



SHPOA GENERAL MEETING AGENDA Tuesday, September 26, 2017

- 7:00** **Welcome, Flag Salute, Intros, Membership, Neighborhood Watch, Daily Fodder (Dave DePinto, Jacqy Gamble, Cindy Bloom, Terri Ortiz)**
- ***Thomas Jefferson:*** “Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government.”
 - ***Zero Vision for Shadow Hills and Neighbors:*** A bunch of pot farms connected by a high speed train bridge with no driving lanes, unkempt streets with potholes and bike lanes used by homeless/vagrants/transients. Our quality of life is under siege with various governments imposing these conditions through a combination of neglect, poor intentions and over-governing.
 - ***What Will We Do About It?***
- 7:10** **LAPD Crime and Traffic Report (LAPD)**
- 7:20** **Speaking of Crimes: Studio Lawsuit (Linda Ceremano, Bill Eick)**
- 7:25** **Speaking of Crimes: Private Security (Nizam Husaini)**
- 7:35** **LA Fire Department – Thank You and Mudslide Prevention (LAFD, Station 24)**
- ~~**7:45** **Street Repairs (Carlos George) To Be Made Up Next Meeting**~~
- 7:45** **Tierra del Sol Farmers’ Market (Lucas Crowley)**
- 7:50** **Local Pot Farms???** (Nancy Woodruff, Bill Eick)
- 8:10** **Vision Zero – Road Diet – Lane Reduction – Street Safety (CD7/DOT Invited but not Attending, Pat Kramer)**
- 8:30** **High Speed Trains (Dave DePinto)**
- 8:40** **Other**
- 8:55** **Adjourn**

NOTES

1. The meeting was very well attended. All seats filled and lots of people outside. As some people came late and/or left early, attendance was in excess of 120 people.
2. “Leaders” of Sun Valley, Lake View Terrace, La Tuna Canyon and Sunland-Tujunga joined SHPOA members. Many new NextDoor participants attended as well.
3. The Meeting’s bottom line and key focus is to remind folks that sitting around complaining, or just posting on Facebook, Next Door or other social media sites can be counterproductive and create negative attitudes. Worse, it accomplishes NOTHING. What’s needed are informed residents, more residents who come out and volunteer in any way to help our communities, residents who understand and participate in the political process, and residents who get fired up and bring new blood to our tireless group of community and neighborhood volunteers and leaders.
4. Three petitions were set out for signatures. The petitions will also be at the Farmer’s Market this Saturday prior to being delivered to Councilwoman Rodriguez. The petitions read as follows and receive dozens of signatures:
 - a. High Speed Trains - **Councilmember Rodriguez – September 26, 2017: Please meet with the SAFE Coalition as soon as possible and follow through on your Pledge to immediately eliminate above ground high speed train routes. Thank you from residents of CD7.**
 - b. **Pot Farms: Councilmember Rodriguez – September 26, 2017: Please meet with the SHPOA Board of Directors as soon as possible and join us in opposing any and all cannabis activity in A-Zones. Thank you from residents of CD7.**
 - c. **Councilmember Rodriguez – September 26, 2017: Please meet with the SHPOA Board of Directors as soon as possible and support restoring two lanes of traffic on Foothill/Sunland Blvds., removal of bollards and community input into a new design to enhance public safety. Thanks, residents of CD7.**
5. We committed to having our next meeting outdoors on a Saturday at the Farmers’ Market at Tierra del Sol. Stay tuned for a date.
6. Teresa Lamb, Congressman Schiff’s office was lone elected official representative. CD7, Monica Rodriguez, in particular, was invited to attend and knew about the meeting. Her absence was criticized by many in attendance for missing this meeting, for she and staff not responding to

requests for assistance/information, and being MIA during the fire and at community meetings since her election.

7. Thomas Jefferson was quoted to underscore the importance of people being informed and being involved.
8. A “dooms day scenario” was presented to show attendees the risks we face and the potential community character threatening projects looming on the horizon – high speed trains, cannabis, lane reduction program and homeless/transient/vagrant issue.
9. LAPD - First up was a crime/traffic report from LAPD
10. LA Fire Department - Next was very warm thank you/appreciation to LAFD personnel and their discussion about both the fire and the potential/safeguards for flooding/mud flows. SHPOA presented a blown up version of its thank you letter to Fire Stations 24 and 77, suitable for framing. SHPOA VP, Bill Eick, distributed information about flood insurance – bottom line, get flood insurance NOW if you are in a prone area as there can be delays in activating new accounts.
11. Studio Lawsuit - Linda Ceremano provide information about lawsuit against proposed 7-story studio project in CD6, adjacent to CD7 residential area. Dangerous precedent for other industrial properties that abut our residential areas. Fundraiser for legal challenge is coming soon. Details on Daily Fodder – subscribe for free by emailing Terri Ortiz, shpoa@shpoa.us. Simply ask to receive the daily community briefings. Free as a public service.
12. Private Security - Presentation/discussion of both history of private security firm research in the past and a new effort spearheaded by Nizam Husaini. SHPOA will assist and work with Nizam moving forward to get more information and to come back to a future SHPOA meeting with an update and/or proposal.
13. Farmers’ Market – SHPOA announced it as the best new thing to happen in Shadow Hills in a long time. We need to support this initiative and help it grow. Lucas Crowley gave a complete update on the Market’s status and plans. It’s held every Saturday from 9-1. Come out, tell your friends and bring your money to buy great stuff!
14. Pot Farms – strong warning from Chair of Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council Land Use Committee chair about the threat posed by the “details” of the new cannabis laws. Just like those who supported high speed trains did not envision the details of the current flawed project. In nutshell, certain cannabis activities are allowable in A-zones. The intent was for that to be agricultural zones. The problem is that due to the rural nature of many of our neighborhoods, there are A-zoned properties in the

midst of residential neighborhoods, so, yes, you could have a marijuana operation take place next door unless we get our residential areas exempted.

15. Lane Reduction – this boondoggle was chronicled by Pat Kramer, member of the Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council. Basic points: the project was a done deal BEFORE public outreach conducted. Project does not reflect community input. The project is a pet project of Mayor Garcetti. He has been heard on the radio doubling down on forcing the project to continue under the mask or guise of public safety. Much discussion given to curious aspects of the involvement of current CD7 staff member, Eve Sinclair, and whether she was an advocate for the project early on and if she is continuing to do that presently which would be a conflict of interest. Much discussion about whether Councilmember Rodriguez was involved in this as a Board of Public Works Commissioner. Much discussion given to how inaccessible CD7 staff of all kinds have been on this issue, in terms of attending community meetings, and more.
16. High Speed Trains – there was little time to discuss this matter, and since it's been talked about a lot, we saved it for last. But the petition was explained and available. The most noteworthy facts are these:
 - a. The above ground route alternatives threatening all of our connected NE San Fernando Valley communities remain under review.
 - b. The environmental studies are now more than a year past due, and we all received an update this week indicating further delays, underscoring our communities being held “hostage.”
 - c. Some discussion given to our electeds, especially CD7 Monica Rodriguez, being comfortable that they have a “position” on record. We made it clear “positions” pale in comparison and importance to action and that with the summer over, we are taking the issue back to the electeds forcefully. Important to note that there is a small cadre of local electeds dodging the issue: CD6 councilmember Nury Martinez, Mayor Garcetti, and Councilmember Rodriguez.
 - d. Mayor Garcetti was called out for confusing the issue, turning down all requests for meetings during “Mayor’s Office Hours,” not responding to our SAFE Coalition since February 2017, and the Mayor being more than happy to take donations from high speed train unions and to take Cap and Trade funds for housing and tunneling projects in the City.
17. The Meeting’s bottom line and key focus is to remind folks that sitting around complaining, or just posting on Facebook, Next Door or other social media sites can be counterproductive and create negative attitudes. Worse,

it accomplishes NOTHING. What's needed are informed residents, more residents who come out and volunteer in any way to help our communities, residents who understand and participate in the political process, and residents who get fired up and bring new blood to our tireless group of community and neighborhood volunteers and leaders.

Thanks again to those who made the time to come out. For those who had a work or family conflict but wanted to come out, we'll try other meeting dates/times/locations to make it easier for you. Next meeting will be on a Saturday concurrent with Farmers' Market at Tierra del Sol.

Dave DePinto

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