

GREATER TOLUCA LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING (includes TRAFFIC/PUBLIC WORKS)
 MINUTES for: Monday, January 4, 2010 7:00 PM
 10116 Riverside Drive, Suite 200 Toluca Lake, CA 91602**

Committee:

Jay Goldberg, Chair X	Sol Ajalat X	Frank Banyai X	Janice Eaton X	Steve Hampar
Betsy Mogul	Craig Strong X	Jack Thomas X		

Standing Guests:

Rob Benavidez, LAPD	Alice Roth, CD4	Brian Gallagher, DOT		
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Cahuenga Street Improvements Ad Hoc Committee:

Marie Andros	Christine Farnon	Mary Garcia	John Moskal	
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Committee Attendance: (X-Present, EX-Excused, AB-Unexcused Absence)

New items are in italics. Motion makers and seconds are in parentheses after motions (Mover/Second)

1. Meeting Opening and Call to Order -7:15 PM

Roll Call was taken.

Agenda was reviewed.

Minutes from December, 2009 were approved as submitted. (Ajalat/Strong)

Chairperson's Remarks: *The Neighborhood Watch Leaders meeting on January 26th at Honeybaked Ham was discussed. Also the formation of Watches on the north end of the GTLNC district was discussed.*

2. On-Going Business (Active)

2.1 Cahuenga Blvd. Improvements-"Request to remove the two westbound 134 Freeway signs directing Hollywood and Universal Studios traffic to exit at Cahuenga and install new signs for these destinations to exit at Lankershim" (Note: This is LA DOT and a CALTRANS matter)

01/05/2009 PS&T Committee updated on motion to be made to GTLNC 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.
 4/6/2009 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.
 5/4/2009 Waiting for response from Caltrans.
 7/6/2009 DOT Response, Patrick Chandler. The issue is still pending.
 8/3/2009 Cahuenga Committee to set up meeting with Councilmember LaBonge. Public Safety supports foregoing affirmative action by Cahuenga Committee.
 9/8/2009 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.

2.2 Cahuenga Blvd. Improvements--“Request to re-designate and downgrade a segment of Cahuenga Blvd from Lankershim Blvd to Magnolia Blvd from its current street classification of Secondary Highway to a collector street.”
(Note: This is a City Planning Department matter in coordination with DOT and Bureau of Engineering)

9/18/2007 Tom La Bonge introduced motion in City Council to re-designate and downgrade.
11/3/2008 Terry sent letter to Tom La Bonge.
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
02/23/2009 Letter resubmitted to Ed Reyes (wrong email address first time and no response to FAX).
11/06/2009 Tom LaBonge motion of 9/18/2007 expired due to inactivity per Council policy.
01/04/2010 *Motion that the Committee recommend that the GTLNC write a letter requesting that Tom LaBonge reintroduce his motion to downgrade Cahuenga passed unanimously. (Banyai/Eaton)*

2.3 Cahuenga Blvd. Improvements (Note: This is a DOT matter)
Note: 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.

2.3.1 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.

2.3.3 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.

2.3.4 Cahuenga: left turn arrows: Gallagher said they will be on Riverside, maybe Moorpark. Not on Camarillo.
01/05 2009 No Action

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

- 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.
- 02/23/2009 Jay emailed Alice asking if any further action (letter) is needed from GTLNC.
- 5/4/2009 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.
- 6/1/2009 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.
- 8/3/2009 A committee member stated that the Daily News (Rick Orlov) has noted Toluca Lake has the same issues as Zelza St. near CSUN.

3. Current Updates

- 3.1 **Local Crime**, Rob Benavidez, LAPD Senior Lead Officer was unable to attend.
- 3.2 **Neighborhood Watch**, Steve Hampar was not present.
- 3.3 **Door-to-door solicitors**-Steve Hampar/Janice Eaton
Tim Saito was to research how to add an ordinance to the City Code that requires door-to-door solicitors to carry a license.
- 11/2/2009 A proposal was passed that we would recommend to our and other Neighbor Councils to further recommend to the City that an ordinance be added to require a permit for door to door solicitors. Proper verbiage will be done through Tim Saito.
- 3.4 **CERT Training**,
Committee and Council is searching for new volunteers to be a members of the Cert sub-committee

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

Jack Thomas, appearing as a citizen not a board member, suggested that the committee should also handle consumer affairs, and specifically proposed that they support legislation to require dry cleaners to post their prices. Jay mocked the idea, although Sol and Craig seemed to support it.

5. Unfinished Business (In-Active at this time)

- 5.1 **Restricting commercial vehicles using Ledge.**
6/1/2009 Brian Gallagher reported that DOT could install signs NO TRUCKS OVER 6,000 lbs if one of the following conditions were met:
If the street is narrower than 36 ft and there is not enough space for parallel parking
The street has a history of truck accidents
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.
- 5.2 **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.
- 5/4/2009 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.
- 6/1/2009 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 funding 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.
- 7/6/2009 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.
- 8/3/2009 Forman/Clybourn Medium proposal- no city funds to construct.

10/5/2009 Roberto James attended to check on progress for the neighbors. Jack to check with Jay Goldberg.
11/2/2009 Sean Fauberg, a neighbor from that location, attended the meeting and would contact Alice Roth for progress.

5.3 **Parkway at Moorpark and Ponca is overgrown and is dangerous and blocks view to traffic.**
11/2/2009 Steve Hampar to follow up with Alice Roth regarding the status.

6. Meeting Close and Wrap-Up 8:05 PM

Next Meeting Date (first Monday of the month unless there is a holiday): **Feb 1, 2010**

Time: 7:00 PM **Location:** 10116 Riverside Drive, Suite 200, Toluca Lake, California 91602

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.

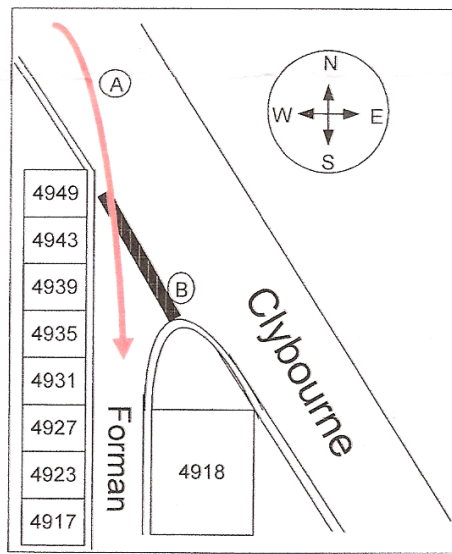
Process for Reconsideration: Any person or group adversely affected by the decisions or policies of the GTLNC may file a written grievance with the Council. The Council shall then refer the matter to the Grievance Committee. Persons who wish to claim a grievance may do so by communicating with any member 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.**

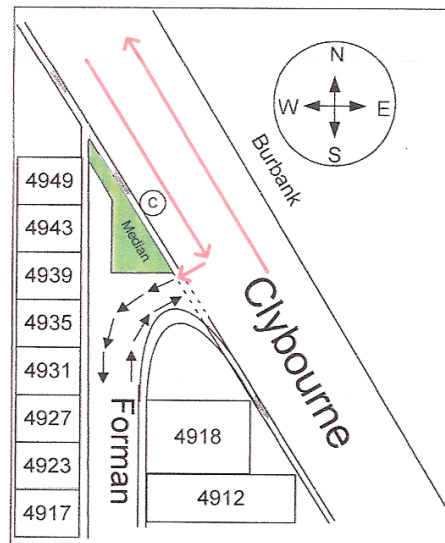
June 21, 2009

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.