



HDCA Meeting Notes
October 14, 2020
Zoom / Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

David Brewer
Deborah Brosseau
Pamela Clay Magathan
Debra DeCordova
Stephen De Cordova
Linda Deutsch
Judy Dowden
Paul Edelman

Jodi Ehrlich
Anne Fitzgibbon
Scott Grodner
Jan Hohenstein
Alexa Iles Skarpelos
Tifanie Joudeh
Pamela Kalmus

James Latham
Cynthia Martinez
Patti Negri
Merle Singer
Nathan Singer
Walt Young
Kelly Ziegler

I. Welcomes & Introductions

Alexa Iles Skarpelos HDCA President
Email: alexa@hollywooddell.com

II. Upcoming Election: How Voting Will Work

Phillip Verbera, Community & Voter Outreach Manager
LA County Registrar-Recorder / County Clerk-Elections
Email: PVerbera@rrcc.lacounty.gov

Register or Check to Confirm Your Registration

You can register or check if you're registered online: <https://lavote.net/home/voting-elections/voter-registration/register-to-vote/register>

The deadline for advance registration is Monday, October 19th. If you miss that deadline, you may register in person at any Vote Center and vote using a provisional ballot. These ballots would still have to be verified and once all the information checks out it gets counted.

Will Registering Get Me Jury Duty

Some people are reluctant to register to vote because they mistakenly think that will get them in the pool for jury duty. Actually the pool for jury duty is pulled from the DMV (a much larger database).

Your Signature

Signature used to verify your VBM ballot signature is the one on your driver license (when you originally registered to vote that signature was compared with the DMV signature on file). A machine scans signatures and human beings then review any that don't match.

Observe Ballot Processing

Because of the pandemic, every registered voter in LA County will receive a Vote By Mail ballot. Typically they already send out about 3 million VBM ballots for any given election, but this time the number is about 5.5 million. This increase volume of VBM ballots and the need for social distancing of the workers has meant a much larger facility was required to process the ballots. This is being done at the Fairplex in Pomona (1101 W McKinley Avenue, Pomona CA 91768). If you are interested in observing the ballot processing operation you are invited to come check it

out. For more information: <https://www.lavote.net/home/voting-elections/current-elections/election-results/public-observation>

Returning Your VBM Ballot Using USPS

E+17 law: as long as your ballot is post marked on or before Election Day November 3rd they will accept ballots up to 17 days later (November 20th). This is an extension from the usual E+3 rule.

Returning Your VBM Ballot Using a Ballot Drop Box

In the primary they had about 200 Ballot Drop Boxes scattered around the City, in front of Libraries, City Halls etc. For this Election they have increased the number to 400 and are placing them in event centers, large parks and other high traffic areas. The Drop Boxes are very secure, heavy and bolted to the ground.

For a map of locations and to see what the OFFICIAL Ballot Drop Boxes look like go to: <https://lavote.net/home/voting-elections/voting-options/vote-by-mail/vbm-ballot-drop-off>

You Can Have Someone Deliver Your Ballot

For those who aren't comfortable leaving their home to drop off their completed ballot, you have the option to designate someone to do it for you. Be sure and fill out the authorization on the outside of the return envelope and sign it.

Tracking Your Ballot

If you return your completed ballot using the U.S. Post Office you have the option to sign up for: <https://california.ballottrax.net/voter/> **Note: this tracking service isn't available if you drop off your ballot in one of the LA County Ballot Drop Boxes.**

Alternatively, once the ballots arrive at the processing center ALL of them are scanned so you do have the ability to check and make sure your ballot was received regardless of how you turned it in by visiting: https://www.lavote.net/av_inquiry

You Still Have The Option To Vote In Person

The biggest challenge for this election was finding locations large enough to set up Vote Centers with space for proper physical distancing. Starting October 24th 70 Vote Centers will open, and by October 30th there will be 800 Vote Centers open from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, including weekends. To find a Vote Center: <https://locator.lavote.net/locations/vc?id=4193&culture=en>

The Vote Center closest to the Dell is located at the Hollywood Bowl where they will set up in the Kagan Patio (outdoor) space. This location will be open starting on October 24th.

III. Upcoming Election: What's On The Ballot

Offices, Propositions & Measures (handout)

MRCA

Representatives from the Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA) spoke about Measure HH and took questions. The MRCA is a local public agency dedicated to the acquisition, preservation and protection of open space, wildlife habitat and urban, mountain and river parkland that is easily accessible to the public.

Paul Edelman, MRCA Chief of Natural Resources & Planning

James Latham, MRCA Chief of Operations

Walt Young, MRCA Deputy Executive Officer

Ballot Measure HH is a property tax measure that is meant to replace an expiring measure that the voters approved back in 2012 and will expire in 2022. Measure HH is a 10-year tax (\$68 / year) on households that fall within the designated area (which our neighborhood falls within) starting in 2022. There's a map that shows the specifics.

This money will be used for wildfire prevention and protection services including clearing dry brush / fire hazards, ranger patrols for wildfires and to prevent arson, and remove illegal encampments.

MRCA is asking for YES votes on this measure.

To find more information and to view the area map please visit: <https://mrca.ca.gov/measure-hh-2020/>

The discussion was opened up to the attendee's questions:

There are properties within the Hollywood Dell that are MRCA owned and maintained, the largest of which is the La Rocha Trail. The MRCA track record on doing the brush clearance along the trail has been uneven and this year was especially bad. There are several dead trees that need to be removed. It was also pointed out that when the funds were raised for the purchase of the lots along the La Rocha Trail, MRCA required an additional \$25,000 be raised to cover the expense of the annual brush clearance.

Paul Edelman assured everyone that MRCA should be clearing the brush to the same standard expected of area homeowners.

Citizen's Oversight Panel

The panel already exists; it was created for the 2012 measure. There are three members on the panel (one from Nichol's Canyon, one from Dixie Canyon & Marian Dodge from the Hillside Federation). They meet a few times a year to review the tax reports and auditor's reports. The panel is comprised of people who have volunteered and were approved by the MRCA governing board. If someone is interested in volunteering they should reach out.

Ranger Division

Law enforcement, wildlife fire fighting, search and rescue, daily patrols and a night shift. On high fire days they have 24-hour patrol. MRCA has their own fire division and they work with LAFD. HH would allow them to increase the patrol on holidays, weekends and other times when additional patrols are needed. The money raised by HH for this area cannot be used for anything else or for anything outside the district.

Paul Edelman asked for our feedback on a proposed acquisition off of Cahuenga Blvd. East north of the John Anson Ford Theatre and the Cahuenga Hills Tennis Condos. There would be public parking and create a place to view the Hollywood sign. We asked him to send more information on this.

IV. Upcoming Election: Key Dates

MON, October 19, 2020:	Deadline for advance voter registration*
THU, October 22, 2020:	Scheduled Presidential Debate, Nashville, Tennessee (6pm PST)
TUE, November 3, 2020:	Election Day

** If you miss this deadline, you can still register on Election Day at any Vote Center, and vote using a provisional ballot.*

V. Hollywood Dell Neighborhood Updates

City Planning Commission Hearing Cancelled

The developers send word out to their “supporters” Tuesday October 13th that they have agreed to delay the City Planning Commission hearing that had been scheduled for October 15th. “We have done so to allow the City sufficient time to ensure that the project is delivered consistent with the highest standards of seismic safety.”

Donations Via Hillside Federation

Previously we had announced that the Hillside Federation had voted to collect donations on behalf of “Stop the Hollywood Center Project” to fund Robert Silverstein’s efforts to oppose the project. Donors were instructed to earmark their donations for this purpose. The HDCA is interested in knowing who has donated and how their donation process went.

Parking Enforcement resumes OCT 15th

LADOT will resume parking enforcement and impounding where applicable for the following:

- Residential street sweeping
- Expired registration on a vehicle
- Overnight/oversize parking districts
- Peak/rush hour and gridlock zones
- Abandoned vehicles (left for more than 72 hours)
- Expired parking permits in preferential parking districts

West Nile Virus Alert

This year there have been a number of mosquito samples that have tested positive for the West Nile Virus in Los Angeles County according to Vector Control officials. While many who are infected (from a mosquito bite) will experience only mild symptoms, 1 in 150 will require hospitalization and there is a change of serious illness and death.

LA County Vector Control Link: <https://www.glacvcd.org/>

CDC West Nile Virus Link: <https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/prevention/index.html>

Hollywood Community-Police Advisory Board

Meeting tomorrow, October 15th at 2:00 pm.

LAPD National Night Out Virtual Event

October 20th, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Zoom login details:

Meeting ID: 870 3526 8494

Passcode: 501317

Blood Drive

Hollywood Police Station

October 28th from 9:00 am – 3:00pm

To schedule an appointment visit:

www.redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code: LAPDHOLLYWOOD

Halloween Plans

Public Health officials have advised against any “in-person” events, parties, parades or trick-or-treating this year due to COVID-19.

The HDCA has organized 3 fun and safe alternatives to celebrate Halloween this year:

1. Décor Contest, awards will be given!
2. Special Delivery (treat box) by costumed volunteers
3. Virtual Costume Party October 31st at 6:30 pm

Families interested in participating should email: alexa@hollywooddell.com

Watch the CD4 Debate

On Friday, October 2, 2020 HUNC along with other neighborhood councils hosted a virtual debate between Nithya Raman and David Ryu. If you weren't able to watch it live, here is the link to the recording:

<https://www.facebook.com/116021911776072/videos/339747944029722>

Next Meeting: WED November 11, 2020 (7:00 pm)