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## Our Councilman David Ryu: “The State of Sherman Oaks”

COMMUNITY MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2015 - 7:15 PM.  
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL  
RIVERSIDE & WOODMAN, SHERMAN OAKS

Our Councilman David Ryu will be our guest speaker on Wednesday evening, November 18, 2015. He will explain what action he is taking to make Sherman Oaks an even better place to live and work. Specifically, he will focus on his proposed Ordinance to restrict McMansions (new homes that dwarf adjacent homes that reduce privacy and effect home values). In addition, he will discuss his position on the proposed development of the Sunkist property at Riverside Drive and Hazeltine Avenue. The developer is proposing a project that will build apartments on four sides of the existing office building. What will be the effect on traffic and parking in the area? Hopefully, Councilman Ryu can provide answers and update us on the project.

Also, this will be your opportunity to discuss specific neighborhood issues with him and his staff. What should his priorities be in Sherman Oaks? What action would enhance your neighborhood? This is a unique opportunity to meet your Councilman and explain to him what must be done.

Jules Feir is happy to announce that Fab's Corner Cucina will be our Restaurant of the Month. Established in 1984 at 4336 Van Nuys Boulevard just south of Ventura Boulevard, Fabs has a taste of east coast Italian comfort food featuring popular dishes as chopped salad, escarole soup and great cannoli for dessert. They stock an excellent selection of wines and craft beers that you can enjoy with your meals in a beautiful atmosphere.

This popular Italian restaurant is dedicated to give you and your guests a beautiful experience. We look forward to enjoying a sampling of their delicious food during our Social Hour that starts at 6:15 p.m. We thank them for their continued community support.

On October 28, 2015 the Los Angeles City Council by a vote of 12 to 0 approved Councilman David Ryu's Motion for a mansionization Interim Control Ordinance reducing the maximum size of homes in Sherman Oaks and two other Council District 4 communities to the maximum size permitted in Studio City. The matter is now in the hands of the Planning Department and the City Attorney, both of which need to complete their work before the Ordinance can go into effect.

Bob Anderson, SOHA's Board Member and Chair of our Transportation Committee, is happy to report that Governor Brown signed California Senate Bill SB 767 (De León) that authorizes the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to place a transportation sales tax measure on the November 2016 ballot. Metro is already planning the ballot measure, which will provide a new, additional, one-half-cent transportation sales tax through 2057.

This combines with a planned extension of Measure R, the one-half-cent transportation sales tax that we are already paying, and will result in about \$120 billion for Metro over the next 40 years. This is terrific news because the Valley desperately needs rapid transit (we really don't have any now) and Sherman Oaks will benefit when cars are taken off our freeways and streets.

But wait! Out of the \$120 billion, it turns out that Metro is only planning to give the Valley about \$3 billion. Why? Because Metro's funding allocation process only considered the Valley's population and not the fact that the Valley has been continuously shortchanged on all existing rapid transit projects.

If we all work together, this can be the beginning of the end of helicopter noise in Los Angeles County. For further information, contact Bob at BobA@LAHelicopterNoise.org.

On Sunday December 13, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. SOHA will have hosting its 17th annual Toy Drive in the parking lot of Gelson's Market at 4520 Van Nuys Boulevard next to Best Buy. Gelson's will provide delicious snacks and desserts as they do each year.

We invite everyone to come by and bring an unwrapped toy, visit with Santa Claus and many of our local officials who will be in attendance. Our local Police and Fire Departments will have some of their vehicles on display. The toys collected will be distributed to children that are in the care of the Los Angeles County Department of Children & Family Services. These toys are probably the only gifts they receive for the holidays.

The 25th annual Sherman Oaks Street Fair was another extremely successful event and we thank all who came by the SOHA booth to visit with us.

SOHA Board Member Elke Heitmeyer has been appointed to participate in the budget process for the Proposition K: LA for Kids Program, to provide funding recommendations for Prop. K projects. "Prop K" created a citywide assessment District that generates \$25,000,000 each year for the acquisition, improvement, construction, and maintenance of City parks, recreation facilities, and other projects to combat the inadequacies and decay of the City's youth infrastructure, which is in dire need of park, recreation, childcare and community facilities.

On October 11, 2015 Councilman David Ryu celebrated his first 100 days serving our neighborhoods with a "swearing-in ceremony" for his Valley constituents at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Adult Center Auditorium.

Former Congressman Howard Berman performed the ceremony in front of David's brother and sister. More than 150 community supporters were there and enthusiastically enjoying the event.

David Ryu reported on his first 100 days with a report card of commitments he made during his campaign to our neighborhoods to restore trust in local government, preserve residential neighborhoods, fight for fiscal accountability, advocate for infrastructure improvements, prioritize community engagement and promote public health and safety.

A number of officials were in attendance including Councilman Bob Blumenfield who represents a large portion of the West Valley, Van Nuys Bureau Chief LAPD Captain Lillian Carranza, LAPD Captain Andy Neiman and our Senior Lead Officers. Many of our Fire Department officials were also there as well. It was a great celebration for our community and our Councilman.

Don't forget the informative Sunday, November 15, 2015 Town Hall Meeting with our Congressman Brad Sherman. The Congressman will be speaking about issues involving the Middle East, free trade, Medicare, Social Security, the direction and plans for the economy, the Student Loan problem and anything else that you would like to discuss. This is a chance to have your voice and your views heard in Washington and talk with our very prominent and effective Congressman. The meeting will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Millikan Middle School located at 5041 Sunnyslope Avenue, just south of Magnolia Boulevard.

At the end of each year the Board of Directors of the Association considers adding individuals to its Board of Directors. The normal criteria is chairing a Committee and/or researching and implementing solutions to area problems. John Isen is in charge of the process. If you have any questions, please see him during the Social Hour at our November Meeting.

The Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce reminds us that Small Business Saturday is the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 28<sup>th</sup>. Small Business Saturday is a way to build and protect our local neighborhood economy by supporting the local businesses that create jobs, boost the economy and preserve neighborhoods around the country. Let's keep Sherman Oaks thriving and support our local businesses by shopping small and local.

There will be no Newsletter or Meeting in December. We look forward to seeing you at our November 18, 2015 Meeting, the Sunday, December 13, 2015 Toy Drive and then at our January 28, 2016 Meeting (please note the January Meeting is on a special date – the fourth Wednesday of the month).

Very truly yours,  


Richard H. Close, President