

GREATER TOLUCA LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING (includes TRAFFIC/PUBLIC WORKS)
 MINUTES for: Tuesday, September 8, 2009 7:00 PM
 10116 Riverside Drive, Suite 200 Toluca Lake, CA 91602**

1. Meeting Opening and Call to Order Start Time: 7:16pm

Attendance: (please mark X=present, EX=excused, AB=unexcused absence:

Jay Goldberg X	Craig Strong EX	Jack Thomas X	Janice Eaton X	Sol Ajalat X
John Adair EX	Steve Hampar X	Frank Banyai EX	Wendy Mogul X	Betsy Mogul X
Rob Benavidez X	Alice Roth	Brian Gallagher	Cathy Naugle	
Cahuenga Street Improvement Project Ad Hoc Committee				
John Moskal	Christine Farnon X	Mary GarciaX	Marie Andros X	

Guests:

Motion: To Approve August 2009 Minutes. Approved.

Chairman’s Opening Remarks: Caltrans presentation: Patrick Chandler/Ashraf Hanna regarding agenda item 1.1.2

1.1 Action Item(s) and Response and/or Resolution in Progress

1.1.1 Cahuenga Street Improvement “Downgrade segment of Cahuenga” See detail below under section 3.1.5

ACTION ITEM:

- 11/3/2008 Terry sent to Tom La Bonge on November 3, 2008.
- 12/01/2008 Terry sent a second letter to Ed Reyes, LA Planning Chairman.
- 01/05/2009 Jay and Mary G. will write letter to Ed Reyes. Name of project is Cahuenga Street Improvements NOT Widening.
- 01/12/2009 Jay/Gene K/Terry Davis submitted letter to Ed Reyes and CC: Tom LaBonge

RESPONSE AND/OR RESOLUTION:

- 02/02/2009 No answer to letter yet.
- 02/23/2009 Letter resubmitted to Ed Reyes (wrong email address first time and no response to FAX).
- 03/02/2009 Victor Yang did not have updated information and stated that he will follow up with Brian Gallagher.
- 6/1/09 No update
- 7/6/09 New street lights at the school are going to be assessed for the homeowners.
- 8/3/09 No update
- 9/8/09 No update

1.1.2 Cahuenga Street Improvement “Remove sign saying Universal Studios exit @ Cahuenga off 134 freeway.” (see detail below under section 3.1.10)

- 01/05/2009 Update PS&T Committee Motion to Board
- 01/20/2009 GTLNC Board Passed**
Motion: That GTLNC to request La Bonge an immediate request of removal of sign directing freeway traffic to exit Cahuenga to go to Universal City. All traffic signs should show exit at Lankershim.
- 01/26/2009 Jay Goldberg wrote letter and send to Jerome Williams, GTLNC President for review
- 02/02/2009 Letter distributed 02/02/2009
- 03/02/2009 No response received. A Committee member recollection was that the Freeway also has a similar sign directing traffic to Hollywood.. This is to be confirmed and if such sign exists then the motion is to be revised to include both Universal City and Hollywood.
- 4/6/09 Betsy moved that we check with Jerome Williams regarding letter. If letter has been sent please amend it to include the removal of sign saying “Hollywood Exit”- eliminate both signs.
- 5/4/09 Waiting for response from Caltrans.
- 6/1/09 No Update
- 7/6/09 DOT Response, Patrick Chandler. The issue is still pending.
- 8/3/09 Cahuenga Committee to set up meeting with Councilmember LaBonge. Public Safety supports foregoing affirmative action by Cahuenga Committee.

9/8/09 This issue of the sign directing traffic off of Cahuenga was discussed in detail with the CALTRANS representatives. It was noted that there are two signs on the westbound 134 FWY, one at Hollywood Way and one East of Cahuenga, directing traffic to exit the fwy at Cahuenga to go to Universal. It was argued by the committee that Cahuenga is a very busy residential street and it would better serve the community if the sign directed traffic off the fwy at Lankershim, which is an under utilized retail street that could more readily accommodate the traffic flow. There would be an added benefit to the retailers on Lankershim and Vineland with the extra traffic flow. The CALTRANS reps suggested they could not make that change without something in writing from LADOT. They suggested that LADOT would have to do a traffic study. They also suggested that CALTRANS may have to do their own traffic study additionally. The CALTRANS rep said that there were plans to widen not only the off ramp at Cahuenga, but to widen Cahuenga itself, to accommodate the additional potential future traffic flow. It was the committees understanding that this widening would not happen. Sol Ajalat will review the EIR from the developer (Thomas) for clarification.

1.1.3 Permanent speed displays

- Brian referred to something like at on Moorpark and Elmer, and offered to email a photo to GTLNC to distribute to Jay's Committee. Jay Goldberg will contact Alice Roth requesting that the offered photo of a permanent speed display sign per Brian be sent to the GTLNC office.

03/02/2009 Requested sign received.
 6/1/09 No Update
 7/6/09 No Update
 9/8/09 No Update

1.1.4 Cahuenga: left turn arrows: Gallagher said they will be on Riverside, maybe Moorpark. Not on Camarillo.

01/05 2009 No Action
 6/1/09 No Update
 7/6/09 No Update
 9/8/09 No Update

2. On-Going Business (Public Input limited to 3-minutes)

2.1 Local Crime, Rob Benavidez, LAPD Senior Lead Officer

6/1/09 Rob Benavidez provided crime update. The crime statistics show that crimes are down for the month of May by 11 crime events as compared to April.
 7/6/09 No Update
 8/3/09 July crime report introduced and discussed. Crime reduction from June-stolen gardener equipment and other crimes reported discussed.
 9/8/09 SLO Rob Benavides provided crime update and report for August 2009. For Toluca Lake there was a car stolen on Mariota and two theft from auto. One of the cars had a camera stolen, but it was reported the car was unlocked. In September there was contractor tools stolen from a home on Toluca Lake Ave. The home was being remodeled, and it was suggested it was possibly perpetrated by someone who had knowledge of the equipment that was stolen.

2.2 Door-to-door solicitors- Tim Saito, Section of the City Code that requires door-to-door solicitors to carry a license.

03/10/2009 No Update
 04/06/2009 Janice reported that neighbors in her area have been trying to discourage them.
 6/1/09 No Update
 7/6/09 No Update
 8/3/09 Problem has subsided
 9/8/09 Problem has subsided

2.3 Neighborhood Watch, Steve Hamper

6/1/09 Steve Hamper stated that 3 stakeholders have volunteered to start up a Neighborhood Watch on their block. However, the scheduling of the initial meetings with Rob Benavidez will have to be delayed as the LAPD has all officers on standby awaiting the results of the NBA Playoff in case the Lakers win the title.
 7/6/09 No Update
 8/3/09 Block development is ongoing.
 9/8/09 No Update

2.4 CERT Training, John Adair

6/1/09 Chairman requested that the Cert Committee set up another training session and pass the information to Steve Hamper and Janice Eaton who will then distribute to the Neighborhood Watch captains to solicit enrollees. John Adair stated that he will call for a meeting of the CERT committee to get plans in order.
 7/6/09 No Update

8/3/09 No new sessions schedules- subcommittee will reconvene to plan for fall dates.
9/8/09 John Adair has resigned from committee due to business schedule. A replacement will be found for John.

3. Work In-Progress Status (Public Input limited to 3-minutes)

3.1 Cahuenga Street Improvement Project (decimal extensions 1, 2, 3, correspond exactly with original items regarding Cahuenga Street Improvements by North and South groups)

12/01/2008 Update In bidding process. August 2009 to start Contract Award.

3.1.1 Solid White Lines (Striping Plan) to identify street parking on the west side of Cahuenga from Magnolia to Camarillo in places where the street briefly widens (example 4800 block) and is taken by drivers to be an extra lane.

12/01/2008

- Brian said this was In the "Scope" calendar of those small changes that include the drop off area in front of the school scheduled for design by 2009, executed 2010. Brian was reminded that this item was separate from the Scope matters and was asked why it had to wait. He said they can't do it now because it is "tied to Incremental changes" on Cahuenga.
- PS&T Committee asked what those incremental changes were; Gallagher said he didn't have them now but would **send a copy** of the plans to the GTLNC address, and the office could distribute it to committee members. (not received by GTLNC Office as of 12/29/2008).

01/05/2009 Jay Goldberg will contact Alice Roth requesting that the offer from Brian regarding the Cahuenga Street Improvement Project Plans be sent to the GTLNC office.

02/23/2009 Jay emailed Alice asking that the plans be sent to the GTLNC office.

03/02/2009 Victor Yang did not have current status but he stated that he will check and send update by email.

4/6/09 Pending

5/4/09 Will be done next year

6/1/09 No Update

7/6/09 No Update

9/8/09 No Update

3.2 Riverside and Talofa Signal Light (Trader Joe's corner)

4/6/09 **Approved per letter from DOT. Awaiting funding.**

5/4/09 **Motion to include all way crossing in new traffic signal at Talofa and Riverside. Motion Passed. Letter drafted and submitted.**

6/1/09 Brian Gallagher explained to the committee that mainly for safety reasons DOT does not recommend an all way traffic signal at this intersection.

No news on funding, but situation has been made more difficult as the city has made cutbacks on personnel who would implement installation which could delay installation even if funding shortly became available.

7/6/09 Jay is going to research the cost and legality of small crosswalk signs.

8/3/09 Installation can be up to 3 years off.

9/8/09 No Update

3.3 Proposed Speed Limits (40 MPH) on Riverside between Clybourn and Van Nuys Boulevard

12/01/2008

- Gallagher reported that the speed zone has been 35 but the limits expired, so they need another study by Valley traffic. One study showed average speed of 45, another of 40.
- He said that generally, the speed zone is determined by how fast the traffic is going, so if the study shows the average speed on Riverside is 45; city will re-set the zone to 45!!! If it's 40 that allows for radar enforcement.
- Timing the traffic lights at one speed, or not timing them, does not seem to affect the speed the vehicles travel.
- Speed limits on Riverside Dr.- no response to whether the limit will be increased.

01/05/2009 **Motion that GTLNC request that speed limit on Riverside Drive Clybourn and Sancola remain at 35 MPH and NOT be raised to 40 MPH.**

ACTION:

02/02/2009 Reviewed by Brian Gallagher subsequent to meeting at CD-4 with City Staff, Toluca Lake Homeowners Association Representative, Chamber of Commerce and Jay Goldberg by cell phone.

02/23/09 Jay emailed Alice asking if any further action (letter) is needed from GTLNC.

5/4/09 **Motion that DOT keep speed limit at present speed. Motion passed unanimously. (Public Safety will consult with Toluca Lake homeowners and Toluca Lake Chamber regarding this issue.)**

Letter drafted and submitted.

6/1/09 Brian again reviewed the situation and stated that for Toluca Lake to keep the 35 mph signs against DOT recommendations it would require LA Council's approval and if it was approved, the LAPD would not be able to enforce the speed limit.

7/6/09 No Update

8/3/09 Daily News (Rick Orlov) has noted Toluca Lake has the same issues as Zelza St. near CSUN.

9/8/09 No update.

3.4 Kling Street East of Cahuenga-signs are being turned around changing parking directions.

4/6/09 No update. Sounds like a police issue, vandalism.
6/1/09 No Update.
7/6/09 No Update
8/3/09 Advise CD4
9/8/09 No Update.

4. New Business (Public Input limited to 3-minutes)

The CALTRANS rep distributed a flyer stating that effective 9/9/09 Alameda that was previously closed due to construction has reopened and that a section of Pass will be closed until Spring 2010 to continue the construction

4.1 Median at Forman/Clybourn, Nevin Harrison

04/06/2009 Nevin Harrison will inform people in area to come to the May meeting. We don't know what they want.
5/4/09 Suggestion to have field trip with Brian Gallagher and CD4 and Public Safety committee to assess location and need for median. Alice Roth to arrange meeting. Suggestion made that potential funding be used from sale of city property.
6/1/09 Brian Gallagher submitted a report on the options available. In addition to his submission he presented an additional suggestion which appeared to be favored by the residents of the area. This plan would be to change the median area by redirecting the southbound traffic. The first phase would be to paint out the new median area and add traffic bollards and chains. The second phase when founding was found, would be to install a raised concrete median. This plan would be similar to the recent Moorpark median completion. Brian Gallagher was to arrange for the preparation of a rendering for the first phase and submit it to the residents who could then approve and bring it to the committee for their review and further recommendation to the full neighborhood council. The committee also requested the residents to bring new petitions from the residents of the affected area reflecting the new proposal.
7/6/09 **Jack Thomas moved that the committee recommend that the LADOT place a new median at the Clybourne and Forman intersection as proposed by the residents in the attached document, and as an intermediate step they place a bollard & chain system as soon as possible to protect the pedestrians in the neighborhood. Motion passed unanimously.**
8/3/09 Forman/Clybourn Medium proposal- no city funds to construct.
9/8/09 No Update.

4.3 Lance King discussed commercial vehicles using Ledge.

5/4/09 Alice Roth to check with Brian Gallagher and asked him to attend the next meeting.
6/1/09 Brian Gallagher reported that DOT could install signs NO TRUCKS OVER 6,000 lbs if one of the following conditions were met.

1. If the street is narrower than 36 ft and there is not enough space for parallel parking
2. The street has a history of truck accidents
3. If traffic counters show that at least 3% of the street is used by trucks. He stated that he will arrange for traffic counters to be installed shortly.

7/6/09 No Update
8/3/09 Cathy Naugle's report regarding uneven sidewalk on Forman/Clybourn will be given to Alice.
9/8/09 No Update.

5. Event/Meeting Calendar

6. Wrap-Up and Close Meeting

Next Meeting Date (first Monday of the month unless there is a holiday): **Oct 5, 2009**
Time: 7:00 PM **Location:** 10116 Riverside Drive, Suite 200, Toluca Lake, California 91602

6. TICKLER FILE: (to be followed up and reviewed at a future date)

7. Meeting adjournment

Neighborhood Council Meeting Agendas are posted for public review: Discovery Shop bulletin board on west wall, Ramsey-Shilling Real Estate, 10205 Riverside Dr.; Toluca Lake Car Wash, 10515 Magnolia Blvd.; North Weddington Park Recreation Center-Bulletin Board; North Hollywood Public Library, as well as on the GTLNC Web site www.gtlnc.org.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three (3) business days (72-hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Project Coordinator Taneda Larios at 818-374-9892, Toll-Free (866) LA-HELPS, or email taneda.larios@lacity.org.

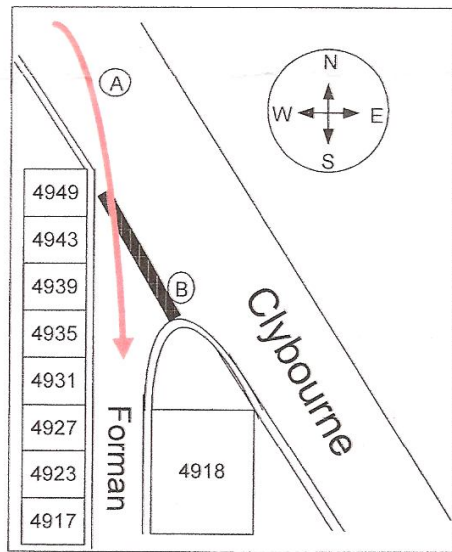
Process for Reconsideration: Any person or group adversely affected by the decisions or policies of the GTLNC may file a written grievance with the Council. The Council shall then refer the matter to the Grievance Committee. Persons who wish to claim a grievance may do so by communicating with any member of the Grievance Committee, and the Grievance Committee shall invite the person claiming a grievance to present arguments and evidence, which may include testimony, to the committee. The Grievance Committee shall act to hear a grievance within thirty days of the initial communication and shall prepare a report and recommendation to the GTLNC to present at its next meeting, or at least no later than the following meeting. The Grievance Committee may on its own volition, communicate its findings directly to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) in addition to reporting to the Governing Board. The Governing Board shall include Grievance Committee reports in its agenda and shall hear the reports in a timely manner as describe above. Any aggrieved stakeholder has the right of appeal to DONE any decision by the GTLNC. This grievance process is intended to address matters involving procedural disputes, e.g., the Council's failure to comply with these Bylaws, or its failure to comply with the City's Charter, the Plan, or local, State or Federal law.

**REQUEST FOR STREET SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS FROM RESIDENTS OF 4900 BLOCK
OF FORMAN AVE TOLUCA WOODS, CA 91601.**

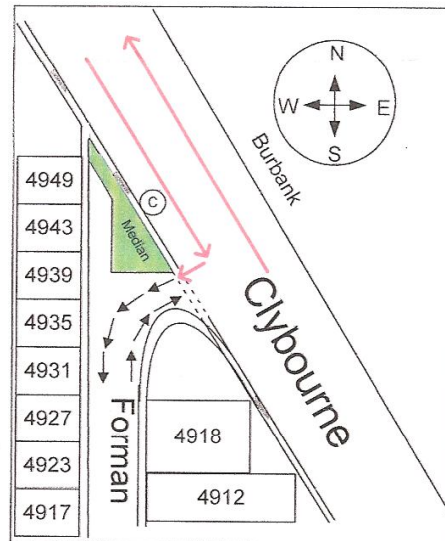
June 21, 2009

PROBLEMS

- Drivers going southbound on Clybourn Ave, veer onto southbound Forman Ave at high speeds (40-65mph) for a residential neighborhood (A). Due to parked cars and trees on sidewalk it is a blind turn. This combined with the high speed can be deadly for pedestrians or Forman Avenue residents pulling out of their driveways.
- There is a long and unsafe sidewalk gap on the west side of Clybourn Ave where Forman Ave dead-ends into it (B). Pedestrian walking on Clybourn basically take their lives on their own hands when crossing the intersection. There is no sidewalk at all on the east (Burbank) side of Clybourn.



Current



Proposed

SOLUTION

The residents of the 4900 block of Forman Ave propose that the sidewalk and intersection median be extended along Clybourn Avenue as depicted in green shaded area (C). Sidewalk and "island" would be clearly marked and/or raised, forcing south-bound traffic onto Forman Ave to slow down when making a standard right-hand turn. The remaining area not needed for sidewalks could be setup as a gravel or green area with trees, grass and plants later on. Traffic on the north end of Forman Ave would be able to enter or exit onto Clybourn Avenue in a standard perpendicular (T) intersection.

BENEFITS

- Safe pedestrian environment for children, parents and pet owners of Forman Ave.
- Safe entry and exit of individual driveways for all residents of the 4900 block of Forman Ave.
- Safer sidewalk along the full length of Clybourn and Forman Ave.
- Safe and pleasant green area (grass, trees, flowers) that all residents can enjoy.
- Proposed change would be completely within the Los Angeles City limits so there would be no complications arising from having to coordinate with the City of Burbank.