

**Hillside Federation
Newsletter
July, 2015**



www.hillsidefederation.org



Special Meeting – re:code LA

Join the Hillside Federation for a special meeting on *Tuesday, July 21*, when we will hear a presentation on **re:code LA**, the City of Los Angeles’s comprehensive revision of its zoning code. from the Department of City Planning’s Erick Lopez.

Attendees may want to review the most recent Zoning Advisory Committee presentation (an analysis of Single Family Residential zoning), which is available online at: <http://recode.la/updates/events/zac-meeting-3>. Planning’s project web page (<http://recode.la>) has extensive information on all aspects of the code revision.

Issues of particular concern for Federation members include impacts to the Mulholland Scenic Corridor Specific Plan, protection of scenic corridors, fire safety, roadway width issues, wildlife corridors, and closing Baseline Hillside Ordinance loopholes. We hope you can join us.

**Agenda
July 21, 2015
7:00 pm**

Pinz Bowling Center, 2nd Floor
12655 Ventura Blvd., Studio City

I. Call to Order

Guests:

Erick Lopez, re:code LA
LA Dept of City Planning

Angie Aramayo, for Assm. Nazarian

II. Approval of minutes

III. Officers’ Reports

- A. President’s Report
- B. Treasurer’s Report

IV. New Business

- A. 862-870 Moraga Dr. - Bruce Kuyper
- B. Ganymede Project - Dan Wright
- C. Griffith Park Access - Wayne Schlock

V. Old Business

VI. Adjournment

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 2,
There is no August meeting

Hillside Federation mission: To protect the property and the quality of life of the residents of the Santa Monica Mountains and other hillside areas of Los Angeles and its environs, and to encourage and promote those policies and programs which will best preserve the natural topography and wildlife of the mountains and hillsides for the benefit of all the people of Los Angeles.



The Hillside Federation Executive Committee (Mark Stratton, Carol Sidlow, Marian Dodge, Charley Mims, Don Andres, Wendy Rosen, and John Given) with honoree Renee Weitzer and Councilmember-elect David Ryu.

LA Times' Patt Morrison Interviews NPS Mountain Lion Specialists Jeff Sikich and Seth Riley

In case you missed it, National Park Service biologist Jeff Sikich and wildlife ecologist Seth Riley were featured in an interview in the Los Angeles Times recently by Pat Morrison. <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-morrison-riley-sikich-20150610-column.html>. Sikich and Riley lead the NPS mountain lion project in local mountain areas.

Morrison's excellent interview covers the major issues impacting local wildlife, including the relatively small habitat area and its isolation due to lack of freeway wildlife crossings. In addition, Sikich notes that two study animals died from anti-coagulant toxicity from eating smaller animals that had ingested rat poison.

Short Term Rental Statute Update

In response to two reports from City Administrative Officer Miguel Santana on the impacts of short term rentals and the question of collecting transient occupancy taxes from short term rentals (see the reports at <http://tinyurl.com/pa3fc2u> and <http://tinyurl.com/oht7dzl>), Councilmember Bonin (CD 11) and Council President Wesson (CD 10) moved that an ordinance be drafted to address short term rentals in the City of Los Angeles (see CF 14-1635-S2, at <http://tinyurl.com/qfjvlvz>).

The City has received numerous letters in support of allowing short term rentals, most of which come from hosts who are renting their primary residence (rentals that would *not* be prohibited under the current proposal). Hillside residents are particularly concerned about the impact of one-night rentals for parties and other events due to parking, traffic, and fire safety concerns. The Federation will continue to monitor.

Hillside Federation
Draft Minutes
June 3, 2015

1. Call to Order

President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:14 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Guests: Councilmember-Elect David Ryu
& Renee Weitzer**

Marian introduced special guests David Ryu, newly elected Councilmember from CD 4, and Renee Weitzer, former Chief Planning Deputy for Councilman Tom LaBonge. Renee was presented with an award from the Hillside Federation honoring her years of service to the City and the Hillside Federation spanning the Joel Wachs, John Ferraro, and Tom LaBonge years.

David Ryu introduced himself to the Hillside Federation and thanked Renee for her support and service to CD 4. David spoke about the election as being a big win for all CD 4 constituents and sending an encouraging message that voting matters. He plans to establish a transition team along with community members' participation with respect to staffing. Marian spoke about the Hillside Federation's mission and how the Federation can be used as an information resource, as 24 of the 44 member groups in the Federation are located in CD 4.

Guest: Janet Turner: for Congressman Lieu

Congressman Ted Lieu is a big supporter of the Rim of the Valley and is co-sponsoring Congressman Adam Schiff's legislation, although he has not yet voiced an opinion on which alternative he will support. Janet distributed a handout listing the various bills being proposed or co-sponsored by Congressman Lieu, including: reenactment of the Water Conservation fund (HR 1814), Red Rock Wilderness Act (co-sponsor), and the Solar Rebate Bill (HR 2502, co-sponsor).

Guest: Sam Liu: for State Senator Allen

The State budget needs to be passed by June

15, and the big winner will be more funding for education. State Senator Allen is working various pieces of legislation including the increase of renewable gas standards to at least 50%, and oil companies dumping dirty oil into aquifers. Senator Allen is open to suggestions for legislations that would help protect the mountains.

Marian spoke about AB 1373 which would exempt private developers from putting up billboards along the 101 freeway and the importance of Senator Allen voting "no" on the bill, as it would set a precedent and wipe out all the gains that have been made in the City of Los Angeles with respect to billboard blight and jeopardize the City's current billboard ban. California has been a leader in not allowing billboards along freeways.

Carol brought up the issue of Los Angeles getting a fair share of the gas tax revenue and hopes that Senator Allen was following this important issue to the City of Los Angeles. Wendy asked about the support of Senator Fran Pavley's bill SB 32 which would designate the money that is supposed to be spent on programs to reduce the carbon footprint to be used to purchase open space. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has undertaken a study to show the rewards of reducing development in an area and the regional impacts that follow.

Guest: Daniel Tamm: for Mayor Garcetti

Mayor Garcetti has appointed Deborah Ale Flint as the next Executive Director of Los Angeles World Airports including LAX, Van Nuys and Ontario.

A question was raised regarding the time-line status of high speed rail to LAX. Daniel will follow up and report back.

The Mayor's earthquake expert, Dr. Lucy Jones, has developed an Earthquake Preparedness Plan entitled "Resilience by Design." Details regarding this plan can be found on the website: LAMayor.org/earthquake. Everyone needs to be prepared as it isn't a case of "if" but rather "when" a major earthquake will occur. Daniel circulated an information sheet called "Home as

your Disaster Kit” with various in-home earthquake preparedness solutions.

The Mayor will attend the “Save the Drop 101” event on Saturday, June 6, 2015, 9:00 am to noon at Los Angeles DWP Building, 111 N. Hope Street, Los Angeles. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Carol asked if the Mayor has seen Controller Ron Galperin’s audit of the City Department of Transportation and if so, what were the Mayor’s thoughts? Daniel mentioned that the Mayor is grappling with various Department issues: hiring, nature of work, scheduling, etc. Regarding the report’s recommendations, Daniel will report back on the Mayor’s response.

Other questions included the increase in DWP rates which may be coming in the next few months vs. public’s cut back in water use and the possible raises for DWP employees. Daniel will bring this issue back to the Mayor. Wendy spoke about the Rim of the Valley Corridor study and the need for Los Angeles to weigh in to support Alternative D. Elke thanked the Mayor for attending the grand opening event of the L.A. Riverwalk in Sherman Oaks, and reported that the community was grateful for his participation.

II. Approval of Minutes

The May minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers’ Reports

A. President’s Report – Marian Dodge

Marian updated members about several Assembly bills including AB 57, which would severely restrict local governments’ ability to weigh in on cell towers, and AB 1373, which was previously discussed.

A portion of Mulholland Drive will be resurfaced on June 13-14 & June 20-21. The resurfacing schedule is as follows: June 13-14– Mulholland Drive from Woodrow Wilson Drive to Wrightwood Dr.; June 20-21– Mulholland Drive from Cahuenga Blvd. to Pyramid Place (near Runyon Canyon Park).

G2 Gallery in Venice will be having an exhibit of nature and wildlife photography called

“Getting There – A Wildlife Crossing Over the 101” until June 7, 2015.

901 Strada Vecchia, Bel Air - Wendy gave an update about the Board of Building and Safety Commission’s decision regarding an appeal from an Order to Comply by the project developer Mohammed Hadid. The Board of Building and Safety Commission voted to deny an extension of the permits. The case now goes to the City Attorney’s office for possible prosecution. Carol Sidlow mentioned the Clean Hands Ordinance which the City Council needs to revisit to address other enforcement issues.

B. Treasurer’s Report: Don Andres

The Silver Lake Heritage Trust has joined the Hillside Federation bringing the current membership to 44 groups. This is the greatest number of member groups in years.

The Holiday Party will be December 10, 2015 at the Mulholland Tennis Club.

IV. New Business

A. Runyon Canyon Knolls property - Don Andres and Stacy Sillins

Stacy Sillins and Don Andres requested support for the purchase of an empty open space lot surrounded by Runyon Canyon. The City of Los Angeles and the Trust for Public Land have a signed agreement to purchase some land that is adjacent to Runyon Canyon with funds being raised through City Proposition K funds with the balance being provided by the Trust for Public

**Save these dates for future
Hillside Federation meetings**

August – No Meeting

September 2

October 7

November 4

Holiday Party - December 10

Land. A grant submission will be made by early July and letters of support will be solicited.

MOTION: Don Andres moved that the Hillside Federation write a letter of support for the acquisition of open space in the area adjacent to Runyon Canyon. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Old Business

A. 10220 Scenario Lane - Katherine Bard

The neighbors successfully appealed a Lot Line Adjustment at a recent hearing before the West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission. Jamie Hall, the appellant's attorney, said the WLAAPC determined that the environmental for the project was inadequate. Katherine thanked the Federation for its assistance with the appeal.

B. Helicopter Noise - Bob Anderson, Gerry Hans

There have been 55 meetings with the Federal Aviation Administration over several years regarding this issue. The FAA issued a report stating that significant progress had been made towards a resolution. The Helicopter Noise Coalition subsequently sent a rebuttal letter to the FAA stating that significant progress had *not* been made. Without "significant progress" within a year, which has already passed, the FAA will be required to establish regulations on helicopters. The Helicopter Noise Complaint System is available on-line at <http://lahelicopternoise.org>, and by Phone at (424) 348-4354. The Hillside Federation has a link on the Federation's website.

MOTION: David Garfinkle moved that the Hillside Federation support the efforts of the Helicopter Noise Coalition. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Rim of the Valley Corridor Special Resource Study: Kim Lamorie

The slogan that has been adopted for the Rim of the Valley is "more parks for more people." Alternative C is preferred by the National Park Service, but Alternative D includes more acres and more benefits for wildlife connectivity. Comments must be submitted by June 30, 2015. An email will be circulated by Marian to the Hillside Federation groups to send comments

directly to the National Park Service as the public needs to weigh in on this very important project and to support Alternative D.

The Rim of the Valley Coalition, a grassroots movement, is trying to keep a non-political policy view and to instead educate everyone including elected officials and property owners about Rim of the Valley.

Wendy suggested that the Hillside Federation write a letter to Mayor Garcetti asking for the City of Los Angeles to support Alternative D.

MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation write a letter of support for Alternative D and that the Hillside Federation join the Rim of the Valley Coalition. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Pacoima Strip Mine – Craig Smith

A guided tour of the Foothill Aggregate Reclamation Project (Foothill ARP) and the proposed aggregate mining project will be held on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at 10:00 am. The tour begins at El Cariso Park, proceeds by bus to the site, and returns to the park where guests will enjoy a box lunch picnic. Reservations are required. The proposed strip mining project would have an impact on hundreds, perhaps thousands, of homes in Sylmar and would forever change and scar the natural beauty of the gateway to the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. To learn more about the project please visit <http://www.foothillarp.com/>.

E. Re:codeLA: Carol Sidlow

Carol encouraged everyone to go to the *re:code LA* website and stay informed. She and Marian are working on scheduling a special meeting of the Hillside Federation in late July with members of the Planning Department and the consultants for *re:code LA*.

F. Short-Term Rentals: John Given

John reported that Councilmembers Bonin and Wesson introduced a council motion on June 2 (14-1635-S2, second CM Koretz) calling for preparation of an ordinance that would authorize short-term rental of all or part of a host's primary residence, but would prohibit short-term rental of non-primary residence or rent-stabilization ordinance units, as well as capture transient occupancy taxes. This is a citywide issue, but

several Federation member orgs have noted a particular problem with respect to short-term rental of “party” houses in hillside areas, which is both a nuisance and a public safety issue.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Submitted by:

Carol Sidlow,
Recording Secretary

Members Present:

Beachwood Canyon	George Abrahams
Bel Air Skycrest	Mark Stratton
Benedict Canyon	Kerry Welland
	Nickie Miner
Brentwood Hills	John Given
Brentwood Residents	Wendy-Sue Rosen
Cahuenga Pass POA	Steven Kates
Canyon Back Alliance	Lois Becker
CASM-SFV	Craig Smith
Franklin Av/Hlwd Blvd	Don Andres
Franklin Hills Res	Charley Mims
Hollywood Dell Civic	Alexa Iles
Hollywoodland	Chip Clements
	Jim Van Dusen
Kagel Canyon	Kit Paull
Laurel Canyon	Jamie Hall
	Tony Tucci
Lookout Mountain	Carol Sidlow
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Marian Dodge
Oaks Homeowners	Gerry Hans

Res. of Beverly Glen	Wayne Schlock
Roscomare Valley	Stephen Benson
Save Coldwater Cyn!	Steve Twining
Sherman Oaks	Heidi Mackay
Studio City Res.	Elke Heitmeyer
	Alan Dymond
	Beth Dymond
Tarzana POA	David Garfinkle
Upper Nichols Canyon	Stacy Sillins

Guests:

Cong. Ted Lieu’s office	Janet Turner
Sen. Ben Allen’s office	Samuel Liu
CD 4-elect	David Ryu
staff	Renee Weitzer
	Catherine Landers
	Julia Duncan
Mayor’s office	Daniel Tamm
Helicopter Coalition	Bob Anderson
Cahuenga Pass POA	Karen Riesenfeld
Scenario Lane	Katherine Bard
N. Vista St.	Leigh French
CLAW	Alison Simard
	Skip Haynes
residents	Joan Kessler
	Warren Kessler
	Richard Rosenbloom
Howloud, Inc.	Brendan Farrell

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc. P.O. Box 27404 Los Angeles, CA 90027 president@hillsidefederation.org www.hillsidefederation.org	ORGANIZATIONS Beachwood Canyon Bel Air Knolls Property Owners Bel Air Ridge Association Bel Air Skycrest POA Benedict Canyon Association Brentwood Hills Homeowners Brentwood Residents Coalition Cahuenga Pass Property Owner Canyon Back Alliance CASM-SFV Crests Neighborhood Assn. Franklin Ave./Hollywood Bl. W. Franklin Hills Residents Assn. Highlands Owners Assn. Hollywood Dell Civic Assn. Hollywood Heights Assn. Hollywoodland Homeowners Holmby Hills HOA Kagel Canyon Civic Assn. Lake Hollywood HOA	Laurel Canyon Assn. Lookout Mountain Assn. Los Feliz Improvement Assn. Mt. Olympus Property Owners Mt. Washington Homeowners Nichols Canyon Assn. N. Beverly Dr/Franklin Canyon Oak Forest Canyon Assn. Oaks Homeowners Assn. Outpost Estates Homeowners Rancho Verdugo Estates HOA Residents of Beverly Glen Roscomare Valley Assn. Save Coldwater Canyon! Save Sunset Blvd. Shadow Hills Property Owners Sherman Oaks HOA Silver Lake Heritage Trust Studio City Residents Assn. Sunset Hills HOA	Tarzana Property Owners Assn. Torreyson Flynn Assn. Upper Mandeville Canyon Upper Nichols Canyon Whitley Heights Civic Assn. CHAIRPERSONS EMERITUS Shirley Cohen Jerome C. Daniel Patricia Bell Hearst Alan Kishbaugh Gordon Murley Steve Twining CHAIRPERSONS IN MEMORIAM Brian Moore Polly Ward
PRESIDENT Marian Dodge			
CHAIRMAN Charley Mims			
VICE PRESIDENTS Mark Stratton Wendy-Sue Rosen			
SECRETARY Carol Sidlow			
TREASURER Don Andres			
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY John Given			