



October 8, 2025
Neighborhood Meeting Recap

Attendees:

Tifanie Acosta
Malek Adel
J Anderson
Shannon Aquinas
Angela Bellias
Ed Bender
Bruce Bermudez
Rosalyn Blumstein
Rod Borders
David Brewer
Mary Casella
Jonathan Cassor
Patty Chandler
Pamela Clay

Garrett Colley
Brandi D'Amore
Chick Dowden
Jodi Ehrlich
Gregg Fuller
Lindsay Fuller
Debra Gainro
Scott Grodner
Jan Hohenstein
Shane Kalminsky
Pamela Kalmus
Kwock Koe
Heather Mata
Lisa Meredith

Deirdre Owens
Merle Singer
Alexa Iles Skarpelos
George Skarpelos
Kwock Koe
Heather Mata
Cynthia Martinez
John Negrete
Anet Ranaldo
Namita Rathi
Frank Shotwell
Merle Singer
Jacqui Tager

I. Welcomes & Introductions

Alexa Iles Skarpelos, HDCA President

We took a moment to give special presentation in recognition of SLO Heather Mata who is leaving as our SLO after 5 ½ years. Alexa read the letter of commendation the HDCA wrote to LAPD Chief Jim McDonnell recognizing Officer Mata's excellence. We also presented her with a framed certificate, thanked her and toasted to her continued success with LAPD.

II. Updates From Local Officials

LAPD Hollywood Personnel Updates

- Captain Manuel Chavez, new Hollywood Station Commander as of July 2025.
- Sgt. Garrett Colley attended our meeting. He was previously the SLO Supervisor, but is now the acting Community Relations Officer (since Sgt. Chad Costello is out on medical leave).
- Sgt. Danielle Lopez, is the new SLO Supervisor
- John Negrete, is the new LAPD Senior Lead Officer (SLO) for our Area 6A15 (Hollywood Hills) introduced himself and shared some of his background. His email: 35133@lapd.online

Los Angeles City Council District 4

J Anderson, District Director, CM Nithya Raman's (CD4) office
Email: jonathan.anderson@lacity.org

- Arts Restabilization & Emergency Response Preparedness Program
J announced a Grant Program (with a very cumbersome title!) for Artists & Creatives who live or work in CD4. They partnered with the Department of Cultural Affairs to fund awards up to \$4,000 for individuals, and up to \$11,000 for organizations that qualify. This program aims to stabilize the creative community (including writers, directors, and other entertainment jobs) that have been impacted by the pandemic and the recent wildfires. You must make your primary income from your art, and live in the district...

To see if you qualify for this grant program (free money!) go to: <https://cd4.lacity.gov/arts/>
The deadline to apply is October 24, 2025.

- Zone Zero Update

Zone Zero is a state level policy; however, CD4 has joined other LA City Council Districts (1, 5, 13, & 14) to send a letter supporting hillside neighborhoods feedback and concerns on this topic. They asked that the unique conditions of LA hillside neighborhoods be considered when implementing these restrictions across the state.

Zone Zero would require property owners in designated fire zones (like the Hollywood Dell) to clear a 5-foot area around a home creating an “ember resistant zone” to prevent fire spread.

This includes all vegetation (hedges, plants and flowers as well as well maintained trees), lawn furniture, wood planters and anything flammable as a fire prevention measure. Opponents raise concerns about the impact on urban ecologies, air quality and elimination of shade, storm runoff that would destabilize hillsides.

Some data supports the idea that well maintained / watered vegetation may actually help slow the spread of fire...

Zone Zero actually passed back in 2022 but hadn't been implemented. To learn more, visit the Dept. of Forestry Link:

<https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/defensible-space-zones-0-1-and-2>

And here are some links to articles on the topic:

<https://lapublicpress.org/2025/10/fire-rules-may-kill-shade/>

<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/05102025/california-zone-zero-rules-debate-flammable-vegetation/>

- Holly-ween Street Closure

Alexa thanked J and CD4 for assisting the HDCA in getting the temporary street closure permit for the Holly-ween event on October 31st.

Some Additional Items

- 2048 Holly Drive

Alexa asked if anyone present at the meeting had attended the virtual public hearing on The Dept. of City Planning held a virtual public hearing on Thursday, September 25, 2025 about a proposed subdivision at this location.

This address is zoned RD2-1XL

Several people shared that they attended but that they felt it was a “done deal” and that they didn't have much input.

Brandi shared that Adam Burke has filed a lawsuit.

Some of the concerns about this project:

- ✓ Plan to replace a single family Craftsman bungalow with 5 homes
- ✓ Increase of density and vehicles in an already congested area
- ✓ These will NOT be “affordable apartments,” but very expensive homes for sale.
- ✓ The height of the project is in excess of 30 feet – significantly out of scale of the existing home

III. HDCA Business

Hollywood Bowl 2025 Season

The Hollywood Bowl Management has undergone some significant management changes this year.

- Kim Noltemy was named President and CEO
- Nora Brady (who attended our block party) is the Chief Marketing & Communications Officer
- Cynthia Fuentes is the Vice President, Community and Government Engagement Officer
- Josh Gertler (Consensus) has taken over for John Bwarie (Stratistope) as the PR / Community Liaison Consultant.

Lindsay & Jodi serve as our HDCA reps on the Hollywood Bowl Community Advisory Group. They put together the following recap of this past year.

Special Events

- Saturday, May 10, 2025: Exclusive backstage tour of the Hollywood Bowl for HDCA members
- Saturday May 31, 2025: Annual Pancake Breakfast event for neighbors
- Tuesday, June 17, 2025: Happy Hour Event for neighbors at the Ford Theatre
- Saturday, July 12, 2025: First “Bark At The Bowl” event
- Saturday, September 20, 2025: Backstage tour of the Ford Theatre for HDCA members

Other Highlights & Efforts

- Expanded the \$1 tickets program, exploring ways to increase inclusion of low income communities
- Commitment to expand Park & Ride Bus / Shuttle ridership, to provide accessibility and reduce vehicle traffic
- No more than 6 shows in a row (respite)
- Concert curfews: 11:00 pm Monday – Saturday, 10:30 pm on Sunday

Community Platforms and Communication

- Our Neighborhood Page: <https://www.hollywoodbowl.com/about/neighbors>
- Newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/4fcb323b4cd3/hbneighborhood>
- Text Alerts (sign up on their website to receive road closure notifications)
- Day of Event Feedback (traffic, noise)

The 2025 Stats!

There were a total of 73 LAPHIL produced shows, and 49 Live Nation Hewitt Silva Shows this year.

The Hollywood Bowl / LAPHIL gave HDCA free tickets to 23 Shows / Performances across June, July, August and September.

The biggest response (requests for tickets) were for:

- Earth Wind & Fire (July 2)
- John Fogerty (July 6)
- Diana Ross (July 25)
- Cindy Lauper (August 29)
- Chicago (September 12)
- Air (September 21)

Total of 92* people requested tickets, and 91 of them rec'd tickets for at least 1 show.

Many rec'd tickets to multiple performances.

* one person only requested for a single (and popular) show and didn't win the raffle.

Total number of tickets given to us to distribute = 752

20 or 50 tickets a show - depending on the show

Only 62 tickets went unused across the entire season.

In addition to HDCA members, if we had extra tickets (more tickets than requests) or vouchers we offered them to:

- LAPD Hollywood
- LAFD Fire Station 82
- CA State AM Zbur's Staff
- LA City Council Staff
- Central Hollywood Neighborhood Council
- St. Stephen's Food Distribution Volunteers
- Hollywood Dell Tones
- Kettle Glazed Staff (they are a neighborhood biz that supports our events)
- LA Fire Victims living temporarily in the Dell

We also received free tickets to the Ford Theatre (10 shows, 4 tickets per show).

Hollyween Event Planning Committee Update

The theme for 2025 is "Aliens From Outer Space"

We have arranged for the street closure (thank you CD4) which means that Willetta, from Primrose to the first intersection of Ivarene will be closed ALL DAY to vehicle traffic. If that's your route to your part of Ivarene, you will have to access via Vine. Please inform your delivery people.

2 LAPD Reserve officers have been confirmed to assist with traffic safety

We have a team of about 18 volunteers helping this year.

Everyone in the neighborhood is invited to come down and join in the fun from 5pm – 7pm on Friday, October 31st.

Please note, that because Halloween falls on a Friday, we anticipate some "adult" parties over the weekend ...there will be a dedicated LAPD Party Patrol car all weekend.

Fire Safety Committee Update

Frank Shotwell and Debra Gainor from the HDCA Fire Safety Committee shared the following:

If you have property that borders a "paper street" (unpaved road, such as the La Rocha Trail, Timmons Trail or the upportion at where Hargrave Drive ends and it becomes a dirt trail) you are responsible clearing your 50% of the brush.

Daniel Liberto, LA City Brush Inspector has been very active in our neighborhood (much longer into the season) making sure that people have cleared their brush. If anyone knows of an area of concern, please reach out to him. If you see him, thank him! He's working hard to keep us safe.

Daniel.liberto@lacity.org

Office Phone: (818) 778-4903

Mobile: (213) 378-4595

If you are interested in having your property reviewed by experts who can guide you on what to do to harden your home to fire...

Email: firesafety@hollywooddell.com for details or information or to join the committee.

HUNC update

Shane introduced himself. He is the HUNC Outreach Chair. He has attended our Summer Block Party in past years.

Proposed Bus Lane on Sunset Blvd.

Question: Why Are the Street Lights Out All Over the Dell?

Copper wire thieves have stripped the lights all over the hillsides, not just in the Dell.

J Anderson said that there is no part of CD4 that has not been impacted.

He suggested that we map our neighborhood and ID all the locations in the Dell as a step towards keeping a record for the City.

They did this in Whitley Heights and counted between 90 - 110 lights. This is considerably more than what had been reported to the city.

How can we ensure that even when they are repaired they aren't vulnerable to thieves in the future? They are working on ways to fortify them to discourage theft.

There was another comment that the copper wire theft has extended to the landlines (phone) in Beachwood Canyon.

IV. Misc. Upcoming Events & Announcements

Faith & Blue Community Festival (FREE)

Saturday, October 11, 2025

12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Festival location is the large parking lot just east of Hollywood Presbyterian church
6003 Carlos Avenue

Pamela Clay & Suzi Oliver – A Celebration of Song & Soul

Sunday, October 26, 2025 (7:30 pm)

Catalina Bar & Grill

6725 West Sunset Blvd.

Hollyween in the Dell Event

Friday, October 31, 2025

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Primrose & Willetta

Hollywood Dell Neighborhood Meeting – Virtual Via Zoom

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Hollywood Community-Police Advisory Board (CPAB)

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Hollywood Dell Holiday Mix & Mingle

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm