

# Hillside Federation Newsletter July 2017



[www.hillsidefederation.org](http://www.hillsidefederation.org)



## Hollywood Community Plan Updated

The new Hollywood Community Plan is available for public review now. As you recall the Plan was challenged in court in 2012 and rescinded by City Council in 2014 leaving the 1988 plan in place. The new draft has been released and is online at:

<http://www.hcpu2.org>

There you will find:

- draft HCP policy document
- proposed land use and zoning regulations
- interactive map feature
- Environmental Impact Report

The Land Use map for the Hollywood area can be found at the following link which shows the proposed use for each area of Hollywood.

[http://www.hcpu2.org/uploads/8/2/8/5/82855984/hwd\\_proplu\\_draft\\_2017.pdf](http://www.hcpu2.org/uploads/8/2/8/5/82855984/hwd_proplu_draft_2017.pdf)

A series of public meetings have been scheduled to give you an opportunity for input.

July 8 10:00 am Los Feliz Library  
July 12 6:00 pm Lemon Grove Rec Center  
July 15 10:00 am Durant Library

The Federation encourages you to review the plans and attend one of the community meetings to express your opinion.

### Agenda July 5, 2017 7:00 pm

Pinz Bowling Center, 2nd Floor  
12655 Ventura Blvd., Studio City

#### I. Call to Order

Guest: Stephanie Cohen, West/Metro LA

#### II. Approval of minutes

#### III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report - Charley Mims

B. Treasurer's Report

#### IV. Old Business

A. Coalition to Preserve LA - Jill Stewart

B. Harvard-Westlake School expansion -  
Suellen Wagner

#### IV. New Business

A. 2937-45 Glendower - Nyla Arslanian

B. 6459 Innsdale, York Vineyard -David Benz

#### VI. Adjournment

Next meeting September 6, 2017

**No meeting in August.**

**Hillside Federation mission:** *To protect the property and the quality of life of the residents of the Santa Monica Mountains and other hillside areas of Los Angeles and its environs, and to encourage and promote those policies and programs which will best preserve the natural topography and wildlife of the mountains and hillsides for the*



## It's Fire Season! Are You Ready?

Los Angeles has already experienced a serious fire in Brentwood and we aren't even into the traditional fire season yet. That fire was caused by sparks from equipment doing brush clearance. We need to do our brush clearance, but it must be done safely.

Make sure that all tools being used are equipped with a spark arrestor. The fire department recommends using nylon string on weed whackers instead of a metal blade.

Living in the hillsides has its joys, but it also has its responsibilities. In the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) we are required to maintain brush clearance year round within 200 feet of any structure and within 10 feet of a combustible fence or roadway. Weeds and grasses can be no more than 3 inches high. Twigs and foliage must be removed from the lower 1/3 of trees and shrubs. Keep overhanging foliage off your roof. Remove all dead trees and shrubs from your property.

The Los Angeles Fire Department's specific requirements are available at: [https://issuu.com/lafd/docs/2017\\_clearance\\_requirements\\_05.23.1?e=17034503/49734213](https://issuu.com/lafd/docs/2017_clearance_requirements_05.23.1?e=17034503/49734213)

We each need to do our part to keep Los Angeles fire safe.

Welcome New Member  
Organization!

Doheny-Sunset Plaza  
Neighborhood Assn.

Save these dates for Hillside  
Federation meetings

August - No meeting  
September 6  
October 4  
November 1

**Hillside Federation Agenda**  
**June 7, 2017**  
**Draft Minutes**

**I. Call to Order** - Charley Mims

President Charley Mims called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Guest: Jill Stewart - Coalition to Preserve LA**

The Coalition to Preserve LA continues to ask important questions about the City's lack of long-term planning, the reliance on spot zoning, and our need for more parks and more open space protections generally. In the course of their investigations, the Coalition accidentally found out through a public records request that the Planning Department is currently looking at the Open Space element of the General Plan but did not invite the public to participate in their discussions. The Coalition wants the Federation to submit a letter calling for open meetings. Charley asked Jill to complete a Request for Action and send a motion and accompanying materials that can be distributed to members prior to next meeting, for purposes of discussion.

**II. Approval of minutes**

The May minutes were approved as corrected.

**III. Officers' Reports**

A. President's Report – Marian Dodge/ Charley Mims

The Zev Yaroslavsky Greenway between Whitsett and Coldwater Canyon in Studio City was dedicated on June 3.

The state tried to pass a ban on styrofoam/single use containers. LA Times wrote a good editorial in support of passing similar legislation. It will likely come back up at a later time.

The Planning Department's Erick Lopez said RecodeLA is almost finished with the Hillside element and he would like to give a presentation to the Federation.

B. Treasurer's Report - Don Andres

Don reported the account balances.

The Executive Committee has looked into financial/investment options to increase the return on Federation assets with relatively low risk investments.

MOTION: Don moved that the Federation make an investment in 3 separate CD's with a ladder approach and an additional small amount in a balanced fund. The motion passed.

**IV. Old Business**

A. Accessory Dwelling Units - Charley Mims

Charley plans to draft a sample letter for individual organizations to submit. The ADU Ordinance went thru the City Planning Commission (CPC) and PLUM where many adjustments detrimental to the hillsides were made. There was no outreach and a lot of giveaways. We need to get a good ordinance that complies with state law.

B. Sign Ordinance - Marian Dodge

PLUM discussed the Sign Ordinance on May 30<sup>th</sup>. They have been stalling since a good ordinance was approved by the CPC in 2015. PLUM wants signs in sign districts, signs out of sign districts and signs on city property. Councilmember Jose Huizar sees billboards as a huge revenue generation engine to solve many of the city's problems although he spoke highly of ending billboard blight. Huizar instructed the City to report back in 30 days to answer all the questions that were presented. Under PLUM's proposal billboards could be installed in city parks. We need to have letters from individual groups with opposition to signs being outside of sign districts. What level of environmental impact must be reported and what level of community involvement must be required?

C. 901 Strada Vecchia - Marian Dodge

Mohammed Hadid, a developer with a reputation for ignoring rules, was issued a stop work order 3 years ago. He had unapproved decks, and an IMAX theater. The City pulled the permits, but he kept working. Last week he pleaded no contest to the criminal charges, and left a half-finished project on top of the hillside. Hadid owes \$1m in taxes and fines. A remediation plan has yet to be submitted.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

The Hillside Federation's Annual Holiday Party will be held Thursday, December 14 at the Mulholland Tennis Club.

D. Harvard-Westlake School expansion - Suellen Wagner

A City Planner stated that the EIR should be out in June, but likely much later than that in order to muster more support from the parents of the students. They got the recommendation for the story poles from the neighborhood council. Suellen requested a letter in support of story poles from the Federation. As the Federation has already taken a position on this project, we will write a letter to Councilmember Krekorian asking him to require the use of story poles.

**V. New Business**

A. 2300 Kimridge Rd- Amy Adelson

The hillside at 2300 Kimridge Rd. off Coldwater Canyon, has been entirely graded and damaged with lots of work without permits, buried trees and a sewage tank. The City issued an Order to Comply (Stop Work Order); however the company ignored the order and DBS approved new permits for construction on the site. The DBS official admitted that the initial permit was issued in error. Because the hearing was before the Federation meeting, the Executive Committee reviewed the Request for Action and voted to support their request for a letter of support.

MOTION: to approve the letter of support that was written by Executive Committee. The motion passed. Amy thanked the Federation for its support.

B. Economic Benefits of Parks - Marian Dodge

"The Trust for Public Land studied the economic impacts of parks (millions of dollars earned/saved/generated) and benefits to the community. Link to get more information is in the June Newsletter.

Announcements

Berggruen Project - Patricia Bell Hearst

There is a proposed development of a think tank compound with a conference center for 300 near Mountaingate. Berggruen is well connected to state and local politicians. Several Federation members attended a meeting regarding the project.

**VI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Stephen Benson,  
Secretary

**Members Present:**

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Beachwood Canyon       | Isabelle Megginson |
|                        | Fran Reichenbach   |
| Bel Air Hills Assn.    | Steve Twining      |
|                        | Robin Greenberg    |
| Bel Air Skycrest       | Mark Stratton      |
| Benedict Canyon        | Nickie Miner       |
| Brentwood Hills        | John Given         |
| Cahuenga Pass POA      | Krista Michaels    |
|                        | Steven Kates       |
| Canyon Back Alliance   | Lois Becker        |
| Doheny-Sunset Plaza    | Yves Mieszala      |
| Franklin Av/Hlwd Bl    | Don Andres         |
|                        | Yvonne Hessler     |
| Franklin Hills Res.    | Charley Mims       |
| Hollywood Dell Civic   | Mary Ledding       |
| Hollywoodland          | George Abrahams    |
| Los Feliz Improvement  | Marian Dodge       |
| N. Beverly/Franklin    | Robert Levy        |
| Oak Forest Canyon      | Bruce Hollihan     |
| Oaks HOA               | Bob Young          |
| Res. of Beverly Glen   | Stephen Benson     |
| Save Coldwater Canyon! | Suellen Wagner     |
|                        | Jeff Jacobs        |
| Studio City Res. Assn  | Claudia Freedle    |
| Upper Nichols Canyon   | Stacy Sillins      |

**Guests Present:**

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Coalition to Preserve LA | Jill Stewart         |
| Chair Emeritus           | Patricia Bell Hearst |
| Hollywood Dell           | Donna Messinger      |
| N. Beverly/Franklin Can  | Connie Levy          |
| Bel-Air Assn             | Maureen Levinson     |
| Bowmont-Hazen            | Amy Adelson          |

## Mulholland Scenic Parkway Design Review Board

Meets 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month,  
6:30 pm  
Marvin Braude Constituents Service Center  
6262 Van Nuys Blvd. Van Nuys  
1st floor conference room

## What's happening in your neighborhood?

Please send the Federation news of  
your activities with photos so we can  
share them with all our members.

## Web Site

The Hillside Federation has a new web  
site, [www.hillsidefederation.org](http://www.hillsidefederation.org).  
One of the things we want to do is have  
live links to the web sites of all our  
member organizations. Please send us  
the link to your association's web site.  
In return, we ask that you post a link  
to the Hillside Federation web site on  
your web site.

You may also visit the web site for  
letters on positions taken by the  
Federation and past newsletters and  
minutes.

The Federation of Hillside and  
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[www.hillsidefederation.org](http://www.hillsidefederation.org)

### PRESIDENT

Charley Mims

### CHAIRMAN

Marian Dodge

### VICE PRESIDENTS

Mark Stratton

John Given

### TREASURER

Don Andres

### SECRETARY

Stephen Benson

### ORGANIZATIONS

Beachwood Canyon

Bel-Air Hills Association

Bel Air Knolls Property Owners

Bel Air Skycrest POA

Benedict Canyon Association

Brentwood Hills Homeowners

Brentwood Residents Coalition

Cahuenga Pass Property Owner

Canyon Back Alliance

CASM-SFV

Crests Neighborhood Assn.

Doheny-Sunset Plaza Nbrhd. Assn.

Franklin Ave./Hollywood Bl. W.

Franklin Hills Residents Assn.

Highlands Owners Assn.

Hollywood Dell Civic Assn.

Hollywood Heights Assn.

Hollywoodland Homeowners

Holmby Hills HOA

Kagel Canyon Civic Assn.

Lake Hollywood HOA

Laurel Canyon Assn.

Los Feliz Improvement Assn.

Mt. Olympus Property Owners

Mt. Washington Homeowners

Nichols Canyon Assn.

N. Beverly Dr./Franklin Canyon

Oak Forest Canyon Assn.

Oaks Homeowners Assn.

Outpost Estates Homeowners

Residents of Beverly Glen

Save Coldwater Canyon!

Save Sunset Blvd.

Shadow Hills Property Owners

Sherman Oaks HOA

Silver Lake Heritage Trust

Studio City Residents Assn.

Sunset Hills HOA

Tarzana Property Owners Assn.

Torreyson Flynn Assn.

Upper Mandeville Canyon

Upper Nichols Canyon

Whitley Heights Civic Assn.

### CHAIRPERSONS EMERITUS

Shirley Cohen

Jerome C. Daniel

Patricia Bell Hearst

Alan Kishbaugh

Steve Twining

### CHAIRPERSONS IN MEMORIAM

Brian Moore

Gordon Murley

Polly Ward