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SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

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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



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State Senator Robert Hertzberg

***Is Water Conservation Needed?**

***Why Are Tax Increases Needed?**

***How Is The State Helping Sherman Oaks?**

COMMUNITY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018 - 7:15 PM
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL • RIVERSIDE & WOODMAN, SHERMAN OAKS

Our State Senator Robert Hertzberg will be the featured speaker at our Meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2018. He previously represented Sherman Oaks as our Assemblyman and during that time was the Speaker of the Assembly.

The Los Angeles Times described Bob Hertzberg as “a high-velocity wonk; he loves BIG ideas and will flesh out every one of them if you give him a chance.”

The Daily News has said Robert Hertzberg “has a relentless dedication and indefatigable energy – he has a reputation for integrity and perseverance.”

Attend our Wednesday Meeting to learn more from our State Senator, Robert Hertzberg.

Jules Feir announces that Te’kila will be the Restaurant of the Month, located at 13817 Ventura Boulevard and celebrating almost 2 years in business Te’kila immerses guests in an authentic Mexican cantina fitted with antique fixtures, rustic woodwork and a beautiful outdoor patio.

With themed daily specials ranging from Margarita Mondays to Fajita Thursdays there is something for everyone looking to experience authentic Mexican cuisine, quality cocktails, and a unique venue. We look forward to enjoying a taste of their delicious food during our Social Hour starting at 6:15 pm and thank them for their community support.

* * *

Our 19th Annual Toy Drive was a great success. The toys were collected for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services. The Agency held a Holiday event for foster children. The toys you donated were the only ones distributed at the event.

Thanks to the following officials for attending the event:

Our Councilman David Ryu, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (retired), Los Angeles County Sheriff Jim McDonnell, and City Attorney Michael Feuer. Also, our State Senator Robert Hertzberg, Councilmen Bob Blumenfield, Assistant LAPD Chief Michel Moore, and our former Councilman Tom LaBonge.

Many thanks to Jules Feir (Chairman of the Event), Matt Epstein (fantastic antique cars to hold the toys), Chuck Betz, 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. Gelson’s Corporate - Yvonne Manganaro, Director of Marketing and Gelson’s Sherman Oaks Store Director Jose Salmeron allowed us to use the store facilities and helped publicize the event and Carla Gonzalez, Resource Coordinator of Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services.

Police vehicles and a trash truck were at the Toy Drive for children to explore. A sincere thank you to Council Deputy Nikki Ezhari who coordinated City equipment and personnel for the event.

So what happened to the toys you contributed? Maria Pavlou Kalban attended the December 20th Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) annual toy giveaway for foster children. About 400 children were treated to food, crafts, and their choice of any of your toys on the table identified for their age group. These toys helped make this day pretty exciting for so many kids and their parents. We (you) were thanked by the wonderful people at DCFS for our providing toys for their event. Many thanks to all of you that donated a toy and helped make the season bright for many kids.

* * *

Bob Anderson reports that LA Metro has finished their 13-month study and community meetings for the Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit Improvements Project. Today, the Orange Line covers 18 miles in a street-level busway, crossing 44 intersections from North Hollywood to Chatsworth. It has 26,000 riders each weekday and is one of Metro’s busiest and best performing lines.

As part of Measure M, Metro will break ground in 2019 on several improvements for better service and safety. These include (1) a one-mile-long elevated busway (above street level) from Van Nuys Boulevard to Sepulveda Boulevard with two new elevated stations and (2) railroad-type crossing gates for 34 other Orange Line intersections which will come down to stop automobile cross-traffic. Metro estimates these improvements will reduce the 50 to 55-minute travel time from North Hollywood to Chatsworth by about 16 minutes, increase ridership by about 10,000 persons daily, and improve safety.

The improved Orange Line will begin operating by 2025 to 2027. Metro will also start introducing zero-emission electric busses on the Orange Line in 2020. In parallel, they are working on the North Hollywood Joint Demonstration Project which should increase auto parking availability at the North Hollywood station where the Orange Line meets the Red Line subway to downtown LA. If you would like to learn more about the Orange Line Improvements Project, go to www.metro.net/orangeline. You can also send your specific comments to orangeline@metro.net.

For those of you waiting for the Orange Line conversion to light rail, that project is not scheduled to break ground until 2051. But, Metro has just initiated their planning study for the Sepulveda Pass Corridor Project from the Valley to the Westside. More on that in future newsletters.

* * *
Board Member Nancy Sogolian provides an update on the Sunkist project:

We are delighted to report that as a result of SOHA's diligent efforts over the past year working with IMT and its reps and our CD4 Council office, thanks to the support of our Councilman David Ryu and his Planning Deputy, Julia Duncan, IMT has finally agreed to perform holiday traffic counts. On Saturday, December 23, traffic counts will be measured at 14 intersections around Sunkist and the Fashion Square Mall. According to the Council office, IMT and Los Angeles City Planner Sarah Molina-Pearson, the impact results (and any suggested mitigations) of this Holiday Traffic Study will be submitted by IMT's traffic consultants to LADOT and will be included as a traffic study supplement in the project's Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR).

SOHA greatly appreciates and wishes to thank our Council Member David Ryu and his staff for their support and ongoing efforts on behalf of our community, and we also extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to IMT (Sunkist project's developer) for its cooperation. SOHA looks forward to working with all entities going forward to help create a development that benefits, not harms, Sherman Oaks.

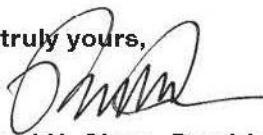
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The SOHA Whole Foods Committee has wrapped up its review of the Ventura Blvd. and Beverly Glen project and issued a report for the Council office and the applicant. We reiterating our concerns and suggested feasible remedies including noise control for the nighttime loading and unloading trucks, various traffic mitigation measures, restrictions on left turns out of the parking area, strict limitations on outdoor music and entertainment at the outdoor eating areas and limits on hours of operation. We are also hoping to persuade LA DOT to restrict left turns across Ventura and Moorpark into the parking area, which we feel is a dangerous due to the cross traffic conflicts. The applicant has agreed to a number of our suggestions including signal lights and their timing, signage and the shielding of the restaurant noise to protect nearby neighbors to the north. We are still discussing methods of controlling noise from refrigeration units on the large delivery trucks.

* * *
Maria Pavlou Kalban has been elected to the Association's Board of Directors. She been a long time resident of Sherman Oaks, having moved here with her parents in 1969. She graduated with a BA degree in Art History from UCLA and was hired by the Broadway Department stores and became an accessory buyer for them. After working there for ten years, she decided to start her own company where she designed and manufactured fashion accessories and better girl's clothing for twenty years. After closing the business she started doing volunteer work with children in the inner city doing math tutoring, art education, and cooking classes. This led to her volunteer work in Sherman Oaks, working with the Vision Committee since 2012 with an emphasis on traffic. She worked with the 90th Anniversary Committee preparing the "History of Sherman Oaks" banners which are currently on display at the Fashion Square. We looking forward to continuing her involvement in community issues now that she is on the Board of SOHA.

* * *
Board of Director Member attorney Jay Weitzler has been appointed by the Association to represent it at the Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations. Board of Director Member Tom Glick (and City Planner) will be the alternate. The Federation has 42 member organizations and was founded in 1952. SOHA has been a member for decades; Elke Heitmeyer was our long-time representative.

The 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.

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Councilmember David Ryu's Sherman Oaks District Office is moving to 14930 Ventura Blvd, Suite 210, and the new office is expected to be open January 8th. Please join Councilmember Ryu and his staff for a grand opening of the new offices - information about this event will be shared as soon as it's available.

Very truly yours,

Richard H. Close, President