

"Together we have clout!"



SUSAN COLLINS



SARAH KATE LEVY



NITHYA RAMAN



DAVID RYU

## COMMUNITY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020 - 7:15 PM  
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL • RIVERSIDE & WOODMAN, SHERMAN OAKS

### THE DEBATE FOR CITY COUNCIL:

On March 3, 2020 Sherman Oaks residents will vote for our City Council Member for the next four years. Phil Shuman, an anchor and reporter for KTTV Fox 11, will be the Moderator.

Our Community Meeting on Wednesday evening, February 19, will focus on the upcoming election for Los Angeles City Councilmember for the Sherman Oaks area (Council District 4) on March 3, 2020. Our Debate will involve the four candidates for the seat – Susan Collins, Sarah Kate Levy, Nithya Raman and David Ryu.

If one candidate receives more than 50% of the vote, that person will be elected to the City Council. If no candidates receives more than 50%, there will be a run-off election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Each candidate will be distributing literature at our Meeting. If you would like information prior to our Meeting, please visit their respective websites.

Jorge Rodriguez, Los Angeles Police Department ("LAPD") Deputy Chief for the San Fernando Valley, will speak at the beginning of the Meeting. Deputy Chief Rodriguez is the new commander of all police activity in the San Fernando Valley. Learn about his goals and objectives.

## RESTAURANT OF THE MONTH

# VITELLO'S

Jules Feir is happy to announce that once again Vitello's Italian Restaurant will be our Restaurant of the Month. They are located at 4349 Tujunga Avenue in the Tujunga Village of Studio City.

With 4½ stars, and lots of positive Google reviews, this very special and popular restaurant includes a premier upstairs Feinstein's supper club that has become the place to dine and to enjoy an evening of top entertainment.

From the freshest fish, produce and meats it all comes together as California inspired contemporary cuisine with a wonderful assortment of fish, steaks and chops. Also included on the menu are vegan and gluten-free options.

We look forward to enjoying a special taste of their delicious food during our Social Hour starting at 6:15 pm.



# METRO TO SELECT SEPULVEDA PASS RAPID TRANSIT CONCEPTS

What can Sherman Oaks expect in July when Metro selects rapid transit concepts for the Sepulveda Pass? Bob Anderson indicates that Metro has their own four concepts that go from the Van Nuys Metrolink station (Van Nuys and Saticoy) to the Expo Line station (Sepulveda and Pico):

- HRT1 – Heavy rail subway under Van Nuys Boulevard in Sherman Oaks and Van Nuys.
- HRT2 – Heavy rail subway under Sepulveda Boulevard in Sherman Oaks and Van Nuys.
- HRT3 – Heavy rail subway under the Westside and Sepulveda Pass but elevated above Sepulveda Boulevard in Sherman Oaks and Van Nuys.
- MRT1 – Monorail subway under the Westside but elevated above the 405 in the Pass and elevated above Sepulveda Boulevard in Sherman Oaks and Van Nuys.

In January, Metro asked five industry consortia to bid additional concepts. The LA SkyRail Express consortium is bidding a BYD monorail along the 405 freeway from the Van Nuys Metrolink station to LAX, not just the Westside. They presented their concept at a SOHA meeting last year.

The four other industry consortia have not revealed their concepts: ACS Infrastructure Development; Sepulveda Transit Corridor Partners (led by Bechtel); Sepulveda Transit Corridor Partners (led by Fengate Capital Management); and Tutor Perini, Parsons & Plenary. SOHA's Bob Anderson has spoken to representatives from each consortium and thinks they will bid heavy rail trains and hopefully subways.

Metro will add at most two viable industry concepts to their own four concepts. In July, Metro will select which concepts go forward and which do not.

- SOHA strongly supports Metro's HRT1 and HRT2 subway concepts.
- SOHA vehemently opposes Metro's HRT3 and MRT1 concepts that run elevated rail above Sepulveda Boulevard from Valley Vista north. Metro must stop both concepts.
- SOHA supports the LA SkyRail Express 405 monorail concept.
- SOHA may support a second industry consortium concept, but only if it is viable and does not run elevated above any Sherman Oaks street.

Remember to contact Metro at [sepulvedatransit@metro.net](mailto:sepulvedatransit@metro.net) and tell them NO ELEVATED TRAINS ABOVE SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD. NEVER!

## SENATE BILL 50 DEFEATED - THANKS TO YOUR ACTION

SB 50 the senate bill that would allow apartments in single family neighborhoods was defeated at the end of January by an "18 yes - 15 no" vote. The bill needed 21 votes to pass. Five Senators abstained. This bill, as a courtesy, was allowed to be reconsidered for another vote and it again failed.

Maria Kalban, Chair of the SOHA SB 50 Committee, wants to thank Senator Robert Hertzberg for his speech on the Senate floor opposing SB 50. The Senator stood firm on behalf of his constituents. A special thanks also goes out to all Valley and Los Angeles Senators that opposed this bill. The SOHA committee also wishes to thank our membership for all the calls and emails sent to these Senators, it did the trick, it made a huge impression on them.

Toni Atkins, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, has promised that a housing bill will pass this year. The SOHA committee will continue to work with Senator Hertzberg giving suggestions for a bill that will address affordability without destroying single-family neighborhoods.

# ICON (SUNKIST) PROJECT MOVES FORWARD

The ICON (Sunkist) Project came before the PLUM Committee of the Los Angeles City Council on February 4, 2020. Since there has been no opposition to the plans submitted by the developer to the City this was part of the final approval. The SOHA Sunkist committee co-chaired by Nancy Sogoian and Blair Thompson and members Wendy Brogan and Marshall Long, assisted by Renee Weitzer our Councilman David Ryu's Land Use Deputy, have worked five years to help the developers design team improve the project. SOHA supports the current design.

## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR PROM CLOSET

The Buckley School is supporting Prom Closet, sponsored by the Los Angeles City Attorney's office and LAPD, to collect prom attire for students who cannot afford to buy their own. An LAPD station sets up a "boutique" for them to find a free prom outfit to wear so they can look like any other high schooler. For many students, this is their first time trying on a suit, tying a tie, or wearing a nice dress as about one in three high school students are living below the poverty line. You may drop off prom suitable dresses, suits, shirts, ties, etc. at the Buckley School and they will take them to the LAPD location. SOHA members are asked to participate by bringing donations of Prom attire for males and females to our February 19, 2020 meeting.

## SOHA MEMBERS HELP THE HOMELESS

On Saturday afternoon February 1, 2020, SOHA members volunteered at a party for homeless in South Central sponsored by local churches. John Isen organized our participation. Approximately 60 homeless persons enjoyed a meal, entertainment and donated clothing. Many registered to vote. Over half of the homeless are sleeping on Skid Row streets while the others in Skid Row shelters. All of the attendees will be contacted to obtain individual services.

## HILLSIDE FEDERATION JOINED SOHA IN OPPOSING SB50

Jay Weitzler reports that the Hillside Federation, with over 42 member neighborhood associations, joined us in strongly opposing SB 50 and similar legislation, pointing out the danger in allowing increasingly dense buildings in hillside areas, which increases both the risk of fire and the difficulty for fire equipment in navigating the narrow streets when called upon to save lives.

## SOHA ANNUAL TOY DRIVE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Our Annual Toy Drive was a great success in obtaining toys for foster and abused children under the protection of the County of Los Angeles. The County notified us that the estimated value of those toys is \$37,500. The true value is not the economic value, but the difference those toys made to children who need so much.

## ARE YOU A MEMBER? YOU SHOULD BE!

**MEMBERSHIP IN SOHA IS CRITICAL TO MAINTAINING OUR COMMUNITY'S QUALITY OF LIFE!**

**A Message from Board Member Nancy Sogoian:**

As we are aware, there are many on-going challenges to preserving what we love about Sherman Oaks. Chief among them are the efforts of a few in Sacramento, misguidedly determined to eliminate our lovely single family neighborhoods. And the possibility that Metro could elect to build elevated trains in lieu of better mass transit options less destructive to our community.

SOHA's knowledgeable, undeterred and tireless work to achieve the best outcomes for Sherman Oaks began over 40

years ago and we continue that critical work today, but those efforts are contingent on your support and that of the community via membership in SOHA. SOHA is non-profit, volunteer-run and 100% member-supported. We urge all members to **TELL A FRIEND**, and share this newsletter with neighbors and bring them as a Guest to our next meeting. If you are not a member, join NOW. Whether you are a homeowner or renter, the small \$30 annual membership is a huge investment in keeping Sherman Oaks a wonderful place to live.

Very truly yours,



Richard H. Close, President

**SHERMAN OAKS HAPPENINGS...** Find out at: [www.shermanoaks914.com](http://www.shermanoaks914.com)

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**SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

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Founded in 1964

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Information: (818) 377-4590

[www.shermanoaks914.com](http://www.shermanoaks914.com)

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