

"Together
we have
clout!"



District covers downtown Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, El Sereno to Eagle Rock. There is speculation that De Leon will be a candidate for Mayor in the June 2022 election.

Councilman de León previously served as the 50th President of the California State Senate and was a member of the California State Assembly representing the 45th district.

He will discuss the real solutions for helping the homeless, fixing Los Angeles City streets and how to get small businesses reopened.

If you have a question for Councilman de León, email it to us at SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com on or before Monday, May 17, 2021.

To attend the virtual Zoom Meeting, the Meeting ID is 848 8249 2568 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, please email us at SOHAZoomMtg@gmail.com. We will email you instructions.

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

Earlier this year, the Los Angeles Economic Development Corp. issued a report estimating that Los Angeles County lost more than 400,000 jobs and 7,500 small businesses closed for good.

And those still remaining have to deal with accumulated debts. Plus, the lost jobs.

We are concerned about the businesses in Sherman Oaks and urge you to patronize them to help them survive in these difficult times.



- METRO SEPULVEDA PASS DECISION UPDATE - FOUR GOOD CONCEPTS AND ONE HORRIBLE CONCEPT

Bob Anderson reports that Metro has announced its five finalist concepts for the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project. These five will be evaluated and evolved during environmental studies which start this Fall and continue for the next three or so years. By the end of environmental studies, Metro will select one concept for construction. All concepts run from the Metro Expo Line at Sepulveda and Pico Boulevards on the Westside to the Van Nuys Metrolink Station at Van Nuys Boulevard and Raymer Street in the Valley. The five concepts are:

1. **MONORAIL** – Monorail trains operating above ground along 405 freeway right of way
 - Either above median or on west edge of 405 through Sepulveda Pass
 - On east edge of 405 for entire route north of Ventura (101) freeway
 - Affordable within current Metro budget
 - Developed by LA SkyRail Express
2. **MONORAIL + UCLA** – Monorail trains operating above ground along 405 freeway right of way with underground UCLA section
 - Same as MONORAIL plus tunnel section to reach on-campus UCLA station
 - Tunnel section also direct connection to Metro Purple Line on Wilshire Boulevard
 - Almost affordable within current Metro budget
 - Developed by LA SkyRail Express
3. **HORRIBLE HALFWAY** – Heavy rail trains operating half underground and half above ground
 - Subway tunneled under Westside and Sepulveda Pass
 - Huge, ugly, noisy tracks 20 to 30 feet above Sepulveda Boulevard in Valley
 - Currently unaffordable with cost \$4 billion above Metro budget
 - Developed by Bechtel Sepulveda Transit Corridor Partners
4. **VAN NUYS REAL SUBWAY** – Heavy rail trains operating completely underground
 - Subway tunneled under Westside and Sepulveda Pass
 - Subway tunneled under Van Nuys Boulevard in Valley
 - Currently unaffordable with cost \$7 billion above Metro budget
 - Developed by Metro
5. **SEPULVEDA REAL SUBWAY** – Heavy rail trains operating completely underground
 - Subway tunneled under Westside and Sepulveda Pass
 - Subway tunneled under Sepulveda Boulevard in Valley
 - Currently unaffordable with cost \$7 billion above Metro budget
 - Developed by Metro

The bottom line is simple. The two MONORAIL and two REAL SUBWAY concepts are good – not perfect. All four need improvements and the public needs more details. Only the MONORAIL is affordable within today's budget, although the MONORAIL + UCLA is almost affordable. The REAL SUBWAYS are very expensive and may never be affordable.

The HORRIBLE HALFWAY is ridiculous. It favors the Westside with subway and penalizes the Valley with noisy elevated tracks. It will ruin Sherman Oaks and Van Nuys, worsening traffic along Sepulveda and creating a half-mile strip of blight on either side of the ugly tracks.

Metro knows SOHA's position. We're going to make sure they know it even better over the next few months. If you want to help get the word out about these concepts, please contact Bob Anderson at BobHillsideOrdinance@gmail.com.

- ACTION NEEDED -

SINGLE-FAMILY NEIGHBORHOODS WILL BE DESTROYED

The existence of single-family neighborhoods depends on us.

It is time for all of us to stand up and oppose Senate Bills 9 and 10 that will end single-family neighborhoods. Both bills have been approved in two separate senate committee hearings. The bills will now be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee for final review before heading for a full Senate vote.

As we have reported in the past, Northern California senators are in strong support of these bills. The lack of opposition from our own LA City Council and Mayor Garcetti has made it difficult for our Southern California senators to stand up against these bills, even when they see how wrong they are for our communities.

These bills are strongly supported by developers, land speculators and big tech. With their massive monetary contributions, they have silenced opposition voices. Take note that even the LA Times does not offer a balanced view on what these bills will do to our city. The power of Sacramento leadership is such that our senators are being pressured to vote in favor of these bills. Our representatives need to hear from us.

In short, these bills will allow 4 units of housing on any lot in Sherman Oaks with no limitations on size. You can also split any lot and build two units of housing on each split. Our hard fought mansionization ordinances will no longer apply, making it possible to add two large housing units on each half of a newly split lot. This is everywhere in California. No exemptions except for historic districts and very high fire zones that can't be mitigated. SB 10 allows a 10-unit apartment to be built on every single-family lot.

All of our communities have areas where we can add more housing density. The idea of destabilizing single-family neighborhoods is with no merit. None of the added density will be mandated to be affordable. Infrastructure improvements and environmental impacts from loss of trees and backyards are not being considered. In order to have affordable housing, the state needs to fund affordable projects. We support that; however, the theory that the more you build in single-family neighborhoods the cheaper prices will get has never been proven to be factual anywhere in the world.



Our SOHA committee has started a United Neighbors Coalition unifying all socio-economic neighborhood groups throughout the state to oppose these bills. All our groups are concerned about the destruction of our neighborhoods. Our coalition members that represent Communities of Color find these bills tools for displacement and gentrification. And, they join us in opposition.

Please take a moment and write to Senator Robert Hertzberg, who has stood up for us in Sacramento but needs to keep hearing from us.

Senator.hertzberg@senate.ca.gov

Please also take a moment to write to Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian who opposed a similar bill last year – we need his opposition this year.

Assemblymember.nazarian@assembly.ca.gov

We can stop this if we raise our voices. We have better ways to add housing in our communities than to destroy our neighborhoods. Please don't let these bills be approved without your voice being heard. Our elected officials care about how many people support or oppose a bill.

Their reelection in public office depends on us and that goes for the Governor too.

MAKE SOME NOISE FOR QUIETER NIGHTS

The new Van Nuys (VNY) Quieter Nights Program (voluntary jet curfew 11 pm - 7 am) recently reported to the LAWA Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC) that it has seen a 39% decrease in night jet operations. LAWA is continuing to work for a higher rate of compliance. One conflict is that the VNY tower opens at 6 am, encouraging early morning departures over Sherman Oaks. Sleep-disturbed residents are encouraged to file complaints with VNY and notify our Councilwoman Nithya Raman.

Residents who live in Sherman Oaks, Encino, Studio City and surrounding areas have recently sued the FAA to challenge sweeping changes that the FAA made to air traffic navigation into and out of Burbank and Van Nuys airports. The changes have been responsible for the massive rise in noise complaints at both airports, and are seen as the precursor to the FAA's effort – with airport blessings – to significantly increase air traffic capacities at both airports. The lawsuit is using the same argument that won in Phoenix in 2017, namely, that the FAA failed to follow steps required by federal environmental and other laws prior to enacting the changes. To learn more or to make a tax-deductible contribution, visit www.sos-la.org.

Proposed FAA Working Group at VNY: After LAWA formally requested the FAA to consider adjustments to its new VNY NextGen flight procedures (which have created serious new noise and environmental problems across Sherman Oaks), the FAA recently announced its intention to form a working group that may result in the revision or creation of VNY departure and arrival flight procedures. This process is projected to take 18 to 24 months. Residents should regularly attend monthly LAWA BOAC and VNY Citizen Advisory Council (CAC) meetings regarding their concerns. Who is representing Sherman Oaks residents if the working group is only LAWA and the FAA?

ABANDONED RACKS ARE UNSIGHTLY WRECKS

Have you noticed the huge number of broken, filthy newsracks on Ventura Boulevard and elsewhere in Sherman Oaks?

Most, if not all, the newsracks have long been abandoned since they are too expensive to service and maintain or the publication is out of business. We have identified at least 30 along Ventura Boulevard from Sepulveda Boulevard to Coldwater Canyon that are either broken, filthy and many used as trash receptacles.

Over a month ago, we contacted the City and our Councilmember's Deputy to request they remove them. We and you are still waiting for action.

There is no reason for these unsightly racks to exist.



TAISHO - NEW JAPANESE RESTAURANT COMING SOON



Have you been waiting for an elegant Japanese restaurant in Sherman Oaks?

Well, you're in luck! Taisho, an innovative restaurant featuring sushi, sake, and more, is coming soon to Ventura Boulevard! According to the owners, they plan for Taisho to be the perfect mix of "your neighborhood restaurant," and a perfect "destination place to celebrate and have a night out," for those who want to stay in the Valley.

Owner Christian Corben says "Taisho will focus on creating a fun environment to accompany their amazing menu filled with Japanese traditional food."

The menu will include, "traditional sushi, new-style sashimi, special robatayaki, and special bincho-tan," among many other mouth-watering meals. The standout new style sashimi is topped with diverse sauces, including the tuna carpaccio and sashimi centered around bluefish tuna and topped with soy truffle sauce, Parmigiano Reggiano, and seasoned arugula.

Another meal to note is their robatayaki, featuring chicken, beef, lamb, salmon, and several other meats and seafoods. Vegan and vegetarians – don't worry! Taisho will offer an array of vegetable menu items including shiitake mushroom and a creative cauliflower tempura garnished with delicious miso sauce!

Taisho will be open soon from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., so don't miss out on an evening of sophisticated Japanese food, sake, and cocktails!

大将
TAISHO
Sherman Oaks

TAISHO - COMING SOON!

14016 VENTURA BOULEVARD
SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91423, (213) 200-9769.

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