

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The HHA reminds residents that it is Hollywoodland's fixed and static physical elements which have protected us in the past, our substandard, narrow streets, no sidewalks and steep serpentine roads have long been recognized as a safety concern. To that we add our vulnerable location - surrounded on three sides with wildland park in a significant ecological area, juxtaposed against a very severe high fire hazard area. But it appears today government has forsaken safety and zoning restrictions as well as Hollywoodland's existence as an historic neighborhood; our community is being degraded through the mayor's blessed promotion of hiking, tourism and the Hollywood Sign. What was once protected is now promoted even though there are NO official openings into Griffith Park through Hollywoodland and NO official Sign viewing sites. This brings to question has the City unofficially changed our zoning with total disregard for the very fabric of our community? Furthermore, in the quest for maximum density our Hollywoodland Specific Plan elements are twisted, contorted or dismissed to meet the premise of more, inappropriate development.

For those in the community who have been tirelessly researching and documenting the facts in the face of frivolous, groundless lawsuits that would drive more tourism into Hollywood, we ask all Hollywoodlanders to make their voices heard. If you see the insanity going on in the village, on our roads, around Lake Hollywood park, or out your front door, don't think you can't do anything. YOU CAN! Your letters to our Council Office, the Mayor or Rec and Parks send a message and that message needs to be loud and clear. Hollywoodland is a residential area and we demand the same protections that other neighborhoods get. Do the residential streets around the Getty or the Hollywood Bowl have to fend for themselves-- not a chance.

Today the big time, heavy duty lifting in our community is done almost silently by a few powerfully strong individuals who are carrying this monumentally heavy load on temporarily fatigued shoulders. But that is not enough. Only through a united voice will we be able to return our community to the residential neighborhood it is zoned as.

It is not enough to say "Why of course I agree" or "Oh my my my isn't this just awful", we need to stand together and act together.

If you have had enough and want to join us in saving Hollywoodland:

1. First, we want to say thank you.
2. You are going to have to stop talking the talk and begin walking the walk.
3. Turn your despair into action. The facts are on our side.
4. Do not rely on or take for granted the tens of thousands of pro bono hours others are spending on our community's behalf.
Make yourself feel downright fab by starting to volunteer your time for our neighborhood, our property values and our safety.
5. Giving makes you feel good so financially support our war chest by getting out your checkbook and generously help fund the fight beyond annual dues.

We need all residents to let the City know their hand in the systematic, well-executed decline of one of the oldest residential hillside communities in Los Angeles has been documented and we demand reparations. So far, all we seem to be getting is more tourism, hikers and cars. Now is the time to act, before it is too late.

NEW INSULATED BAGS

The HHA is offering insulated shopping bags for sale on our website—
www.hollywoodland.org
or at the Beachwood Market. Keep your groceries cool during these dog days of summer and help support the fight to save Hollywoodland..



ONLINE CRIME REPORTING

Officer Brian White sent the HHA a link where residents can now file online reports. For now, it only allows the reporting of a few specific types of crime with select criteria, but there is talk that hopefully this will eventually expand to other crimes as well.

http://lapdonline.org/home/content_basic_view/60409

Types of Crime Reports That Can Be Filed Online:

● **Harassing Phone Calls:** Any person who repeatedly, with the intent to annoy, telephones or makes contact by means of an electronic communication. For example, immediate hang-ups, obscene language, emails, text messages with no known suspects.

● **Lost Property:** Personal property that was unintentionally left by its true owner. For example, property left in a restaurant, in a shopping cart, on a sidewalk, or in a public place.

● **Vandalism:** Any person who maliciously damages, destroys or defaces the property of another person. For example, knocking over a mailbox, spray painting a wall, or throwing a rock through a window.

To File an Illegal Dumping Report Online:

Illegal Dumping: Willfully or intentionally depositing, dropping, dumping, placing, or throwing onto public or private property. Illegal dumping is reported and handled by the City of Los Angeles Department of Sanitation. Please file a report on their website www.lacitysan.org.

Your incident must meet the following criteria:

- The incident is not an emergency.
- The incident occurred within the City of Los Angeles.
- You must be at least 18 years old.
- No one was injured as a result of this incident.
- There are no known suspects.
- The incident did not occur on the state highway.
- No firearms were involved in the incident.
- You must have internet access and an email address.

Once you have submitted your report:

- You will immediately receive a temporary report number and be able to print a copy of the report you just made.

- All incidents reported using the Community Online Reporting Service will be reviewed, on average once every 24 hours (possibly longer on weekends and holidays), and upon approval will become an official police report.
- If further investigation of your reported incident is needed, you will be contacted by email or telephone.
- Once the report has been approved, a LAPD report number will be issued and a copy of the final report will be emailed back to you.

The approval process may take up to five business days. If you do not receive an email of the final report within five business days, please call your local police station Hollywood Community Police Station at 213-972-2971

- Supplemental Reports cannot be filed online. To add any additional information, please wait until you have received your final report with a LAPD report number and call your local police station to speak with the detective assigned to your case.

RECENT HEARINGS

Thank you to the residents who took the time to attend the planning hearing for 6041 Rodgerton. The developers of the property are requesting entitlements and waivers for street dedication and improvements, as well exemption for CEQA. Hollywoodlanders were eloquent in their reasoning about why the exemptions should be denied and we are grateful to Councilman Ryu's office for sending his planning deputy who also stated that the project should not be allowed as currently planned.

Many of you also showed up and spoke before the Arts, Entertainment, Parks, & River Committee hearing on the Dixon 29 Strategies to increase tourism in Hollywoodland and the HHA is grateful. It is always heartening to see our neighbors fight for what they know is right, even when your Councilmember pays no attention to you all through the hearing. We are pretty used to disrespect.



June was certainly an interesting month in Hollywoodland. Here are just a few of the happenings that kept us on our toes.

SMOKING BOBCATS

On June 9 at 11:31 AM a grass fire broke out next to the home at 6166 Mulholland. Thanks to the quick thinking of our hard-working DOT officer, Kwame, the fire department was on the scene within fifteen minutes after avoiding a near collision at the Village gates and one truck somehow ending up on Rodgerton. That truck had to back down Rodgerton to Beachwood because the street at the first curve was too narrow for it to go forward. Upon seeing the smoke, a resident on Deronda called 911, but, believe it or not, was put on hold. After no operator picked up, he called the Park Rangers. As usual, no cause was given by the Fire Department, so we must ask all our neighbors to quit leaving cigarettes out for the bobcats.

FOLLOWED BY A FAKE BOMB

On the evening of June 16 a metal object with several wires coming out of it was spotted on Dirt Mulholland. LAPD was called and the sergeant and his partner who arrived on the scene found it to be so suspicious that they called for the bomb squad. For anyone living on their route up the hill, the bomb squad is quite a caravan. The object was concerning enough for them to send out their robot to diffuse it. Nothing went bang—this time. Let's hope it was not a test run. Dirt Mulholland and the illegal vista above it are stuffed with tourists.

THEN LAFD VS. TOURISTS

On Saturday, June 24, several regional LAFD units were up top on Mt. Lee practicing emergency response. When it came time to head home, they found they were trapped at the top of Deronda just below the gate. With DOT nowhere in sight, as usual, several firefighters had to jump out of their trucks and turn into parking enforcement, having to walk an eighth of a mile down Deronda to start untying the knot of cars.



RECENT REAL ESTATE TRENDS

We have observed some trends /concerns. Some of these trends may relate to the new agents and agencies listing properties here, other concerns may be due to general changes in society. Regardless, if we want Hollywoodland to continue to be the unique, lovely neighborhood that attracted us to put roots here, we need to act to preserve it.

It is important that all agents understand and educate prospective neighbors on our specific plan, homeowners association, historic character/designations and the big elephant in the room, the traffic, hiking, tourist issue.

We are observing more people buying properties as second and third homes, thus not connecting to the day to day lifestyle of living here. They are clueless to our problems and it facilitates the loss of integrity we have as a neighborhood.

Third we are seeing more short term rentals and film locations that create less residential use and more of a commercial use.

Some agents are homogenizing our character, presenting us as Beachwood Canyon rather than specifically presenting us as a historic tract 6450 Hollywoodland, surrounded by 444 acres of parkland our original developer gifted to the city. While lower Beachwood has a charm of its own it is far different than the character and history embodied by Hollywoodland.

Anyone interested in learning more about our storied past - please visit Hollywoodland.org

TIDBITS

Thank you to Hope Anderson for being the generous caretaker of the Beachwood/Westshire steps

Bridge on Friday's. We have a fivesome for cards on Friday mornings. Want to learn the game of bridge? Want to play locally? Let us know!

Info@hollywoodland.org subject line: bridge

If we have at least three people interested we will offer either or both (watercolor classes or collage classes). Let us know your interest. Free to members

Coming soon — Hollywoodland Salon, 6450: a historical reception and talk, "What is the land?"

MT. LEE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY

It has been brought to our attention that many residents are unaware of how important the facility on top of Mt. Lee is to Southern California. The current configuration was built in the 1940s and used for Civil Defense. Personnel work in a two story, bomb-proof bunker underground. It is guarded 24/7 by the LAPD and their private contractor, Cypress Security. It is staffed by employees from the City of Los Angeles IT Department. They oversee all the microwave towers in the region that relay 911 calls and other critical communications throughout the area. In addition, they are in charge of the security of all municipal buildings.

According to the General Services Department, five thousand gallons of diesel fuel is stored on site for back-up generators in case of a disaster. In addition there is a battery back-up for every microwave dish on the tower. These batteries are approximately 2'x1'x3' each.

Many critical agencies share the facility with the City's IT department. These include LAPD, LAFD, County of Los Angeles, California Department of Emergency Services, Highway Patrol, Homeland Security, FBI, Coast Guard and the LAUSD.

And, as most everyone knows since we all get to watch the show, it is a critical heliport for firefighting aircraft. With new upgrades in the pumping system two helicopters can now be filled with water at the same time.

This is why the HHA is demanding that the City take a more aggressive stance with the amount of civilians allowed on the mountain top. As one of the LAPD officers on patrol up there stated, "We don't know what is in those back packs".

WHERE IS FOGP?

Although many Hollywoodlanders can appreciate Friends of Griffith Park board member Gerry Hans' concern about the Warner Brothers proposal for a tramway to the Hollywood Sign stating, "but at the same time there are going to be people wanting to preserve Griffith Park for the great urban wilderness it is". But our question is - Gerry, have you or any of your fellow FOGP board members been in the western end of Griffith Park lately? Urban wilderness? Wilderness desecration is more like it. FOGP, the Griffith Park Advisory Board and the City bureaucratic managers have allowed the 444 acres donated by the Sherman Company, devel-

opers of Hollywoodland, to fall into ruin. It is trash strewn, illegal hiking paths are destroying the habitat, roadway barriers are tossed down the canyons by all the beloved visitors, RAP and the City have stripped the native chaparral to accommodate Hollywood Sign selfies and wildlife is very, very hard to come by. Even the coyotes have de-camped for the lower elevations. Slices of pizza, boxes of French fries and innumerable power bars discarded by the wayside remain uneaten by our wild trash collectors. The ignored edible garbage along with innumerable empty water bottles remain in the same place night after night. However, as this portion of the park wastes away, FOGP is leading the charge, via lawsuits against the City, to expand Sign viewing areas in the park so that more of the natural habitat will be trampled and destroyed. It is clear that FOGP has declared the Sherman (Hollywoodland) gifted parkland "expendable". But, we are not sure if P-22 or the coyotes would agree.

Please, if Friends of Griffith Park are serious about being custodians of the park, get some volunteers together and learn to be serious and thoughtful wildland stewards

THE BAD BOYS OF WESTSHIRE

On June 18th at 3:30AM, most residents on the lower end of the tract, near and above the Village, were awakened by the terrifying sound of wild animals making a kill or procreating or having a drunken party, something horrifying. The HHA checked our security cameras and sure enough it was one of the oldest gangs, excuse us, packs of coyotes in the hood—the Bad Boys of Westshire. Four of them came down Westshire to the Village Green. One splits off and trots up Beachwood, then returns with three of his best friends. And for a few minutes they rule the intersection—running around, yapping, howling, dancing with joy. And then they regroup and head up Belden.

Appreciate where we live. Our wildlife certainly does. Party on!!



*Photo courtesy of
Eric Smith
Rodgerton Drive*



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