to contact about the problem. Members reporting similar issues can call 311, explain the problem and be transferred to the appropriate city department. Be sure to have the address of the construction project, and keep a photographic record of the debris and times of occurrence to show to the city inspector. Email Geoff at geoffrey.yazetta@lacity.org or call him at 818-755-7676.

Q: The Universal City branch of Bank of America is closing June 28, 2013; those of us who live in Eastern Studio City/Cahuenga Pass have appreciated the convenience of this location for years. But I haven't heard anything about Universal's plans for the site. Do you know what will replace the bank?

SCRA: NBCUniversal has planned and received approval for a multi-story office building for the Bank of America site. To date, there is no information about the proposed tenants.

HILLSIDE FEDERATION DISCUSSES THE HARVARD- WESTLAKE PROPOSED EXPANSION

Members of Save Coldwater Canyon, a group of residents who live nearby Harvard-Westlake, reported the City of Los Angeles is in the process of preparing a Draft EIR for the school's proposed expansion project. The initial study revealed that Harvard-Westlake is proposing construction of a three-story, 750-car, parking garage with a lighted athletic field on the top level on the west side of Coldwater Canyon Avenue and a pedestrian sky bridge, 163 feet long and 13 feet wide, across Coldwater Canyon Avenue to connect the parking structure to the main campus. The lights on the athletic field would be 85 feet above ground level, creating light pollution. Two-thirds of the land is identified as "desirable open space." According to Save Coldwater Canyon, the project could destroy 100 protected oak and walnut trees and also create significant traffic problems on Coldwater Canyon Avenue.

John Amos, vice president of Harvard-Westlake, countered most of the claims with charts and pictures showing how the issues raised would be mitigated. He said there would be no lights on after 8:00 p.m. and offered that traffic lights would be timed to facilitate left-hand turns for automobiles travelling north, which are entering the structure, and left-hand turns for automobiles travelling south, which are exiting the structure. There will be more discussion when the City finishes its Draft EIR for the project.

SCRA MEMBERSHIP REMINDER: LAST NEWSLETTER FOR NON-RENEWALS

Thank you to all SCRA members who have renewed their membership, and welcome to our new members. The SCRA has had an overwhelming response of renewals and new sign-ups. If you have not renewed your membership in the SCRA, this is the last newsletter you will receive. You can renew on line at www.studiocityresidents.org.

TREE REMOVAL: A WORK IN PROGRESS ON THE RIVER

Several members have questioned why the trees and shrubs have been removed from the north side of the Los Angeles River



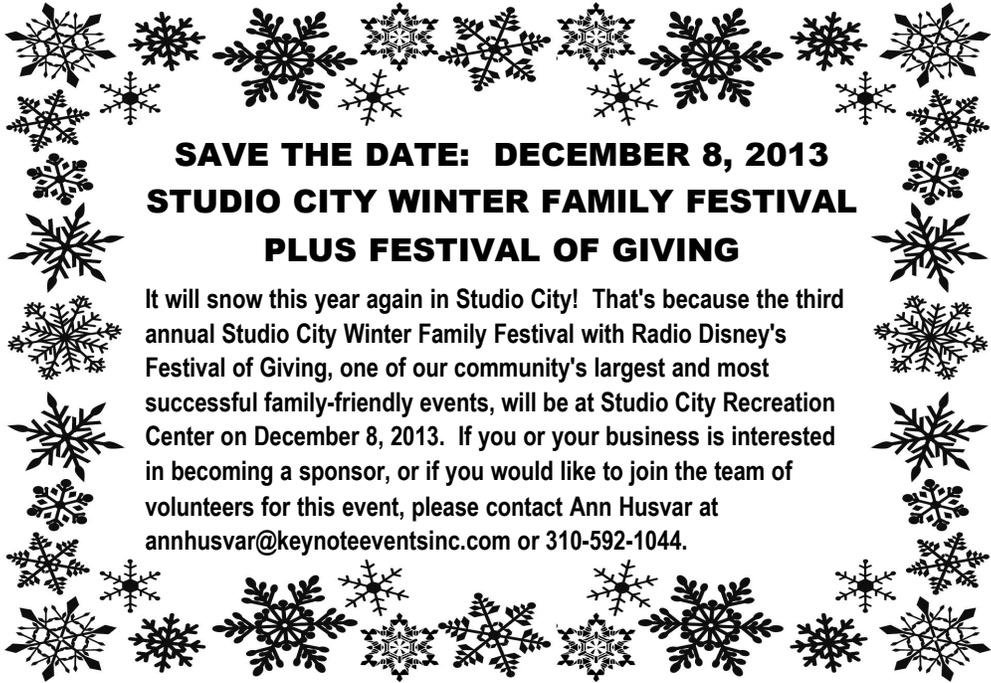
between Coldwater Canyon and Fulton Avenues. This location on the river bank is being improved by The Village Gardeners, a nonprofit organization, which, over the years, has installed many improvements along this portion of the river bank under the approval of Los Angeles County.

The Village Gardeners explained the removal was related to a number of factors, including:

- Diseased shrubs and trees, (Oleander, Eucalyptus, Pine);
- Invasive species (Palms);
- Trees located too close together (Pine);
- Trees leaning precariously (Eucalyptus, Pine); and
- Trees located where either a ramp or stairway is planned (Eucalyptus, Pine).

Village Gardeners understands this is a painful stage of the project; however, they have been assured by the County that all that has been removed will be replaced with a combination of native trees, shrubs and more. Many of the new plantings will be 24-inch box container size trees, which, with drip irrigation, will grow rapidly. Ultimately, there will be a much more balanced habitat than there was before.

A conceptual site plan has been developed with the approval of the County and can be viewed at the Village Gardeners website. The website lists the objectives, amenities and a partial plant list. Visit <http://thevillagegardeners.org>



**SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER 8, 2013
STUDIO CITY WINTER FAMILY FESTIVAL
PLUS FESTIVAL OF GIVING**

It will snow this year again in Studio City! That's because the third annual Studio City Winter Family Festival with Radio Disney's Festival of Giving, one of our community's largest and most successful family-friendly events, will be at Studio City Recreation Center on December 8, 2013. If you or your business is interested in becoming a sponsor, or if you would like to join the team of volunteers for this event, please contact Ann Husvar at annhusvar@keynoteeventsinc.com or 310-592-1044.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Alan Dymond

Here are a few activities and suggestions to fill in the remaining dog days of summer before getting involved and ready for another interesting fall and winter.

The Los Angeles Planning Department has renamed its Transportation Plan as "Mobility Element of the City's General Plan." This plan will consider and update all modes of travel on city streets. The City of Los Angeles is asking for public comment on its proposed mobility element through an online town hall. The SCRA has not yet taken a formal position, but is concerned that if only a few hundred people participate, this may not be the optimal method for public input regarding the future of transportation in Los Angeles. For now, however, SCRA members can provide their input and concerns by logging on and learning more about online Mobility Town Hall. Visit <http://ideas.la2b.org> to provide input and vote. Comments may be sent to the LA Planning Dept., attention Claire Bowin, via email at Claire.bowin@lacity.org

The SCRA Burbank Airport Committee Chair Chris Barnes recently sent a draft letter to the offices of Senators Boxer and Feinstein and Representatives Schiff and Sherman to encourage action to address a mandatory curfew at the airport between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. The staffers at Boxer's and Sherman's offices have moved on but their replacements agreed to accept and consider the letter. Staffers from Representatives Schiff and Sherman's offices also reminded Barnes that the two representatives have reintroduced the Valleywide Noise Relief Act. They have low expectations that it will go anywhere, but Barnes' sense is that they wanted their constituents to know they still think this issue is important.

Finally, let me encourage SCRA members to get a copy of the notes or "Talking Points" that Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian prepared prior to his appearance before the July SCRA Community Meeting. There is a wealth of useful information on the final State budget involving many subjects. Some, if not most, impact us here in Studio City. (See article in this newsletter about the assemblymember's remarks for information about how to access his notes).

Alan Dymond

**SCRA
COMMUNITY
MEETING**
Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2013

AGENDA

7:00 p.m. Refreshments

7:30 p.m. Presentation by
City Councilmember Paul
Krekorian

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



SCRA Committees

Burbank Airport, Chair: Chris Barnes
Crime and Safety
Los Angeles River Committee
Membership
Planning and Land Use

Officers

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Bonnie Goodman, Exec. Vice President
Claudia Freedle, Admin. Vice President
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Martha Hanrahan
Steve Hirsh
Art Howard
Barry Johnson

Robin Seidel
Barry Weiss
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Immediate Past President

Art Howard

Beautification Association

Bill Harmond, President
Francesca Corra, Vice President
Connie Elliot, Secretary
Bryan Abrams, Treasurer

Save L.A. River Studio City Open Space

Co-Directors
Laurie Cohn, Alan Dymond, Steve Hirsh,
Art Howard, Patty Kirby, Aaron
Mendelsohn, Barbara Robbin
saveopenspace@SLAROS.org

School Liaisons

Carpenter - Bonnie Goodman
Rio Vista - Barbara Robbin
Walter Reed - Bonnie Kalaf

Studio City Farmers Market

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