



March 12, 2025
Recap
Virtual Neighborhood Meeting

Attendees:

Malek Adel
Lynn Blair
David Brewer
Deborah Brosseau
Brandi D'Amore
Jodi Ehrlich

Gregg Fuller
Debra Gainor
Scott Grodner
Jan Hohenstein
Alexa Iles Skarpelos

Heather Mata
Kerri Pratt
Jack Rosenfeld
Frank Shotwell
Merle Singer

I. Welcomes & Introductions (7:00 pm)

Alexa Iles Skarpelos, HDCA President

II. Updates From Local Officials & Reps (7:05 – 7:35 pm)

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Heather Mata

Email: 40988@lapd.online

Crime Stats

It's been a full year since LAPD transitioned to the new system for tracking crime statistics, so the stats should be more accurate in comparing this year over last year.

Entire Hollywood Division in 2025 so far...

0 homicides
16 rapes (+ 6.7%)
71 robberies (-4%)
119 aggravated assaults (-28%)
99 burglaries (-20%)
176 grand theft auto (+3%)
216 theft from motor vehicles (-24%)
369 theft overall (-1%)
12% reduction overall

For Officer Mata's Basic Car Area 6A15

0 homicides (same as in 2024)
2 rapes (same as in 2024)
11 robberies (same as in 2024)
21 aggravated assaults (-8%)
13 burglaries (-40.9%)
14 grand theft auto (-44%)
32 theft from motor vehicles (-37%)
70 theft overall (+25%)
14% reduction overall

Trespass Arrest Authorization

If you display a "no trespass" sign, you must have a trespass arrest authorization on file with LAPD, and renew it every 12 months.

Link: <https://housing.lacity.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Trespass-Arrest-Authorization.pdf> fill it out and take a photo and send it to Officer Mata and she will make sure it's on file at the Hollywood Station.

Keeping Your Home Safe During Travel Times

Officer Mata reminded everyone that as we enter into the spring / summer travel season to take steps to protect your property while you are away.

- Post A No Trespass Sign (and file the authorization)
- If you have cameras and a security system make sure they are working properly before you leave
- Don't post on social media until you return home, posting while you are away lets people know you aren't home and makes your property vulnerable.

Encampment Activity Around the Holly Tunnel

4 of the individuals (out of 8 original occupants) were housed today.

This area is part of the Mayor's Inside Safe program so it continues to be monitored.

Q: Does LAPD have any idea on what's being done "right" to account for the overall decrease in crime?

A: Nothing specific, especially because they are down about 2,000 officers citywide. In Hollywood they have a strong team and specialized units working on gang enforcement, narcotics, vice etc.

Q: Where is arson in the statistics? Since the wildfires people are much more sensitive to the number of fires being set across the city.

A: It may fall under property crime, currently it's not a separately category in the LAPD system.

Q: My locked car was stolen yesterday from my driveway on Deep Dell. I have a tracking system in the car so I did get the car back (it was found at Sunset and Serrano) the same day. What can you say about car thefts like this? My sense is that someone was watching my house.

A: Please reach out to Officer Mata to discuss further. Merle should reach out to nearby neighbors and see if they have security footage.

Debra also suggested a group of neighbors on the street organize a WhatsApp to share information about suspicious activity.

Deborah B let us know that the garage at her building was broken in to again (bikes stolen and tools etc.) also a couple of neighbors who park on the street (Ivar) had their plates stolen.

Update on Bertramed Jackson

Arrested in January 13th after neighbors reported seeing him lighting fires at his encampment below the Pilgrimage Cross. He was charged with criminal trespass NOT arson.

On January 29th hearing the judge ruled that he should have a mental health evaluation while in custody and return to court February 26 for a mental competency hearing.

He bonded out of jail before the court ordered mental competency evaluation could take place

He was seen throwing rocks at a vehicle the day after he was released...

There is a bench warrant because of his failure to appear. The bench warrant is normally \$1,500 – but due to the community members (thank you Dell neighbors and the rep from the Hollywood Bowl) who showed up for both hearings, the amount was increased to \$7,500.

News Story

KCAL News Neighbors Concerns About Encampment Near the Pilgrimage Cross...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22vJlFFPRcc>

HUNC Elections

Deadline to request a vote by mail ballot is Monday, April 7th

https://clkrep.lacity.org/election/ENG_2025_NC_VBM_Paper_Application.pdf

Election is Tuesday, April 15th (results will be certified by April 30th)

To review the list of candidates: https://clkrep.lacity.org/election/HUNC_Certified_2025_NC_List.pdf

There is NO ONE running to represent our Area (I) and several open seats with no one running.

Results of the audit of Los Angeles City Homelessness Spending

LA Times Article:

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-03-06/court-ordered-audit-finds-flaws-in-la-citys-homeless-services>

The City is “unable to track exactly how much it spent on homeless programs and did not rigorously reconcile spending with services provided, making it impossible to judge how well the services worked or whether they were even provided.”

Los Angeles Magazine

<https://lamag.com/news/audit-reveals-la-failure-to-track-billions-in-homelessness-spending-raising-accountability-concerns>

"Billions have been squandered on ineffective bureaucracy while lives are lost daily. This is not just mismanagement; it is a moral failure."

CM Nithya Raman introduced a motion outlining her ideas on how to address this:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=25-0207>

For Immediate Release: February 26, 2025

Los Angeles, CA – Today, Councilmember Nithya Raman introduced a [motion](#) to establish performance oversight of Los Angeles’s myriad homelessness investments in the City. Despite the City investing over \$1 billion annually into its regional homelessness response, there is currently no entity within the City government tasked with monitoring the outcomes of this investment. Councilmember Raman’s legislation proposes creating a time-limited Bureau inside the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) that will convene staff from across city departments working on homelessness under one umbrella. The Bureau will be explicitly tasked with performance management to ensure the City of Los Angeles is spending every dollar put toward homelessness as effectively as possible to bring people indoors into safety.

This motion builds on Councilmember Raman’s consistent efforts as the Chair of the Housing and Homelessness Committee to improve data collection and data sharing with LAHSA and other entities involved in homelessness response across the city. This data – now available to the City for the first time – has shown that [nearly 20% of shelter beds are vacant](#) on any given night, and that [vacancies in permanent supportive housing units](#) are taking months to fill.

The Council has been calling for greater oversight over homelessness spending in the City for years, including potentially creating a new department – work which could take years to negotiate and resource. This legislation seeks to immediately create a time-limited Bureau within LAHD that brings together city staff already working on homelessness that will be charged with monitoring the City’s programs, using regularly updated data to identify and address challenges in program implementation, make real improvements in its performance, and help more people experiencing homelessness get the care and support they need.

“This is about accountability,” said **Councilmember Raman**. “But because so much of our investment in homelessness is subcontracted through LAHSA, accountability has been elusive. If we want to meaningfully care for people, we need to have the data and insights into our work.”

Councilmember Raman’s legislation instructs the CLA, along with the CAO and the Housing Department, to report back to Council within 30 days on the resources and staffing plan necessary to stand up a Bureau situated in the Housing Department.

III. HDCA Business (7:55 - 8:15 pm)

2025 Membership Drive

Currently we have 124 members and are ahead of where we were at this time last year. It's just \$50 / household each year. We haven't raised the rate in over a decade.

Members qualify for lots great perks, free tickets the Hollywood Bowl and Ford Theatre, raffle items and the beautiful "No Trespass" signs. If you haven't already joined, you can do it online:

www.hollywoodell.com and click on DONATE.

La Rocha Trail

Debra Gainor, Steve and Sandi Auer and others have reached out with concerns about dead branches and other dried material along the trail. MRCA lots are only 10 of the lots (and all on the south side of the trail) we need to alert the property owners of the other lots.

The HDCA will be doing an official survey and ID which properties need to clear the material. The next step will be to get LAFD involved with enforcement.

Neighborhood Cleanup Day

Earlier this year – Saturday, April 12th

We plan to repaint the border wall at Franklin Ivar Park

Finish the "refresh" of Little Free Libraries

Other projects? Contact David Brewer (david@hollywoodell.com)

CD4 will arrange to have the Conservation Corp collect the trash bags afterward.

They will also deliver the tools and supplies by the Monday before the cleanup.

Block Party Planning

Because of Pride in early June, we are moving our event to Saturday, June 21st

Street Closure process needs to start

Requests for Funding

- LA County Supervisor Barger
- CD4
- HUNC: April Outreach Committee Meeting is Monday April 7th

Hillside Federation Meeting Update

Malek shared from the February meeting. They had a rep from the State Insurance Commissioner's office.

Link: <https://www.insurance.ca.gov/> to get assistance with claims (consumer support) from the State of CA.

HDCA Fire Safety Committee Update

Frank did a ride-along with Dante Cornejo (Wildfire Coordinator).

Next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26th.

Gov. Newsom has signed an Executive Order (N-18-25) to launch key initiatives to continue adapting to future extreme firestorm events in urban communities. One regulation would be to create a "Zone Zero" which is an ember-resistant zone within 5 feet of structures located in the highest fire severity zones of the state. To read the order: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-2-6-Urban-Conflagration-EO-ATTESTED.pdf>

Proposed State Bills SB 269 & AB 888
Register Support with our California State Representatives

Assembly Member Rick Chavez Zbur
<https://a51.asmdc.org/contact>

Senator Ben Allen
<https://sd24.senate.ca.gov/contact/message>

SB 269 SB 269, as introduced, Choi. Personal income taxes: Fire Safe Home Tax Credits Act.

The Personal Income Tax Law allows various credits against the tax imposed by that law. Existing law requires any bill authorizing a new tax credit to contain, among other things, specific goals, purposes, and objectives that the tax credit will achieve, detailed performance indicators, and data collection requirements.

This bill would allow credits against the tax imposed by the Personal Income Tax Law for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2026, and before January 1, 2031, to a qualified taxpayer for qualified costs relating to qualified home hardening, as defined, and for qualified costs relating to qualified vegetation management, as defined, in specified amounts, not to exceed an aggregate amount of \$500,000,000 per taxable year.

This bill would require a qualified taxpayer to reserve a credit for qualified costs relating to qualified home hardening or qualified vegetation management to be eligible for the above-described credits and provide all necessary information for this purpose, as specified.

This bill also would include additional information required for any bill authorizing a new income tax credit and would require the Legislative Analyst's Office to prepare a written report regarding the credits, as provided.

This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy.

[https://legiscan.com/CA/text/SB269/2025#:~:text=\(A\)%20To%20increase%20wildfire%20preparedness,thei%20homes%20for%20wildfire%20season.](https://legiscan.com/CA/text/SB269/2025#:~:text=(A)%20To%20increase%20wildfire%20preparedness,thei%20homes%20for%20wildfire%20season.)

AB 888 California Safe Homes Grant Program

AB 888, as introduced, Calderon. California Safe Homes grant program.

Existing law creates the Department of Insurance, headed by the Insurance Commissioner, and prescribes the department's powers and duties. Existing law directs the department and commissioner to administer various grant programs that, among other things, defray property retrofitting costs. Existing law requires an insurer doing business in this state to pay an annual tax based on the amount of gross premiums the insurer received during that year.

This bill would establish the California Safe Homes grant program to be developed by the department to reduce local and statewide wildfire losses, among other things. The bill would require the department to prioritize specified needs when awarding grant funds, and would require eligible program applicants, which would include individuals, cities, counties, and special districts, to meet specified criteria. The bill would establish the Sustainable Insurance Account within the Insurance Fund, which would be continuously appropriated to fund the program. The bill would require 40% of the amount of the gross premiums tax collected from property and casualty insurance above the amount collected from those insurers in 2023 to be deposited into the account. By depositing general fund moneys into a continuously appropriated account, the bill would make an appropriation. The bill would require the department to collect specified information about the performance of the program and, on or before January 1, 2027, and every 2 years thereafter, to publish a performance report that would be posted to its internet website and submitted to the Legislature.

<https://legiscan.com/CA/text/AB888/2025>

There is a more complex **new rating system for fire zones** expected at the end of March.

New Group “The Hollywood Hills Fire Safety Council”

501c3 (Sheila Irani founded it)

They are sponsoring a CPR Class May 31st (At the Annex on Bronson)

Preparedness Day at Lake Hollywood Park in June

LA City Just Cause Ordinance Webinar on March 26th

<https://housing.lacity.gov/events/live-webinars-march-2025-for-landlords-who-received-a-just-cause-ordinance-property-determination-notice-2>

LAUSD Grants For Families Impacted by the Fires

https://schoolupdates.lausd.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=4420366&type=d&pREC_ID=2654272

SB 677 Housing Development – streamlined approvals

<https://legiscan.com/CA/text/SB677/2025>

SB 79 Transit-Oriented Development & Up-zoning

<https://legiscan.com/CA/text/SB79/id/3155593>

IV. Misc. Upcoming Events & Announcements (8:15 pm – 8:30 pm)

FRI March 14, 2025

Film Production on Holly Drive (2045) from 7 am – 10 pm (the location manager said he thought it would be done by 2:00 pm)

This will include posted parking 150 feet in front of 2045 Holly Drive (they have arranged crew parking at Hollywood Presbyterian Church)

They will be filming OUTSIDE on the sidewalk – they will have a LAPD officer on site

SAT March 15, 2025

Road Closures for Special Event from Friday, 3/14 at 6pm to Sunday 3/16 5am

Sidewalk closure 3 – 5 pm

Hollywood Blvd. between Cahuenga and Vine / Ivar

SUN March 16, 2025

Los Angeles Marathon (Hollywood Area Road Closures) 4 am – 12 pm

Hollywood Blvd. btn the 101 Freeway & LaBrea Avenue + adjacent streets

TUE March 18, 2025

Hillside Federation Meeting

Via Zoom (Malek is our rep)

MON March 31, 2025

Film Production – Lake Hollywood Reservoir Bridge (5 pm – 5 am)

Cast & Crew = about 20 people (using the Weidlake parking lot)

TUE April 1st, 2025

“We HEART LA” LAPHIL and Gustavo Dudamel at the Hollywood Bowl

Concert for first responders and community members directly impacted by the wildfires (they can register to access free tickets)

Link: <https://www.hollywoodbowl.com/events/performances/3796/2025-04-01/we-la>

+ we rec'd 10 pairs of FREE tickets for 2025 HDCA members to win in a members only raffle.

WED April 9, 2025

HDCA Monthly Meeting (7pm) IN PERSON

SAT April 12, 2025

Hollywood Dell Neighborhood Cleanup Day (9am)

SAT June 21, 2025

Hollywood Dell Summer Block Party & Pet Parade Event 3 pm – 7pm (street closure begins at 9am)

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm