



March 13, 2024
Neighborhood Meeting Recap

Attendees:
(alphabetically)

Tiffany Acosta
Steven Bachrach
David Brewer
Deborah Brosseau
Pamela Clay
Ronna Del Valle
Erica Gatica Doughty
Jodi Ehrlich
Anne Fitzgibbon
Beverly Freeman
Debra Gainor

Cag Granet
Jeanie Griffon
Sharon Harris
Jan Hohenstein
Alexa Iles-Skarpelos
Conner Johnson
Pamela Kalmus
Walker King
Kwock Koe
Mary Ledding
Joshua Marin-Mora

Patti Negri
Julianna Politsky
Jack Rosenfeld
Carlos Singer
Merle Singer
Nathan Singer
George Skarpelos
Natalie Vartanian
Anji Williams
Rick Chavez Zbur
Kelly Ziegler

I. Welcomes & Introductions

Alexa Iles Skarpelos, HDCA President

II. Update From Local Officials & Reps

Natalie Vartanian, LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger's Office

Email: NaVartanian@bos.lacounty.gov

Phone: (818) 993-5170

With the recent heavy rains, the LA County Office of Emergency Management has launched a survey to assess the damage and costs of damage within LA County (which includes the City of LA) from the February storms. In order to qualify for federal and state disaster relief funding they have to meet a threshold of over \$45 million.

Link to LA County Emergency Management Survey Page: <https://recovery.lacounty.gov/february-2024-winter-storm/>

SB43

This bill expands the definition of "gravely disabled" to also include a condition that is the result of severe substance use disorder, or a co-occurring mental health disorder. It will be implemented in 2026. The time leading up to that will allow to amp up the services and train the existing workforce required.

National Association Of Counties (NACO)

Last year NACO launched a commission on mental health. Supervisor Barger was named co-chair on this Mental Health Commission. The purpose of this commission was to make the Federal Leaders aware of the priorities of Counties on the topic of mental health and ensure there is support. They have recently published a report that Natalie offered to share to anyone who is interested in getting into the details.

Erica Gatica Doughty, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate

Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)

Email: erica.gatica@lacity.org

Phone: (213) 978-1676

Erica attended our meeting to give an update on the changes to the composition of the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council (HUNC) Board, and the recent update to their by-laws.

For quite some time, HUNC had been unable to fill all of the 20 board positions, which made it impossible to meet the quorum requirement to hold meetings and conduct HUNC business. Because their by-laws were so strict they were struggling to navigate this.

They recently underwent by-law amendments to reduce the number of board seats to 14. Currently they have filled 12 seats and have 2 vacant seats available. Quorum is 50% + 1 so that means they now need 8 members present to be able to hold a meeting. They were able to do this by combining geographical areas.

The new by-laws also allow the youth rep to be counted towards quorum, and they can vote on matters with the exception of anything financial. In the past, the youth rep was purely “advisory” could comment or ask questions, but didn’t have a vote. The new by-laws were approved as of March 2024.

There will be an updated map with the board position areas.

Alexa (HDCA President) attended the recent HUNC Board meeting and presented the Hollywood Dell request (Neighborhood Purposes Grant) for funding for our Summer Block Party. They voted to approve up to \$2,500. HUNC will have reps in attendance doing outreach at the event as in previous years.

Walker King, Deputy District Director, CD4

Email: walker.king@lacity.org

As of early last week, Josef Siroky is no longer with CD4, and so we don’t currently have an area rep. In the meantime, Walker and Emma Taylor (emma.taylor@lacity.org) will share in covering the area until a replacement is named.

A street closure on Ledgewood Drive in Beachwood for sewer repairs is causing traffic backups. They are working on the diversion and signage. They expect the work to be complete by the end of March.

The Hollywood Orchard has commissioned a Mural Project at Cheremoya Elementary School with local artist Elkpen. The murals will showcase the natural and cultural history of the area and cover four walls across three buildings. CD4 is supporting this project with a \$5,000 contribution. For details visit: <https://www.hollywoodorchard.org/mural>

March 7th the Mayor’s Inside Safe team led an operation to move people into housing in the Cahuenga underpass due to a “repopulation” of that area. They have plans to do a similar operation at the Wilcox triangle and at Dix in the weeks to come.

Debra Gainor has been working with Josh Scarcella (CD4 Homeless Deputy) and shared their conversations on the current situation in the areas on Dix and Franklin. She mentioned that one of the tents belongs to “Rumple” who has currently been placed in housing.

Alexa asked if someone has been housed and they leave their tent/property at the encampment site- why can’t that be cleared away?

Walker said that they are working with Rumble and their first priority is to make sure his placement is secure and keep him housed.

Debra noted that Rumble is a “ring leader” in the encampments in that area and it’s very important to keep him housed and off the street.

Repairs in the Cahuenga Tunnel

Electrical repairs, lighting and graffiti removal are being done inside the former encampment site on Cahuenga under the 101 freeway. No date for completion is available.

Deborah Brosseau asked about clearing the area on Franklin that is currently impassable.

Jeanie Griffon asked if the un-housed are offered treatment (mental health / addiction treatment) as well as housing. She feels unsafe to walk in her part of the neighborhood.

HDCA requested CD4 support for our upcoming annual neighborhood cleanup day. David Brewer, HDCA Vice-President will reach out to their office with specifics.

III. Special Guest: Rick Chavez Zbur

He was elected in November of 2022 to represent the 51st District of the CA State Assembly. The Hollywood Dell falls within this district as of the most recent redistricting. Previously we were in the 43rd district and represented by Laura Friedman.

Map of the 51st Assembly District: <https://a51.asmdc.org/district-map>

AM Zbur has been named Chair of the Democratic Caucus of the Speaker. This role means he can help identify and develop consensus around the key priorities for the Democratic Caucus. They are the following:

- Housing & Homelessness
- Public Safety (including the Fentanyl crisis and the rise organized retail theft)
- Climate Change

AM Zbur also serves on a number of committees including Budget, Labor & Employment, Public Safety and Utilities & Energy.

Prior to serving as Assembly Member he served for 8 years as the Executive Director of the Equality California, a statewide civil rights organization fighting for LGBTQ equality. Before that he practiced environmental and land use law for 25 years at a major law firm in DTLA.

Focus on Homelessness Prevention:

AB 1620

This bill would authorize a jurisdiction to require the owner of a residential property subject to rent controls to permit a tenant who is not subject to eviction for nonpayment and who has a permanent disability related to mobility to move to an available comparable or smaller unit located on an accessible floor (without having their rent rate “reset”).

AB 369

Increasing the age from 21 to 23 for foster youth to receive support through the Independent Living Program. It also allows them to accumulate savings towards successfully transitioning to independent adulthood.

AB 1431

Reduce housing insecurity by providing rent subsidies to low income, former foster youth, older adults, adults with disabilities, people experiencing unemployment etc. to keep them housed and

prevent them from ending up living on the streets. The estimated cost of providing these subsidies is \$250 – 500 million but significantly less than the estimated \$7- 12 billion to provide homeless services if those people lose their current housing.

AB5

LGBTQ+ students still experience harassment, violence and a lack of support in school settings. This results in high dropout rates, high rates of poverty, and homelessness for at risk youth.

He is also combatting the rise in anti-Semitism through his participation in the Jewish Caucus.

We are headed for a tough budget year ahead. Once he has a better idea on what will have to be cut, he is happy to come back and discuss the specifics.

V. HDCA Business

Hollywood Bowl Community Advisory Board

The Advisory Board met Monday, March 4, 2024 for a meeting focused on transportation and traffic issues at the Bowl. Alexa attended since Jodi was out of town. Results of a survey comparing the Hollywood Bowl with other LA venues were shared.

Hollywood Bowl

Capacity = 17,400
Parking Spaces = 1,725 on site (10%)

The Greek Theatre

Capacity = 5,900
Parking Spaces = 2,500 on site (42%)

The Coliseum

Capacity = 77,500
Parking Spaces = 24,00 on site (31%)

The Hollywood Bowl is continuing to encourage people to NOT use personal vehicles and to instead use public transit and the park n ride options. They will be increasing the rate for parking to \$90 this year to park a car, which is aimed at discouraging people from driving and parking on site.

There was also a request that the LADOT be more present and ticket illegally parked vehicles on our neighborhood streets.

The next scheduled Advisory Board meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 6:00 pm. If anyone has questions, concerns or issues specific to Hollywood Bowl operations, please reach out to Alexa or Jodi Ehrich (jodi@hollywooddell.com) and let her know.

Debra Gainor also shared that the Hollywood Bowl is currently hiring for the upcoming season. Her daughter worked the Bowl last year (along with other Dell teens) and had a blast. If anyone is looking for a job, the Bowl is hiring!

LAPD Update

Alexa shared some crime stats since SLO Heather Mata had another meeting to attend tonight.

Hollywood Division (YTD)

Total crime is down 11.3%
Total property crimes are down 15.67%
Part I crimes are down overall 12.41%
However, homicides, robbery and aggravated assaults are up.

Basic Car Area 6A15 (which includes our neighborhood and the hills east of us)
There are some increases that are concerning. We can ask Officer Mata about that at our next meeting.

Sharon Harris shared that a nearby neighbor had recently had a **car break-in**. It has not been reported. Alexa suggested that it's easy to report to LAPD online.

To Report A Crime Online: <https://www.lapdonline.org/file-a-police-report/>

Jodi Ehrlich shared that a neighbor was recently the victim of a **dog attack on Primrose and Willetta**. This neighbor was holding her small dog and a larger dog (on leash) jumped on her and bit her. Her injury required a visit to urgent care. The two owners of the dog that attacked her walked away and were not identified at that time.

Update: after the meeting, Jodi was able to speak with the owners of the larger dog, who hadn't realized that the woman had been injured during the incident. Animal Services paid them a visit and evaluated their dog, and wrote them a warning. It should be noted that this dog is normally okay with other dogs, including small dogs and all parties involved are working it out.

Little Free Libraries

As part of our plans for the Neighborhood cleanup day, we will be refreshing the little free libraries. Anyone who would like to help painting or installing the one library that got knocked down should let David Brewer know.

Deborah Brosseau requested that we include the little library on Holly and La Granada. It has been vandalized and could use some love too.

IV. Updates, Events & Announcements

Hollywood Resident Town Hall

Saturday, March 16, 2024

The Hollywood Partnership is hosting it. CM Hugo Soto Martinez (CD13) will be there

Los Angeles Marathon

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Road Closure in Hollywood (map of route and closures will be sent out Friday)

LA Fire Safe Council

Thursday, March 21, 2024 (7pm – 8pm)

A virtual meeting will cover insurance matters (getting insurance coverage in fire zones)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8289785602> Meeting ID: 825 8978 5602

Book Signing

Saturday, March 23, 2024 (4pm - 7 pm)

Past HDCA president Peter Barnett has written a book and there will be a signing event
Hollywood American Legion Post 43 (on Highland)

<https://www.barnettkoski.com>

Hollywood Dell Neighborhood Meeting

Wednesday, April 10, 2024 (7pm) IN PERSON – Murray Hill Condo Function Room

Hollywood Dell Neighborhood Cleanup Day

Saturday, April 20, 2024 (9am)

Annual Summer Block Party

Saturday, June 8, 2024 (3 – 7pm)

Meeting Adjourned at 8:26 pm