

"Together
we have
clout!"

JANUARY 2020

SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

ShermanOaks914.com



COMMUNITY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020 - 7:15 PM
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL • RIVERSIDE & WOODMAN, SHERMAN OAKS

GUEST SPEAKER: CITY CONTROLLER RON GALPERIN

PROP HHH AUDIT

- \$1.2 BILLION HOMELESS HOUSING BOND -
- TOO SLOW AND TOO EXPENSIVE -

IMPROVING DWP's WILDFIRE PREVENTION EFFORTS

City Controller Ron Galperin will be the guest speaker at our January 15, 2020 Meeting. He was first elected City Controller in 2013 and then re-elected in 2017. Prior to being City Controller, he practiced law and was actively involved in Neighborhood Council activities. He was also Chairman of the Los Angeles Commission on Revenue efficiency. The goal of the Commission was to find new revenue sources and budget savings.

City Controller Galperin will discuss Audits that have been conducted by his office. The purposes of the Audits is to look for financial inefficiencies and lack of transparency within the City. One of the main Audits is the voter approved \$1.2 billion Prop. HHH Homeless Housing Bond. As reflected in Los Angeles Times articles, and the Audit, the money is being spent too slowly and the units being built are too expensive given other choices that exist. In addition, he will discuss his Audit of the Department of Water and Power wildfire prevention efforts. These efforts are needed to prevent the problems and liability that PG&E is having by not protecting their transmission lines from creating fires which caused deaths and major destruction throughout California. This is a particular concern of residents especially homeowners that live in hillside areas of Los Angeles.

MEAL OF THE MONTH

SALAD / BAKED CHICKEN WITH SIDE DISHES AND DESSERTS

Jules Feir announces that mixed green salad and special baked chicken along with side dishes and desserts will be served and can be enjoyed during our Social Hour starting at 6:15 p.m.



SHERMAN OAKS HAPPENINGS... Find out at: www.shermanoaks914.com

21ST ANNUAL TOY DRIVE HUGE SUCCESS

Our 21st Annual Toy Drive was a great success! In spite of the reoccurring rain, a record number of toys were collected for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services. The Agency held a Holiday event for foster children and the toys you donated were the only ones distributed at the event.

Thanks to the following officials for attending the event: L A County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (ret.), City Attorney Michael Feuer, State Senator Bob Hertzberg, City Controller Ron Galperin, our Councilmen David Ryu and Paul Koretz, and LAPD Chief Michel Moore.

Many thanks to Jules Feir (Chairman of the Event), Matt Epstein (fantastic antique cars to hold the toys), Goodway Printing and, of course, Marshall Long (Santa Claus). Special thanks to Gelson's for use of their parking lot, their advertising of the event and the foods and drinks provided to everyone. Police and Fire equipment and a trash truck were at the event for children to explore. Also, a special thank you to Council Deputy Milene Minassians for arranging the City equipment and personnel.

ELEVATED TRAIN CONCEPTS: ACTION NEEDED

Bob Anderson indicates we need your help. The Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association (SOHA) and Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) are infuriated that Metro is even considering elevated train concepts for the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project. The trains would run underground on the Westside, but run elevated above Sepulveda Boulevard in Sherman Oaks. They will ruin our community. In July, the Metro Board selects which concepts go forward and which do not. We have only a few months to make sure Metro rejects these two horrible concepts running elevated above Sepulveda. SOHA and SONC strongly support Metro's two fully underground subway concepts. These concepts are expensive at \$13+ billion, more than twice the budget Metro has available, but worth the cost. We also support a more affordable monorail above the 405 that has less community impact and is quicker to build.

Metro's noisy elevated train concepts would run 20 feet above Sepulveda Boulevard for five miles starting at Valley Vista Boulevard. Goodbye to quiet and privacy, especially if you live or work on the second floor with riders looking in at all hours. The trains would eliminate left turn lanes on Sepulveda Boulevard, drastically worsening traffic congestion across Sherman Oaks and Encino. During construction, two and one-half miles of Sepulveda Boulevard in Sherman Oaks will be almost impassable for years because Metro must move an eight-foot water main. Metro will demolish businesses and residences to make room for large elevated stations. Property values near elevated tracks will nose-dive. The Valley does not deserve this.

Please email Metro today at sepulvedatransit@metro.net and tell them that elevated trains above Sepulveda Boulevard are a non-starter and not the fair share the Valley deserves. If you, like us, support Metro's fully underground subway concepts, tell Metro that. If you support a monorail running above the 405, tell Metro that too. You can also mail comments to Cory Zelmer, Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project Manager, One Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop 99-22-5, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Then email your comments to our Valley Metro Board member, Councilman Paul Krekorian, at councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org. Also, call his office at (213) 473-7002 and tell him how infuriated you are that Metro is even thinking about having elevated trains above Sepulveda Boulevard in the Valley. Tell him we want our fair share – just like the Westside.

SENATE BILL 50 - SERIOUS CONCERNS MUST BE ADDRESSED

As we begin a new decade, Maria Kalban reports the SOHA legislation committee wants to let everyone know it is important to be vigilant and actively working toward the defeat of Senate Bill 50. This bill would allow apartment buildings to be intermixed into our single family neighborhoods. It is important for everyone to understand that we do not object to building more housing, we object to building apartments within our single family neighborhoods. There are many ways to increase housing in Sherman Oaks, but it must be with community and local government input. We cannot allow SB 50 to take away our local control. It is also important to remember that this bill does not mandate affordable housing which is the problem we are facing.

As we get ready for this new legislative year, SB 50 will be pushed through the legislature quickly. We need to be ready to respond forcefully and collectively when the right time comes. We must let Senator Hertzberg, who has a leadership position in Sacramento, know he must address our concerns to the legislature. Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian needs to know how harmful this will be to all of us. David Ryu, our Councilman must let our Senator and Assemblyman know how important their vote against this bill will be for their District. Lastly, we need to let Governor Gavin Newsom know we are not going to allow this assault on our neighborhoods.

We will send out an email blast when we need you to write to our representatives. The housing problem has to be solved, but not at the expense of our neighborhoods.

CITY ATTORNEY SUING FAA OVER FLIGHT PATH SHIFT

After more than a year of resolutions, letters and public pressure against the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), City Attorney Mike Feuer is suing the FAA over the southern shift of planes departing from Hollywood Burbank Airport. In 2017, flight paths were changed with very little community input, and to the detriment of Sherman Oaks and the environment.

Over 250,000 of south Valley residents have been affected by the flight path changes, and that is why the City hired an independent consultant to address the issues relative to the operations of both Burbank and Van Nuys Airports. Councilmen David Ryu, Paul Kerkorian and Paul Koretz have been working with community groups and the City Attorney to first get the FAA to admit that the Burbank Airport flight paths were moved to the south over Sherman Oaks and Studio City. The FAA has stated that they do not know why that occurred. They finally admitted that the FAA flight paths were revised causing commercial jets to fly south towards Mulholland Drive. Since the planes are closer to hillside homes the problem is more intense. Also, the jet noise reverberates off the walls of the canyons.

At the request of the Los Angeles City Council, Councilman Ryu and his colleagues have developed a noise impact roundtable to understand the effects of the new flight paths on communities. Councilman Ryu will continue to support efforts to hold the FAA accountable to the community, and focus on the Van Nuys Airport flight path changes at next month's Joint Noise Task Force meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2020.

SOHA COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATES

Tom Glick reports that SOHA's Comprehensive Planning Committee is tasked with monitoring the City's current planning efforts like the Community Plan Update Program and the amendments to the Ventura-Cahuenga Boulevards Corridor Specific Plan. The current status of the Southeast Community Plan Update by the City's Planning Department is in its second phase where they will be meeting with small groups of various stakeholders and other community interests. These meetings will take place the first quarter of 2020. The other major planning issue is the update of the Ventura Specific Plan originally adopted in 1992. There was a major effort in 2017 by City Council to amend this Plan which at that time was 25 years old. All five Councilman who have Ventura Boulevard in their district requested a comprehensive update of the Plan and said it is necessary. The Planning Department which is tasked with this effort has been conducting initial meetings over the past two months with the Neighborhood Councils to tell communities the scope of their proposed amendments. It is the opinion of this Committee that Planning's scope is simplified, overly cost-efficient, rushed, and, frankly, fails to go far enough to deal with the true, systemic problems with the Plan.

PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY - KEEP SOHA STRONG

Nancy Sogoian urges PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY - KEEP SOHA STRONG: Tell a Friend, Bring a Neighbor! As a non-profit, 100% member-supported organization, SOHA is as strong as its support from our community. All residents of Sherman Oaks, whether homeowners or not, benefit from a strong Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association. Why? Because SOHA works tirelessly to protect, preserve and enhance the quality of life for all Sherman Oaks residents! If you are not a member, please join! Your \$30 annual membership is a great investment in your community! Please share our new membership flyer with your neighbors, encourage them to join and bring them to a meeting where they can learn what is happening in Sherman Oaks, speak one-on-one with our guest speakers and enjoy delicious food!

STAY CONNECTED - RECEIVE UPDATES

Do you receive our email updates? If not, we do not have your email address. Email it to us at soha914@gmail.com.

Please visit the Association's Website at www.shermanoaks914.com. Obtain information about our next Meeting, read Newsletters, learn about attractions in the area, and find out how to contact elected officials and City Departments for services.

Very truly yours,



Richard H. Close, President

soha

SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

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