

"Together
we have
clout!"



ZOOM COMMUNITY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2021 - 7:15 PM

JOIN FROM ANYWHERE - VIA COMPUTER, TABLET, SMARTPHONE OR TELEPHONE

GUEST SPEAKER: OUR ASSEMBLYMEMBER ADRIN NAZARIAN

WHY IS THE STATE LEGISLATURE TRYING TO DESTROY SINGLE-FAMILY NEIGHBORHOODS?

CALIF. \$75 BILLION DOLLAR SURPLUS: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

Our August 18, 2021 guest speaker will be our State Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian. He was elected in November 2012 and is a Member of the Assembly Committee that focuses on entertainment, tourism

and internet media. Assemblyman Nazarian is Chair of the Aging and Long-Term Care Committee and serves on the Committee pertaining to transportation. He is an advocate for increased mass transit in the San Fernando Valley, protecting affordable housing, helping the homeless get off the streets, improving vital water infrastructures, earthquake readiness and protecting and expanding the film industry. He lives with his wife, Diana, and their two sons, Alex and David, in West Toluca Lake.

Prior to being elected, Assemblyman Nazarian graduated UCLA with a BA in Economics. He served as Chief of Staff for Councilman Paul Kerkorian and was an aide to Congressman Brad Sherman. He is very familiar with Sherman Oaks and is well aware of the issues that are affecting our community.

Assemblyman Nazarian will discuss efforts in the Assembly to allow apartment buildings to be built in single-family neighborhoods. Most of Sherman Oaks would be affected by these Bills. How would you like an apartment building next to your home?

Also, how will the State's \$75 billion budget surplus benefit Sherman Oaks?

We want to learn from Assemblyman Nazarian why there is so much action in Sacramento by developers and tech companies to eliminate local control over local developments. Bills SB 9 & 10 would allow apartment buildings in single family neighborhoods. What is the status of this effort?

If you have a question for Assemblyman Nazarian, email it to us at SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com on or before Monday, August 16, 2021.

In addition, State Senator Henry Stern will speak briefly at the beginning of the meeting concerning positive measures available to create more affordable housing without the need to destroy single family neighborhoods.

To attend the virtual Zoom Meeting, the Meeting ID is 816 8953 4912 and the Passcode is SOHA914. Please arrive at the waiting room between 7:00 p.m. and 7:10 p.m. The Meeting starts promptly at 7:15 p.m. If you are unfamiliar with how to sign into a Zoom Meeting or need help, email us at SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com. We will email you instructions.

WHY IS METRO SILENT ON THE SEPULVEDA PASS PROJECT? - AN AGENCY OUT OF CONTROL -

In March, Metro picked five finalist concepts for the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project: (1) Monorail along 405, (2) Monorail along 405 with UCLA station, (3) Horrible Halfway with elevated trains above Sepulveda Boulevard in the Valley, (4) Real Subway under Van Nuys Boulevard in the Valley, and (5) Real Subway under Sepulveda Boulevard in the Valley. Since then, Metro has been silent and held only one public meeting about the project – a sham luncheon webinar where they doled out trivial information and answered questions with half-truths or worse. SOHA and neighboring communities have asked for meetings with Metro technical staff and contractors to get our questions answered. We all get the same line of bull – wait until the Fall when you can submit questions during the 45-day Environmental Scoping Studies. That's too little and too late.

Metro forgets that their five finalist concepts are just that – concepts! Metro developed these concepts behind closed doors without any real community involvement. Sure, Metro held a few sham public meetings and wrote a few reports. They even collected questions and comments from the public that they put in a log. SOHA submitted more than 50 questions and comments over the past four years and Metro has never answered one of them. And we have many more questions ready but are rightfully concerned that Metro will ignore these too. It's all window dressing and a public disgrace! Metro should be ashamed of themselves for their lack of transparency and lack of respect for the public. Metro is out of control. We pay the taxes that Metro spends. We have the right to ask tough questions and get viable answers in a timely manner.

Metro's five concepts are simply starting points to be refined and improved through meaningful community conversation and engagement. The concept that gets built will still be operating 100 years from now – so communities and Metro must make sure it is the best choice for everyone.

What happens next? SOHA goes on the offensive. Keep tuned for something big where we tell the public what is really going on. We will enlist your help to get the word out. Please contact SOHA's Bob Anderson at BobHillsideOrdinance@gmail.com to learn more or volunteer to help.

SHERMAN OAKS FATE RESTS ON SCARY REDISTRICTING - STILL AWAITING LATE CENSUS DATA -

It happens every ten years. And it's scary. Redistricting. Three different Redistricting Commissions will determine Sherman Oaks' fate in our five different districts. The California Citizens Redistricting Commission will adjust our Federal Congressional, State Senate, and State Assembly Districts to equitably balance populations based on 2020 Census data.

The LA County Citizens Redistricting Commission will adjust our County Supervisor District. The LA City Council Redistricting Commission will adjust our City Council District. The Commissions are asking for public input right now and SOHA's Bob Anderson has submitted recommendation letters and spoken before each Commission. Our overall message is simple. Sherman Oaks must remain whole and intact in all of our Districts – pretty much as we are today – not split in two pieces as we were ten years ago.

But it's even trickier this year. Census data is late. It was supposed to be ready in March, but it won't be ready until late September. So, all three commissions and the public are working in the dark. We know populations will wiggle around – but we don't know how much or where.

The biggest impact of this late data is to Sherman Oaks. We are the most vulnerable Valley community during City Council redistricting – because we are located where council districts cross over the Sepulveda Pass. We are currently part of Council District 4 along with Hollywood, Griffith Park, Hancock Park, Silver Lake, and Toluca Lake. But if the 2011 City Council Redistricting Commission had done their job correctly, Sherman Oaks would have been part of Council District 5 along with Encino. This should-have-been Council District 5 since it would have been the only Valley district that crossed over the Sepulveda Pass – now there are two – and it also would have had 62 percent Valley residents. This didn't happen in 2011, but SOHA is pushing to make it happen in 2021. Sherman Oaks could be whole in a single Valley-majority district, and maybe even elect a Valley-based Councilmember. That would be terrific!

SENATE BILLS 9 & 10 - CONTENTIOUS AND DANGEROUS

SOHA's legislative committee, led by Maria Pavlou Kalban, has been trying for the last eight months to stop the progress of two State Bills that will end single-family neighborhoods. SB 9 and SB 10 are contentious bills that would end local control, allow multi-family developments in single-family neighborhoods and end public review. These bills mandate no affordable housing and needlessly add density to our single-family neighborhoods with no regard to infrastructure improvements or concerns about our environment.

URGENT

Both bills have passed the Senate and are now in the Assembly. On August 16, first day of the Fall session, these Bills will be ready for a full Assembly vote. If passed, they will go to the Governor for his signature and then become state law.

A BETTER WAY

SOHA feels that the answer to our affordable housing crisis is to reinstate State redevelopment funding that was stopped in 2011. The termination of this funding has made it difficult for cities to finance affordable housing developments. If reinstated, these funds can be used to develop many hundreds of miles of underutilized commercial corridors that can accommodate mixed use density that will create more walkable communities with the added benefit of an improved tax base that could add more dollars for affordable housing, infrastructure, schools, etc.

SOLUTIONS

We are currently working with a few lawmakers to convene a round table with important stakeholders including our own United Neighbors to introduce some common sense housing concepts that will increase the affordable housing stock while still protecting the right to live in single-family neighborhoods.

Every year Sacramento introduces Bills that keep chiseling away at the rights of cities and their residents to have a say in what their communities will look like. We need to stop this assault.

TIME TO ACT

Call Assemblyman Nazarian and ask him to continue to support common sense solutions and stay firm on his "NO" vote on both these bills. Call Senator Robert Hertzberg and ask him to use his influence to stop SB 9 and SB 10. Also, please reach out to our neighboring Assemblymembers Jesse Gabriel (Encino), Laura Friedman (Burbank) and Luz Rivas (San Fernando). All are in support of SB 10, a Bill that will allow apartment buildings in our single-family neighborhoods. Please call or write: URGENT

Assemblyman Nazarian	818-376-4246	assemblymember.nazarian@assembly.ca.gov
Senator Hertzberg	818-901-5588	senator.hertzberg@senate.ca.gov
Assemblyman Gabriel	818-346-4521	assemblymember.gabriel@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblywoman Friedman	818-558-3043	assemblymember.friedman@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblywoman Rivas	818-504-3911	assemblymember.rivas@assembly.ca.gov



LA CITY COUNCIL APPROVES HOMELESS ORDINANCE - NITHYA RAMAN OPPOSES -

The Los Angeles City Council, by a vote of 13-2, approved an Ordinance to prohibit camping by homeless nears parks, libraries, and other facilities. Our Councilwoman, Nithya Raman, was one of only two members of the 15 member City Council that opposed the new Ordinance.

HAVE A PROBLEM THE CITY CAN SOLVE? HERE'S WHO TO CONTACT

Do you have a problem that the City can solve or is responsible for? Councilwoman Nithya Raman's Field Deputy, Alexandria Naseef, can solve it for you. Contact her at (213) 473-7004 or email her at alexandria.naseef@lacity.org.

A LOCAL FAVORITE - THE COFFEE ROASTER

In a world in which mom and pop coffee shops are rare, The Coffee Roaster in Sherman Oaks (established in 1987) offers friendly customer service, coffee beans roasted on site, and an intimate dining experience.

Manager of The Coffee Roaster for the past six years, Steven Doneley, is proud of the welcoming community that he and his staff members have created for Sherman Oaks residents and their other customers who stop by in the morning for a cup of their favorite brew.

Doneley mentions that The Coffee Roaster is a perfect alternative to big chain coffee shops that lack a cozy and familiar feel.

"There are more relationships and friendships formed in a smaller space and we want an atmosphere where everyone feels welcome," Doneley says.

Along with their uniquely sociable environment, The Coffee Roaster is also characterized by its wide variety of house-roasted beans, coffees, and lattes. They offer 12 single origin coffees from Brazil and Panama to Vienna and Papua New Guinea. Not only are these delicious varieties brewed in house for dine-in customers, but you can take a pound home for later. Regulars come bright and early for an oat milk latte and almond croissant and stay for a lunchtime quiche.

So don't be afraid to break out of your usual coffee routine and check out The Coffee Roaster for your morning cup of java soon.

The Coffee Roaster
13567 Ventura Boulevard, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
(818) 905-9719

Hours: 6:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Daily

The above article is not an advertisement. SOHA does not accept payment for articles.



- MEMBERS: SOHA NEEDS MORE OF YOU - PLEASE HELP!

Your Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association (SOHA) has been dedicated to preserving and protecting our community (and advocating on behalf of ALL Sherman Oaks residents, homeowners and renters alike), since 1964. With many community challenges at hand, we are asking for your support to spread the word about our vital contributions to Sherman Oaks: Please share this Newsletter and encourage neighbors and friends to become members.

As the ONLY non-profit, member-supported, volunteer-run community organization in Sherman Oaks dedicated to preserving our quality of life, membership in SOHA provides the critical resources needed to facilitate better outcomes for ALL residents of our community. Whether on major issues like housing (protecting our neighborhoods), mass transit (helping secure the best Sepulveda Pass option), promoting local businesses, or safety and beautification, SOHA's work depends on the resources provided via strong membership.

If you are not already a SOHA member, PLEASE JOIN!

If you ARE a SOHA member, please spread the word! The small \$30 basic membership is an investment in our community (and those able to join at the \$50 Silver level or the \$100 Gold level provide additional resources needed to meet current challenges).

- For membership questions, write JoinSOHA@gmail.com -

Please do your part to help keep Sherman Oaks a wonderful place to live! Become a member via our SOHA914.com website. Just click on Join SOHA, enter your info, and conveniently pay via credit card or PayPal).

Note: For credit card, simply select the PayPal link and click on Checkout as Guest. The "Join SOHA" link also provides easy info to pay by check.

Member benefits include our monthly Newsletter and occasional email updates to help you stay informed. Plus, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you're helping to preserve and protect your community.

We are grateful for our many friends and neighbors who appreciate and support our community - Thank you!

The logo for SOHA, consisting of the lowercase letters "soha" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**The ONLY member-supported,
volunteer-run, non-profit
community organization
dedicated to preserving and protecting
the quality of life here in Sherman Oaks.**



Sherman Oaks

Do you have a Facebook account?

If you do, please "like" the Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association page. Our Facebook page provides updates on local news and information about events happening in Sherman Oaks. Go to www.facebook.com/soha914 to get instant information from your Association.

You can also follow us on on Instagram 914SOHA.

Do you receive our email updates?

If not, we do not have your email address. Email it to us at soha914@gmail.com.

Very truly yours,



Richard H. Close, President

Newsletter Graphic Services
donated by Joel Pomonik

VISIT OUR ASSOCIATION'S WEBSITE - WWW.SOHA914.COM - FOR HELPFUL RESOURCES AND INFORMATION!

soha

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