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SHERMAN OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

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LAPD Capt. Lillian Carranza.

Meet Your New “Local Police Chief”

LAPD Captain Lillian Carranza was recently appointed Captain in charge of the Van Nuys Division. That Division oversees all police personnel serving the Sherman Oaks community. Learn what her goals are. Explain any problems or concerns you have.

COMMUNITY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2015 - 7:15 PM
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL
RIVERSIDE & WOODMAN, SHERMAN OAKS

LAPD Captain Lillian Carranza will be the featured speaker at our August 19 Meeting. She was recently promoted as the Captain in charge of the Van Nuys Division, which oversees all police activity for Sherman Oaks. She will discuss her background and 24 years of experience throughout Los Angeles and her goals and objectives for Sherman Oaks and adjacent communities. This is your opportunity to meet with her, explain issues that are important to you and find out how she intends to make Sherman Oaks even safer.

Jules Feir announces that Cafe Bizou will be the Restaurant of the Month.

Cafe Bizou is one of the best and most popular restaurants in Los Angeles and as a result they attract crowds that enjoy the food, service and atmosphere in this charming 4-star restaurant.

Whether you enjoy some great appetizers such as lobster bisque, escargot, stuffed mushrooms or any of the great seafood or steak dinners, owner Philippe Gris prides himself with serving top quality food. And, if you bring your own wine, the corkage fee is only \$2.00.

For dessert, the flourless chocolate cake is outstanding.

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

Shortly after David Ryu was elected, but before he was sworn in as our new Councilmember, the Association's Board of Directors met with him to discuss issues of importance to our community. We discussed development projects, identification of goals and staffing for Sherman Oaks.

We appreciate his taking time before he was sworn in to meet with the Association.

Attorney John Isen reports that there were three major developments last month concerning McMansions in Sherman Oaks.

First, on July 13th, the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council voted to request an interim control ordinance (ICO) for Sherman Oaks to place reasonable limitations on the size and configuration of single family homes in Sherman Oaks. Our Councilmember David Ryu, his chief of land use Renee Weitzer and his planning deputy Julia Duncan attended and heard public comment from members of our Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association Mansionization Committee and others in support of an ICO.

Secondly, on July 14th, the Board of Directors of the Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce voted unanimously to support an ICO for Sherman Oaks.

Thirdly, on July 28th, Councilmember Ryu introduced a motion in City Council for an ICO to be established in Sherman Oaks. The proposed ICO will prohibit the issuance of building permits for residential structures in Sherman Oaks unless the proposed structure complies with the Studio City Residential Floor Area District regulations that now protect Studio City from McMansions.

As stated in the motion, in the absence of appropriate regulations, the proliferation of McMansions in Sherman Oaks "poses an immediate threat to the public welfare, including degradation of neighborhood character, loss of neighbors' privacy, curtailment of development potential, and negative impacts to aesthetics and general quality of life".

We want to thank the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council, the Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce, Councilmember Ryu, Renee Weitzer and Julia Duncan for their efforts to protect our neighborhoods from out-of-scale and/or out-of-character structures until a permanent citywide ordinance is enacted and hope that the ICO is adopted by the City Council as quickly as possible.

What transportation infrastructure can Sherman Oaks and the Valley expect over the next 40 years? Sure, there will be autos and bikes and buses. But, will we have effective rapid transit? LA Metro, the agency that plans and manages transportation countywide, is trying to figure it all out.

They divided Los Angeles County into nine transportation subregions. Our subregion, the San Fernando Valley, includes the City of Los Angeles north of Mulholland plus the City of San Fernando. Nearby subregions include the Westside Cities and Arroyo Verdugo (Burbank, Glendale, Pasadena, ...). Each subregion has a budget and must submit transit priorities to LA Metro by September 2015. The budgets assume that Measure R2, the new transit sales tax, will be approved by voters in November 2016.

The San Fernando Valley subregion's share of the budget is about \$3 billion over the next 40 years, and the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) was tasked to prioritize projects and the budget. SFVCOG members include all of the Valley's LA Councilmembers and County Supervisors. SOHA is very involved in Valley transportation issues and is a member of Valley On Track, a coalition demanding that the Valley gets its fair share of effective rapid transit.

SOHA's Bob Anderson spoke at two recent SFVCOG meetings to add our support (SOHA was the only homeowner association that participated in the meetings). Our position was simple. The Valley has been shortchanged on rapid transit for years and we want our fair share of all future rapid transit. If we don't see our fair share in the planning, why should we support Measure R2?

We want LA Metro to: (1) convert the Orange Line to light rail with safer grade crossings and increased capacity; (2) use light rail for the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor (north-south on Van Nuys Boulevard); and (3) rapidly fund and build the Sepulveda Pass Transit Corridor using light rail and a tunnel to the Westside.

Our new Councilman, David Ryu, is a SFVCOG Board Member and strongly supported Valley rapid transit needs. He introduced his first official motion at the SFVCOG meeting, adding an additional \$800 million line item for conversion of the Orange Line to light rail – even though this increased our subregion's rapid transit priorities above Metro's \$3 billion Valley budget.

COG board members decided the motion was critical and passed it unanimously. The COG's recommended priorities exactly match SOHA's. We will keep you posted on future outcomes. For further information, please contact SOHA's Bob Anderson at BobHillsideOrdinance@roadrunner.com.

Our Councilmember David Ryu recently announced the hiring of Alice Roth, to serve as Senior Field Deputy. Roth will serve the communities of Sherman Oaks and Toluca Lake.

Alice has served Council District 4 for over thirteen years. Prior to joining City Hall, she served as an aide to former Assemblymember Scott Wildman. Born and raised in CD4, Alice is a life-long Angeleno. She is an expert in constituent services, and she has worked closely with SOHA, residents, businesses, seniors and youth service agencies.

Councilmember Ryu's Sherman Oaks field office will remain located at 13907 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 104. His field staff can be contacted at (818)-728-9924 regarding any constituent concerns or services.

Kimberlee Gerston, Chair of SOHA Sunkist Committee and several committee members, along with Board Members Marshall Long and Jay Weitzler and Councilman Ryu's Land Use Deputy Renee Weitzler met with IMT to review the latest Sunkist plans. The developer's team included their landscape architect and traffic expert. They presented revised plans for the site which included a modest (20 unit) reduction in the number of units and a step-back in the height of the residential building on the west side of the property. The adjacent street to the west will be widened to allow for fire truck entry and exit. They had also widened the entry corridor running south from Riverside Drive to allow for a public gathering area and added an additional truck loading dock.

The landscape architect discussed his proposed use of drought tolerant trees and plants. The traffic engineer had not completed his work but discussed his methodology and possible mitigation for the surrounding areas.

They are listening to the community, developing ways of improving the design by reducing the square footage and adding more public spaces but are not offering a significant reduction in the number of units. The Draft Environmental Impact Study should be available in 3-4 months. You can access more information on this project at our website www.shermanoaks914.com.

ElectroBike, Sherman Oaks' first electric bike store, will be opening this month. Their line of cutting-edge, eco-friendly bikes are a fun, sustainable, and cost-effective transportation alternative. ElectroBike will be located in the Sherman Oaks Galleria.

On July 31 a brushfire broke out in Deervale Park. The Fire Department was there very quickly, dropping water from helicopters, running lines through neighbors yards from Deervale Place down into the Canyon. The Deervale Community is very grateful to the over 200 fire fighters who battled the blaze and put it out within an hour.

SOHA is a co-sponsor of the Financial Literacy Workshop, hosted by our Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian, and the California Society of Certified Public Accountants (CalCPA). The workshop will take place Thursday, August 27, from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm, at the Sherman Oaks Woman's Club, 4808 Kester Ave., Sherman Oaks.

They will provide tips on long-term care considerations, avoiding financial cons and scams, and budgeting on a retirement income. Everyone is welcome to attend this free community workshop. Please bring any questions you may have about legislative issues or government services. For more information or to RSVP, call Nazarian's office at (818) 376-4246

Very truly yours,


Richard H. Close, President