

"Together  
we have  
clout!"



These positions included patrolling the streets, special enforcement groups to Commanding Officer of Recruitment and Employment Division.

Deputy Chief Hamilton is now the highest ranking Officer in the San Fernando Valley. He oversees approximately 2,200 sworn personnel and 500 civilian staff assigned to 7 geographic areas (Police Stations) in the Valley. The Van Nuys Police Station oversees the Sherman Oaks area. He is responsible for all LAPD efforts in the Valley.

Deputy Chief Hamilton will give us an update on his goals and objectives to make the Valley and Sherman Oaks even safer. Los Angeles number of homicides in the first six months of 2,021 versus the first six months of 2020 is a 29% increase. Are there too few or too many officers? Are there functions that should be conducted by non police officers?

If you have a question for Deputy Chief Hamilton, email it to us at [SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com](mailto:SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com) on or before Noon on Monday, September 13, 2021.

To attend the virtual Zoom Meeting, the Meeting ID is 858 4993 6079 and the Passcode is SOHA914. Please arrive at the waiting room between 7:00 p.m. and 7:10 p.m. The Meeting starts promptly at 7:15 p.m. If you are unfamiliar with how to sign into a Zoom Meeting or need help, please email us at [SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com](mailto:SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com). We will email you instructions.

## ZOOM COMMUNITY MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 - 7:15 PM

JOIN FROM ANYWHERE - VIA COMPUTER, TABLET, SMARTPHONE OR TELEPHONE

### GUEST SPEAKER: LAPD DEPUTY CHIEF ALAN HAMILTON

**HOW CAN THE POLICE MAKE THE VALLEY  
AND SHERMAN OAKS SAFER?**

**DO WE NEED MORE OR LESS OFFICERS?**

**CAN SOME FUNCTIONS BE CONDUCTED  
BY NON-POLICE OFFICERS?**

Our meeting is on a special date in September – Tuesday, September 14, 2021. Our featured speaker will be LAPD Deputy Chief Alan Hamilton. He was born in Los Angeles, has a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Management and has had many positions within the LAPD.

### PLEASE NOTE:

**SPECIAL DATE FOR SEPTEMBER MEETING**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021**

# **DANGEROUS, DESTRUCTIVE SB9 AND SB10 HAVE PASSED! - ACTION NEEDED: URGE GOVERNOR TO VETO -**

In a surprise move and over the objections of organizations and stakeholders throughout the State, the State Assembly voted to pass both SB 9 and SB 10. The bills required 41 votes and passed with 44 votes. How does this affect us? Unless the Governor vetoes these bills, we will soon have laws that will permit City Councils to override voter approved initiatives, end the right for public hearings and CEQA review for 4-10-unit apartments being built in all single-family neighborhoods, and allow the splitting of every lot. What is shocking is that these bills do not mandate any affordable housing which is the real issue.

Our Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian was a firm NO on both bills on the Assembly floor. He was one of two speakers that had the courage to stand up for communities. We sincerely thank him for his support and hope you reach out and support him.

Senator Robert Hertzberg voted to oppose SB 10, but remains in support of SB 9, the lot splitting bill. Although this bill will be a great gift to developers who will be able to add 4 units of market rate housing where one house stood, Senator Hertzberg was unable to vote no.

It is important to understand the pressure our legislators are getting from YIMBY (Yes In My Backyard) the well-funded lobbying arm of hi-tech and land speculator groups. We must stay engaged in our local politics because our rights and our communities are at stake. It is important to understand who our candidates are and what they stand for.

Large, commercial corridors can be used to add much needed housing. Here is where there is the economy of scale and the infrastructure to build meaningful mixed income housing.

There are forces in Sacramento that want to make single family neighborhoods the issue. The issue is affordable housing, not adding market rate multifamily housing in single family neighborhoods.

We need to take our concerns to the Governor. He needs our votes as much as we need his vetoes.

**Call the Governor's office at (916) 445-2841**

**Urge him to veto these two bills!**

**Our legislators can do better!**

## **SOHA DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED IN COUNCILMEMBER RAMAN**

We are very disappointed that our own Councilwoman Nithya Raman supported SB 10, a bill that will allow 10-unit apartments in single-family neighborhoods. She said she was in support because the bill has an opt out option for cities.

As pressure from the State builds for more housing production, few cities will "opt" out of this option. Cities already have the power to change zoning to allow more density. What this bill does is stop public input and environmental review on a zone change. That is a big deal! A project of this size will now be "by right" with no community input. Our Councilwoman Raman in a speech to City Council stated that her district needs to produce more housing and she wants her constituents (Sherman Oaks residents) to stop saying no to projects and instead start saying yes and offering solutions.

Our goal from the very beginning has been to offer solutions for adding affordable housing in our community. We have an 80-page study on how and where to add affordable housing in our community. Knowing this, unfortunately our Councilwoman Raman has yet to schedule a meeting to review our ideas.

# 2020 CENSUS DATA GIVES VALLEY A BOOST

2020 Census data has finally arrived. Maps are being drawn. We were worried how the new population data would impact Sherman Oaks and the Valley – especially for City Council. Bob Anderson reports that the Valley grew a little faster than the rest of the city – and that’s good news for Sherman Oaks. It means the Valley gets a little bigger piece of the City Council. It gives the Valley a chance to get its fair share this time around.

In 2011 redistricting, the Valley ended up with five full districts and two districts split between the Valley and Westside. These two over-the-Pass districts – Council District 4 with Sherman Oaks and Council District 5 with Encino – were gerrymandered and shortchanged a bit on population due to finagling by the 2011 Redistricting Commission and the 2011 City Council. We didn’t get our fair share.

SOHA is working to ensure a better redistricting outcome for Sherman Oaks and the Valley in 2021. We have recommended to the Redistricting Commission that there should be only one single over-the-Pass district from the Valley to the Westside. This district should be fully contiguous so we can share common interests and challenges with our neighboring communities. We’ve also recommended how the Commission should better balance Valley district populations. And the Census data is on our side.

If the Commission enacts our recommendations, Sherman Oaks, Encino, and Tarzana would be in a very different single over-the-Pass Council District 5. This new Council District 5 would be 67% Valley majority. Wow! Two-thirds! We could elect our own Valley-based councilmember in 2022.

But, it won’t happen unless you tell the Redistricting Commission you want it to. Tell them you want only one district over the Sepulveda Pass. Tell them to be fair when they figure Valley district populations. Tell them the Valley almost left once and we might leave again.

**You can email comments to [redistricting.lacity@lacity.org](mailto:redistricting.lacity@lacity.org).  
You can also go to the Commission’s website at <https://laccrc2021.org>,  
click on the “Community Engagement” tab in the menu,  
and submit testimony on a Community of Interest form,  
provide public hearing feedback,  
or even draw a map using the mapping software.**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP! PLEASE COMMENT SOON!**

## WHAT’S NEXT FOR THE SEPULVEDA TRANSIT CORRIDOR PROJECT?

Metro is still silent about the most important transit project in the history of Los Angeles – the Sepulveda Transit Corridor from the Valley to the Westside and eventually LAX. We know that Metro will begin environmental studies sometime this Fall. But that simply means tossing comments from the public into a sham outreach process that ignores the people who are actually paying for this project with our income and sales tax dollars. Yes, we pay twice over and get no rapid transit rail lines.

SOHA is concerned. Everyone in Sherman Oaks is concerned. We should be concerned when three of the five projects drill huge tunnels under our Sherman Oaks hillsides. Not easy to drill with underground aquifers, earthquake faults, and other natural challenges. One of the concepts actually drills through the hills just east of the 405 and its 40-foot tunnel comes out of the hillside at Valley Vista and Sepulveda where it runs elevated 20 feet above Sepulveda for five miles in the Valley. What idiot thought of this idea? Drilling tunnels for four years is bad enough, but when they’re final operating, big heavy trains will go by every 90 seconds in each direction. So much for peace, quiet, and quality of life – and home values.

SOHA is working closely with Bel Air-Beverly Crest to make this project better by telling Metro how the concepts need to change for the public good. Stay tuned and expect action soon. If you want to help, contact SOHA’s Bob Anderson at [BobHillsideOrdinance@gmail.com](mailto:BobHillsideOrdinance@gmail.com).

# SOHA VOLUNTEER BOARD PROFILE: MARIA PAVLOU KALBAN

The Association is starting a new program – profiling members of the Board of Directors of the Association. The first profile is of Maria Pavlou Kalban. She chairs our Legislative Committee and is focused on defeating efforts in Sacramento to eliminate single-family neighborhood zoning. The proposed laws would allow apartments to be built in single-family areas.

Maria likes to think of her life as moving in circles, making the most out of every opportunity.

After graduating from UCLA, Maria began her career in the fashion industry as a department store buyer, choosing the best products for her customers. She took this expertise into the design and manufacturing side of the business, creating the best products for her buyers. Her career evolved even further when she took up weaving – actually creating the fabric for products. She had completed a full circle, a journey through every aspect of the fashion industry.

And Maria’s tendency to work in a cyclical manner does not end there.

When Maria started working with the Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association she was given the position of Legislative Chair. Quickly, she became aware of and frustrated with plenty of the bills coming out of Sacramento that infringe on single-family neighborhoods without the consideration of public opinion.

“We started fighting those bills, but I realized early on that we could not be the only homeowners association that fought these,” Maria says. After a few months of organizing and contacting other neighborhood groups, Maria created United Neighbors, a coalition of “200 groups, state-wide, that represent thousands of people.”

Maria is the leader of United Neighbors and is constantly fighting for bills that help people in need of affordable housing. Maria began her time with SOHA as someone who objected to bills that posed a threat to communities across California, and now she has the opportunity to influence them. Yet again, her dedication and commitment to her work has caused her to come full-circle.

At present, she encourages everyone to get involved as she did and get to know their senators and assembly members.

United Neighbors Website: [www.unitedneighbors.net](http://www.unitedneighbors.net)



## HUNGRY FOR THE PAST? IT’S CLOSER THAN EVER.



Driving down the busy streets of Los Angeles, everyone recognizes the iconic signage of NORMS restaurant. The bold Googie style orange lettering harkens back to fifties nostalgia and comfort food. But have you ever actually been inside?

NORMS’ newest location is in Encino, a few blocks from Sherman Oaks. When entering it is clear that they value their welcoming environment and dedicated staff. “Guests can always come in and see familiar, smiling faces, some of which they have been seeing for decades,” says NORMS’ CEO, Mike Colonna. “We like to think of ourselves as more of a community center rather than a restaurant and are committed to continuing to serve time-honored dishes to SoCal locals for generations to come, always focusing on quality and everyday values.”

In addition to their homey and vibe, customers are provided with delicious menu options, ranging from a classic “Bigger Better Breakfast” with bacon sausage and eggs, to a chef’s original “Habanero Jalapeño Bacon Cheeseburger.” NORMS also offers a wide variety of cuts of steak that are fresh and uniquely affordable. The chefs at NORMS are always striving to create meals that satisfy hungry customers and their trademark throwback aesthetic.



While NORMS locations are plentiful, Sherman Oaks residents should check out the brand new NORMS restaurant in Encino. They are offering indoor dining, to-go, and delivery and are excited for new customers who want to dive in and enjoy the NORMS experience.

NORMS - Encino  
16573 Ventura Blvd (at Rubio Ave.), Encino, CA 91436  
(747) 208-4537  
Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.

*The above article is not an advertisement. SOHA does not accept payment for articles.*

## HAVE YOU SEEN OUR SITE?

The Association's website address is [www.SOHA914.com](http://www.SOHA914.com). It is not case sensitive. We urge you to explore the website. The front page has information about our upcoming meeting, including a link to the Zoom Meeting and login information for Zoom. It also has information and links to current projects affecting Sherman Oaks.

The website also allows you to explore prior Newsletters, old photos of events and detailed information about ongoing Sherman Oaks related projects.



# soha

---

**The ONLY member-supported,  
volunteer-run, non-profit  
community organization  
dedicated to preserving and protecting  
the quality of life here in Sherman Oaks.**

## Do you receive our email updates?

If not, we do not have your email address. Email it to us at [soha914@gmail.com](mailto:soha914@gmail.com).

Very truly yours,



Richard H. Close, President

Newsletter Graphic Services  
donated by Joel Pomonik

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK SOHA914 AND ON INSTAGRAM 914SOHA!**

# soha

**SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

POST OFFICE BOX 5223  
SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91413

DELIVER BY SEPTEMBER 11

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
VAN NUYS, CA  
PERMIT NO. 279

Return Service Requested

### Officers

**President**

Richard H. Close

**Vice President**

Matt Epstein

**Vice President**

Jules Feir

**Treasurer**

John Isen

**Secretary**

Jay Weitzler

Founded in 1964

# soha

**SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

POST OFFICE BOX 5223  
SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91413

Information: (818) 377-4590

[www.SOHA914.com](http://www.SOHA914.com)

### Board of Directors

Bob Anderson

Chuck Betz

Richard H. Close

Matt Epstein

Jules Feir

Tom Glick

John Isen

Maria Pavlou Kalban

Marshall Long

Nancy Sogoian

Jay Weitzler



[www.facebook.com/soha914](http://www.facebook.com/soha914)