



April 10, 2024  
Neighborhood Meeting Recap

Attendees:  
(alphabetically)

Malek Adel  
Angela Bellias  
Bruce Bermudez  
David Brewer  
John Bwarie  
Mary Casella  
Pamela Clay  
Jason Cottis  
Brandi D'Amore  
Linda Deutsch

Anne Fitzgibbon  
Gregg Fuller  
Jens Geiger  
Scott Grodner  
Jan Hohenstein  
Alexa Iles-Skarpelos  
Pamela Kalmus  
Schelley Kiah  
Kwock Koe

Joshua Marin-Mora  
Cynthia Martinez  
Heather Mata  
Lois Rosby  
Janet Simon  
Merle Singer  
Nathan Singer  
Emma Taylor  
Ellie Tuttle

## I. Welcomes & Introductions

Alexa Iles Skarpelos, HDCA President  
Email: [alexa@hollywooddell.com](mailto:alexa@hollywooddell.com)

## II. Updates From Local Officials & Reps

**Emma Taylor**, District Director, CD4 – Council Member Nithya Raman's Office  
Email: [Emma.Taylor@lacity.org](mailto:Emma.Taylor@lacity.org)

Emma shared that they just received a briefing from LADWP this morning about the work that will be happening on Cahuenga Blvd. for the next several months. This work will be on 4 areas that need to be replaced. These water lines were originally put in in 1927, 1930, 1931! We have experienced several pipe failures over previous years, and there have been some recent leaks identified, so this is important and necessary work.

The work will be done between the hours of 9:00 am – 3:30 pm Monday – Friday. The project will only impact one lane at a time. The project will be taking place from April – September. For Hollywood Bowl events that start earlier, the LADWP has been advised they can't do work on those dates.

The temporary fencing that is already up (after the Inside Safe operation a few weeks ago) will likely stay up for the duration of the project work.

*Q: What happens when the fencing comes down?*

We asked about the possibility of getting a mural inside the tunnel. We need to involve CAL TRANS. Additionally, CD4 and CD13 need to work on a comprehensive strategy for the Hollywood Encampments. The issue comes up especially on Franklin because the north side of the street is CD4 and the south side of the street is CD13.

*Q: Why aren't they doing the work in the middle of the night when people don't need to use the street?*

A: They need to work during daylight hours. And, the work is noisy so not ideal to nearby neighbors to have it going on during sleep hours.

Josh Scarcella has recently left CD4. The new Homelessness Services Director is Patrick Siggins. Patrick's previous role was with People Assisting The Homeless (PATH).

There is a \$187 million shortfall in the budget. All LA City departments are being asked to eliminate vacant positions.

The application process is too long. And, Personnel is one of the understaffed departments. Many of the best applicants can't wait up to 6 months to get hired.

Emma is in the final stages of interviewing candidates for the CD4 Field Representative for our area. She expects to have someone on board by next month's meeting.

**Heather Mata**, LAPD Senior Lead Officer Area 6A15

Email: [40988@lapd.online](mailto:40988@lapd.online)

#### Crime Stats Update

- Hollywood Division overall, violent crime is down 1% (over last year)
- Hollywood Division overall, property crime is down 5%
- In Area 6A15 (Heather's area) violent crime is up because of some recent shootings on Hollywood Blvd.
- In Area 6A15 property crime is also up 8%

Officer Mata also shared the challenges with towing RVs. If there is any evidence that someone is living in any vehicle (of any size) LAPD is not allowed to have it towed. Unless it is blocking traffic or is leaking hazardous materials...

*Q: How were the RV encampments cleared (like along Forest Lawn Drive)?*

A: That was one of the first "Inside Safe" locations cleared. It was getting so large; it was in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. It requires coordinating many different departments, and there aren't any locations for large vehicles to be towed to anyway. They have even had trouble finding a place to store them and get the occupant to accept housing.

*Q: Any update on the road repair on the 2400 block of El Contento Drive? This was brought to the City's attention back in February after the major rains. It has continued to deteriorate and is a public safety hazard.*

A: Yes, BSS has been notified.

**Joshua Marin-Mora**, Field Rep – AM Rick Chavez Zbur's Office, 51<sup>st</sup> District

Email: [Joshua.MarinM@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Joshua.MarinM@asm.ca.gov)

Joshua commented on the discussion of the challenges with RVs and encampments.

AM Zbur introduced an **amendment to AB 2525** in February 2024. There was already an existing law that authorized CA DOT to offer leases for unused property under freeways or property acquired for highway purposes to be used for emergency shelter. The lease amount was \$1 / month for up to 10 parcels. AM Zbur's amendment would expand the agreement to allow for a secure vehicle storage program, and increase the number of parcels to 25. This should give some relief for those who don't have a place to safely store their vehicles (large RV's) if they accept housing. This should help with the challenge of where to put them.

Link to the full bill AB 2525:

<https://legiscan.com/CA/text/AB2525/2023#:~:text=The%20bill%20would%20define%20%E2%80%9Csecure,the%20purpose%20of%20relieving%20homelessness.>

AM Zbur announced a bill to prevent hate-based gun violence. **AB 2917** authorizes civil courts to issue a gun violence restraining order to prohibit a person from purchasing or possessing a firearm or ammunition for 1-5 years if they pose a significant danger of self-harm or harm to another. This focuses on providing a broader set of risk factors in determining the need for a gun violence restraining order. Specifically, threats towards groups protected by hate crime laws.

*“This bill would require the court to additionally consider a recent threat of violence or act of violence directed toward another group or location, or a past history of those threats or acts. The bill would also authorize the court to consider, among other things, the reckless use, display, or brandishing of a firearm by the subject of the petition, evidence of stalking, evidence of cruelty to animals, or evidence of the respondent’s threats of violence to advance a political objective. By expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.”*

Link to the full bill AB2917:

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240AB2917](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB2917)

AM Zbur has also recently been named the Chair of the New CA **Assembly Select Committee on Retail Theft**. Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas announced the formation of this committee, which is comprised of bipartisan members from across the State of California, from those areas most impacted by retail theft. Assembly Speaker Rivas and Assembly Member Zbur co-sponsored and introduced **AB 2943**.

Some Highlights of AB 2943:

- Creates a new crime of retail theft with intent to sell, punishable for up to one year in county jail (for theft amount over \$950)
- Prosecutors can add up the value of different thefts (different victims, including in different jurisdictions) in the past three years and any property possessed by another person acting in concert to increased penalties.
- Allows police to arrest suspected shoplifters even if they (police) did not physically witness the crime based on a witness statement or video evidence.

Link to read more about it:

<https://a51.asmdc.org/assembly-select-committee-retail-theft>

**John Bwarie**, Stratiscope / Hollywood Bowl

Email: [john@stratiscope.com](mailto:john@stratiscope.com)

For 2024 they have **reworked the Hollywood Bowl Parking Lots** to create the following:

- Shuttle Busses will queue up in the bottom part of Lot B (west side of Highland)
- Ride Hail / Ride Share Lot will now be in Lot C (triangle lot north of Odin) which will allow for about 140 vehicles to queue up INSIDE the lot, with two entrances / exits.
- They will be creating a “geo fence” so that people won’t be able to call for an Uber or Lyft from inside the venue (and prevent tons of ride cancelations) – you will have to be inside the zone / lot before you can call for a car.
- There will be a shuttle that people can grab in the ride hail lot to take them up the hill to the entrance if you don’t want to walk.
- People who have a metro card can ride the shuttles for free

To discourage personal vehicles (which contributes to event night traffic) being driven into this area and parked on site and to move people to public transit, park n ride etc.

- Valet parking cost will increase to \$90
- Stacked parking will increase to \$55 per vehicle

There will still be disabled parking at the top of Lot B.

**Resident Vehicle Placards** are available. Hollywood Dell residents can pick them up at Jodi’s house. Contact her to arrange pickup: [jodi@hollywooddell.com](mailto:jodi@hollywooddell.com)

## **Malek Adel, HDCA Rep, Hillside Federation**

The Hillside Federation was very appreciative of the \$500 contribution by HDCA towards their digital billboards lawsuit.

There was some discussion about a proposed **gondola from Union Station to Dodger Stadium** to reduce traffic. It's a controversial project. The Federation made a motion to halt construction until more studies can be done. To read more about the proposed project:

<https://la.urbanize.city/post/metro-board-approves-dodger-stadium-gondola>

There is a fundraising effort for \$1 million to purchase **2.4 acre "Laurel Spring" property** in Laurel Canyon (at Lookout & Laurel – the old Frank Zappa property) to preserve. The owner is willing to sell it for that amount. It has a natural spring and is an important natural habitat. If they are successful in raising the purchase price it will be donated to MRCA (Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority) as conservation land. The deadline to raise the funds is April 20, 2024. They have raised \$660,000 so far. To find out more or donate go to...Link:

<https://www.clawonline.org/lets-buy-laurel-spring>

**City Nature Challenge 2024** <https://www.citynaturechallenge.org/>

The Hillside Federation is looking to fill their **Executive Secretary position**. HF is requesting applicants. Please direct your inquiries to HF Nominating Chair – Beth Dymond. Email: [mdymond45@gmail.com](mailto:mdymond45@gmail.com)

## **Proposed Affordable Housing Development in the Hollywood Knolls.**

Link: <https://la.urbanize.city/post/11-story-affordable-housing-development-proposed-3446-n-floyd-terrace-hollywood-hills>

This is a Mayor's office EDI (Executive Directive One) project. EDI was designed to streamline the LA City approval process to address the massive housing shortage (affordable housing) with the goal to reduce the homelessness crisis.

## **What is CM Raman's position on this proposed project?**

Emma wouldn't share the CM's thoughts on the project, stating that there is skepticism about whether it's going to move forward, and because it's coming from the Mayor, they (CD4) don't have any authority to approve / deny this type of project...but that they would share community feedback with the Mayor's office.

*Q: What exactly is considered "affordable" housing?*

*A: It is based on Median Income and AMI. To be eligible for low-income housing, a family's gross annual income must be below 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI). The AMI is the midpoint of a region's income distribution. That means that half the households in a region earn more than the median, and half earn less than the median. This is income before taxes and deductions.*

*Q: EDI was created to speed up the process and getting affordable housing built, but wasn't it also bypassing the usual requirement for community input? And doesn't it also eliminate any architectural restrictions and historical districts?*

*A: R1 Zones (single family zoned) are no longer included as places for EDI projects. R2 Zones ARE still included for EDI. In the Dell Holly Drive between Primrose and Dix is Zoned R2.*

### III. HDCA Business

#### **April Neighborhood Improvement Projects**

##### **Little Free Libraries**

They will be getting a makeover - repainted (new, more cheerful color scheme) & new Plexiglas for the windows

Re-install the LFL that got knocked down at the Rinconia / Weidlake location

If anyone would like to help paint, or has books to donate, contact David Brewer:

[david@hollywoodell.com](mailto:david@hollywoodell.com)

##### **Franklin Ivar Park**

We have noticed that the park maintenance has not been done lately. So we have included tidying up the park to our projects list for this year.

##### **New Pet Waste Station**

We are asking for suggested locations for another pet waste station. Please submit your ideas to David Brewer.

#### **Summer Block Party Planning Update**

Pet Parade theme is “**The Pet Gala: Walking Works of Art**” and we are encouraging people to dress up their pets this year.

##### **New Activity This Year!**

Cindy Renie will be in charge of a “rock painting” table for those who want to be crafty at the Block Party.

**Work Parties.** There will be some (fun) opportunities to get together in advance to assemble the pet parade SWAG bags, raffle items and other event preparations. We welcome anyone who wants to join in!

**Volunteers!** It takes a village to make it all come together; work parties in advance of the event, event set up, working the event and event cleanup. Please reach out to Alexa if you are willing to join the crew! [alexa@hollywoodell.com](mailto:alexa@hollywoodell.com)

### IV. Misc. Upcoming Events & Announcements

#### **LA Fire Safe Council – Virtual Meeting**

Thursday, April 18, 2024 (7pm)

Meeting Link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85600706036>

Meeting ID: 856 0070 6036

#### **Hollywood Dell Neighborhood Cleanup Day**

Saturday, April 20, 2024 (9am – 12pm)

#### **The Big Shred Event**

Saturday, April 20, 2024 (9am – 11am)

2100 Highland Avenue – Hollywood Heritage Parking Lot

Securely dispose of documents, tax returns, financial statements etc. FREE!

They will also be collecting Electronic Waste (TVs, monitors, printers etc.)

**LA Fire Dept. Brush Clearance Deadline!**

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

We are all required to clear our property by this date to keep our neighborhood safe during wildfire season. If you want to look up your property: [https://www.lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush/view\\_pacel](https://www.lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush/view_pacel)

**Hollywood Bowl Neighborhood Pancake Breakfast**

Saturday, May 4, 2024 (9 – 11am)

2301 N. Highland Avenue

**Hollywood Dell Virtual Neighborhood Meeting**

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 (7pm) Via Zoom

Meeting Link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83186392831?pwd=zvLmYhYlMurPw5g2Z3VlBHhtUgbIq7.I>

Meeting ID: 831 8639 2831

Passcode: 306386

**Hollywood Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) Meeting**

Thursday, May 16, 2024 (5:00 pm)

6501 Fountain Avenue – Hollywood Community Room

**Annual Hollywood Dell Summer Block Party & Pet Parade**

Saturday, June 8, 2024 (3 – 7pm)

6300 Block of Ivarene Avenue between Vine & Willetta

*Meeting Adjourned at 8:21 pm*