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“City Hall Comes to Sherman Oaks”

Representatives of City Departments, e.g. traffic and parking control, zoning violations, street maintenance, water conservation, City Council Member Deputy, etc. will answer your questions and explain how to obtain City services for your neighborhood.

Have a problem – Get an answer at the Meeting

COMMUNITY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015 - 7:15 PM
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL
RIVERSIDE & WOODMAN, SHERMAN OAKS

Do you have a problem in your neighborhood? Do you have a question about what can be done about a nuisance, traffic in your neighborhood, parking in your neighborhood, code violations, etc.? I am sure you do not have the time to go to City Hall in downtown, the Van Nuys City Hall or the ability to track down the person at the City who has the answer. At our June 17 Meeting, we will bring City Hall to Sherman Oaks.

Representatives from various Departments will be on the panel to answer your questions and address problems. Among the list of participants, are representatives from Parking Enforcement and Traffic Control, Department of Water and Power, Councilman Tom LaBonge's Office, L.A.F.D. Brush Clearance experts, and City Planning.

We have forums of this nature every couple of years, and they are very popular. You will have the opportunity to hear from these representatives answering your questions, either during the main meeting or one on one after the meeting concludes.

Jules Feir announces that Robbie Mac's Pizzeria & Eatery will be the Restaurant of the Month.

You may have noticed that Robbie McMurray has closed his location at the corner of Van Nuys Boulevard and Ventura Boulevard. However, he has relocated to his new location at 5162 Sepulveda Boulevard just south of Magnolia. And, yes he offers the same great menu of gourmet pizzas and salads, pasta dishes, sandwiches and more that made Robbie Mac's a very popular Sherman Oaks eatery for the past 18 years.

Enjoy a sampling of their delicious foods during our Social Hour that starts at 6:15 p.m.

At our May meeting, the day after the election for City Council, our new Councilman-elect, David Ryu surprised the 225 people at the meeting. Although it appeared that he had probably not slept the previous night because of the election, he stayed until the end of the Meeting, and answered one-on-one questions from members of the audience until the last person left the Meeting.

We look forward to working with Councilman David Ryu, both before and after his July 1, 2015 swearing in.

Based upon his Pledges to the Association and his Campaign Promises, we anticipate a very receptive and transparent administration focused on protecting and enhancing Sherman Oaks and the remainder of his Council District.

John Isen reports that on May 20th, the Land Use Committee of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council heard public comment in front of an overflow crowd on a proposed Interim Control Ordinance. The Ordinance would limit the construction of McMansions in Sherman Oaks. The committee formed a subcommittee to study the bonuses permitted under the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance (BMO) and Baseline Hillside Ordinance and make recommendations to the full committee on June 18th.

The BMO permits the construction of a home in the flatlands containing square footage of up to 50% of the lot size for R1 zoned lots. The lots must be equal to or greater than 5,000 square feet and less than 7,500 square feet. In addition, the BMO allows a residential floor area bonus of 20% of the

to work with Los Angeles Department of Transportation staff to develop quick-fix solutions to some of Sherman Oaks worst traffic problems. Right now, we are focusing on the Southbound I-405 onramp at Ventura near Sepulveda, the Southbound I-405 onramp at Burbank and the Westbound I-101 onramp at Woodman. These three locations offer inexpensive quick-fix opportunities that could provide significant improvements. LADOT has done some initial analysis of these locations, and we hope that some improvements may be possible soon. We know there are many other Sherman Oaks traffic hot spots, and would appreciate hearing from you with your ideas and solutions. Please contact SOHA's Bob Anderson at BobHillsideOrdinance@roadrunner.com.

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The Los Angeles City Council is studying a proposal to make homeowners responsible to fix public sidewalks in front of their homes. Under the proposal, if the City fixes a problem with the sidewalk or determines that there are no problems, future responsibility for upkeep of the sidewalk, and, therefore, the liability if someone trips and falls, would become the responsibility of the homeowner. This proposal is a reversal of a 30-year regulation whereby the City of Los Angeles was responsible for fixing sidewalks (even though they have done repairs only in the limited number of cases).

One of many problems with the proposal is that homeowners would not be able to solve the problem which causes the bulging of the sidewalks. The problem is City trees that grow and are not trimmed, therefore, break the sidewalks. Under current rules, a homeowner is not permitted to trim the trees unless they obtain a City Permit. They only can remove a tree in a very limited circumstances.

We will keep you advised as this proposal moves through the City Council.

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John Isen notes that our new City Councilperson David Ryu won the runoff election on May 19th by a surprising 8% margin (54% to 46%) over Carolyn Ramsay. Sherman Oaks voters cast 26% of the votes in the runoff. In Sherman Oaks, David won by a larger 10% margin (55% to 45%) compared to the rest of the district where his margin of victory was a lower 7% (53.5% to 46.5%).

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News from the Ventura Boulevard Restaurant Scene (courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce):

Restaurateur Richard DiSisto has opened a new hotspot on Ventura Boulevard in Sherman Oaks. Downtown Johnny's is a modern sports tavern with a creative menu, 8 specialty cocktails, 20 beers on tap, and a diverse selection of bottled beers. The chef-driven menu includes truffle mac & cheese, chicken wings, crispy pork belly, and an assortment of flatbreads, burgers, and sandwiches. There are over a dozen gluten-free dishes and several vegan and vegetarian options also. Happy Hour is 7 days a week from 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

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The City has notified us that two sections of Mulholland Drive are scheduled to be resurfaced between now and June 30. The segments are:

- 1) Cahuenga Boulevard to Pyramid Place;
- 2) Woodrow Wilson Drive to Torreyson Drive; and
- 3) Torreyson Drive to Wrightwood Drive.

Runyon Canyon Park is at Pyramid Place and, therefore, will present problems for people wanting to access the park. Because Mulholland is narrow and winding it will have to be closed to through traffic when work is in progress. With large equipment and many trucks removing and providing material during the process it is too dangerous to allow commuter traffic through the area.

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As is normally the case, there will be no July Meeting or Newsletter. We look forward to seeing you on June 17 and, thereafter, at the August 19, 2015 Meeting (the third Wednesday of the month).

Do you receive our email updates? If not, we do not have your email address. Email it to us at soha914@gmail.com. If you would like to see snippets from our past Meetings, go to www.youtube.com and search officialSOHAvideo to see portions of the Meeting.

Very truly yours,



Richard H. Close, President