

# Hillside Federation Newsletter March 2019



## Councilmember Koretz Introduces Resolution Opposing SB50 (Weiner)

Councilmember Paul Koretz (CD5) introduced a Los Angeles City Council resolution (CF 19-0002-S38) calling for the City to oppose California Senate Bill 50 (Wiener) because of numerous conflicts with existing programs and policies in the City, primarily the recently enacted Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) program. The resolution follows on Councilmember Koretz's December motion (CF 18-1226), which called for the Department of City Planning (DCP) to study and report back on SB50's potential impacts to the City's regulatory land use process. Councilmember David Ryu (CD4) recently submitted a letter of support to the earlier motion.

The City's Chief Legislative Analyst, Sharon Tso, recently issued a report recommending that Councilmember Koretz's resolution be adopted. That report includes the resolution, the text of SB50, and the December quarterly Housing Progress Report from DCP. The CLA report is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/y4no74qp>.

Please join us this month as we discuss SB50, Councilmember Blumenfield's motion on mobile digital advertising (see p. 2), updates on the Bel Air CC tree removal, Burbank flight path, and mega wildfires, and a new project on Nichols Canyon Road.

### Agenda

March 19, 2019

7:00 pm

Unitarian Universalist Church of Studio City  
12355 Moorpark Street, Studio City

#### I. Call to Order

##### Guests:

Ami Field-Meyer, Mayor's office

Cindy Villegas, Office of  
Assemblymember Nazarian

#### II. Approval of minutes

#### III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report – Charley Mims

##### Nominating Committee

B. Treasurer's Report – Don Andres

#### IV. Old Business

A. Bel Air Country Club Tree Removal  
– Linda Whitford

B. Burbank Flight Path update  
– Suellen Wagner

C. Mega Wildfires Discussion report  
– Lois Becker, Wendy-Sue Rosen

#### IV. New Business

A. SB50 – Steve Twining

B. Mobile Digital Advertising - CF19-0104  
(Blumenfield) – Marian Dodge

C. 2070 Nichols Cyn Rd. – Justine Schmidt

#### VI. Adjournment

Next meeting: April 16, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Studio City  
12355 Moorpark Street, Studio City

**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.*

## **Council Motion Introduced to Address Illegal Mobile Digital Ads**

Councilmember Bob Blumenfield introduced a motion (CF 19-0104) to address the rapidly expanding illegal use of mobile digital billboards, also known as Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) placed atop ride-sharing platform (Uber/Lyft) and some taxi vehicles. Councilmember Blumenfield penned an opinion piece in the Los Angeles Daily News explaining why he brought the motion to ban DMS from our City streets: they pose a serious public safety hazard, they are already illegal, and if they are not formally prohibited immediately, they will spread like a virus. The Daily News article is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2va7mzn>. The motion is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2j8lhmo>.

The signs are illegal under state law (see Cal. Vehicle Code 25400 and 25950) and existing City regulations, so it is not clear why Council action is necessary for LAPD or other agencies to cite vehicles.

The motion is pending before the City Council's Transportation Committee (CM Bonin, Chair, CMs Martinez and Koretz, members), but has not been scheduled for a hearing. Comments regarding the motion may be submitted to the committee through Legislative Assistant John White, at [john.white@lacity.org](mailto:john.white@lacity.org).

## **Ethics Commission Recommends Amendments to Developer Contribution Restriction Motion**

Seven City councilmembers (Ryu, Krekorian, Koretz, Martinez, Bonin, and Buscaino, seconded: Wesson) submitted a

motion (CF 19-0046) in January to restrict developer contributions to City elected officials, and requested the City Ethics Commission study the issue and report back. The commission's recommendation was reported back on March 1, and is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2f9tqs4>.

Key recommendations include: banning campaign contributions (and bundling of contributions) from non-individuals, developers (defined as applicants for discretionary land use entitlements), lobbyists, bidders, and contractors; and banning elected officials from soliciting behest payments from restricted sources, with limited exceptions, including solicitations made due to a state of emergency, or when the request is made through mass media or to an entire audience in a public gathering.



Male lion P-64 (left) died a week after the fire; P-65, a female, survived. Photo: NPS.

## **NPS Announces Death of Mountain Lions Due to Woolsey Fire**

In a February 26 Santa Monica Mirror article from Keldine Hull, the National Park Service announced two of the thirteen mountain lions they were tracking, P-64 and P-74, had died due to the Woolsey Fire.

The report is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2n2uhv8>.

**Hillside Federation  
January 9, 2019  
Draft Minutes**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:13 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Guest: Erin Schneider Field Deputy for Supervisor Sheila Kuehl**

LA County has established a working group to evaluate and report on the response and recovery regarding the Woolsey Fire. They are addressing the shortage of mental health hospital beds as well as limited availability of treatment. They have established a LGBT Health center. They are working on seven bridge housing facilities. They held a successful Homeless Connect Day in Los Feliz.

**II. Approval of minutes**

The January minutes were approved as written.

**III. Officers' Reports**

A. President's Report – Charley Mims

The Federation made a donation in honor of Zev Yaroslavsky's wife Barbara. Zev sent a personal message thanking the Federation.

The Federation received a City proclamation from City Attorney Mike Feuer, and CMs Paul Koretz, and David Ryu at the Holiday Party.

KCET So Cal Connected aired a 3-part program on environmental issues featuring Jamie Hall on the loss of protected trees, Marian Dodge on the difficulty city has spending special funds,

**Bringing an Issue to the Federation**

If your organization would like to bring an issue to the attention of the Federation, please complete a Request for Action form (available at [www.hillsidefederation.org](http://www.hillsidefederation.org)) and send it to [RFA@hillsidefederation.org](mailto:RFA@hillsidefederation.org) along with supporting documents no later than 10 days prior to the meeting. This will help you organize your presentation while providing the necessary information to allow the Federation to consider your organization's request.

and Barbara Broide on housing being built too close to air pollution from freeways.

B. Treasurer's Report – Don Andres

All bills are paid. 20 of our 40 members have already paid their 2019 dues. Don presented the 2019 budget.

**MOTION:** Don moved that the 2019 budget be approved. The motion passed.

**IV. Old Business**

A. Bel Air Country Club tree removal – Linda Whitford / Jamie Hall representing

The owners are claiming the trees have Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB) so they automatically get stamped for removal. The Board of Public Works withdrew the matter because the 18 protected trees had already been removed. The Board said they couldn't force people to apply for a permit and that they trust the Country Club. Linda had offered an expert to inspect the trees. For \$300 a year golf courses can participate in a program to be environmentally more sensitive. Then the golf course stopped dealing with Linda.

It is difficult to respond because the board took no action so there isn't any action to appeal. Linda had support of CD 5, but the President of the Board of Public Works said CM Koretz had withdrawn his support. City Attorney Ted Jordan said the sole remedy was to have City Council adopt a resolution stating that the law be applied correctly. One question members wondered about was whether by failing to act the Board of Public Works abusing its discretion. CM Ryu has put forth three tree motions; could he add another?

B. Burbank flight path update – Suellen Wagner

Suellen was absent; the update will be continued to March.

**V. New Business**

A. Councilmember Ryu's Developer Contribution motion (CF 19-0046) – Steve Twining

Steve Twining described the motion, followed by brief discussion by the board.

**MOTION:** Steve Twining moved the Hillside Federation draft and submit a letter of support for council motion CF 19-0046 which calls for restrictions on developer contributions to local elected officials. The motion passed.

B. Hollywood Community Plan Update – Jamie Hall

Jamie gave a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate the special issues in the hillsides which were largely ignored in the Hollywood Community Plan DEIR: wildlife, streams/rivers, sensitive species, Very High Fire Severity Zones, scenic preservation and development. We need a comprehensive plan with implementation programs and mitigation measures. Four organizations hired a consultant through Jamie to respond to the DEIR.

C. Sepulveda Transit Corridor – Patricia Bell Hearst

Patricia distributed copies of the Sepulveda Transit Corridor proposal announcement. There is more information available on the MTA website and in the LA Times. There are several proposals to a Sepulveda/405 alternate.

**Announcements:**

Kite Hill: the scheduled hearing was continued. The community wants to buy the property. Silver Lake Heritage Trust bought the adjacent property. The neighbors have hired Jamie Hall to represent them in opposing the project.

**VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Benson, Recording Secretary

**Members in Attendance:**

- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Argyll Civic Assn        | Cheryl Gaskill     |
| Beachwood Cyn NA         | Isabelle Megginson |
| Bel-Air Assn             | Maureen Levinson   |
|                          | Linda Whitford     |
| Bel Air Hills Assn       | Steve Twining      |
| Bel Air Skycrest POA     | Mark Stratton      |
| Brentwood Hills HOA      | John Given         |
| Cahuenga Pass POA        | Steven Kates       |
|                          | Krista Michaels    |
| Doheny-Sunset Plaza      | Ellen Evans        |
| Franklin/Hlwd Bl West    | Don Andres         |
|                          | Yvonne Hessler     |
| Franklin Hills Res Assn  | Charley Mims       |
| Hollywood Dell Civic     | Mary Ledding       |
| Kagel Cyn Civic Assn     | Kit Paull          |
| Laurel Cyn Assn          | Jamie Hall         |
|                          | Cathy Wayne        |
| Los Feliz Improv. Assoc. | Marian Dodge       |
| Nichols Cyn NA           | Julie Kremkus      |
| Oaks HOA                 | Gerry Hans         |
| Res. of Beverly Glen     | Stephen Benson     |
| Shadow Hills POA         | Cindy Bloom        |
| Sherman Oaks HA          | Jay Weitzler       |
| Studio City Res. Assn    | Alan Dymond        |
|                          | Beth Dymond        |
| Upper Nichols Cyn        | Joan Cashel        |

**Guests:**

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Sup. Kuehl’s office | Erin Schneider       |
| Chair Emeritus      | Patricia Bell Hearst |
| Nichols Canyon      | Fabian Kremkus       |
| Shadow Hills POA    | Lynne Toby           |
| Babene Pierson      |                      |

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc. P.O. Box 27404 Los Angeles, CA 90027 <a href="mailto:president@hillsidefederation.org">president@hillsidefederation.org</a> <a href="http://www.hillsidefederation.org">www.hillsidefederation.org</a>	<b>ORGANIZATIONS</b> Beachwood Canyon Bel Air Association Bel-Air Hills Association Bel Air Knolls Property Owners Bel Air Skycrest Property Owners Benedict Canyon Association Brentwood Hills Homeowners Brentwood Residents Coalition Cahuenga Pass Property Owners Canyon Back Alliance CASM-SFV Crests Neighborhood Assn. Doheny-Sunset Plaza NA Franklin Ave./Hollywood Bl. W. Franklin Hills Residents Assn. Highlands Owners Assn. Hollywood Dell Civic Assn. Hollywood Heights Assn.	Holmby Hills HOA Kagel Canyon Civic Assn. Lake Hollywood HOA Laurel Canyon 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 Residents of Beverly Glen Save Coldwater Canyon! Shadow Hills Property Owners Sherman Oaks HO Assn. 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. <b>CHAIRPERSONS EMERITUS</b> Shirley Cohen Jerome C. Daniel Patricia Bell Hearst Alan Kishbaugh Steve Twining <b>CHAIRPERSONS IN MEMORIAM</b> Brian Moore Gordon Murley Polly Ward
<b>PRESIDENT</b> Charley Mims			
<b>CHAIRMAN</b> Marian Dodge			
<b>VICE PRESIDENTS</b> Mark Stratton John Given			
<b>TREASURER</b> Don Andres			
<b>SECRETARY</b> Stephen Benson			