

**Hillside Federation
Newsletter
April, 2013**



www.hillsidefederation.org

**Meet Our Next
City Attorney**



Carmen Nuch Trutanich



Mike Feuer

Both finalists in the race for City Attorney will address the Hillside Federation at our April meeting. Federation members will have the opportunity to ask the candidates questions about both local and citywide concerns and policies.

The following biographies were supplied by the candidates and edited to fit.

Mike Feuer

Mike Feuer is one of California's leading lawmakers and attorneys. A former Majority Policy Leader of the California State Assembly and Chair of the California Assembly's Judiciary Committee, Mike has written some of the state's most important public safety, children's health, consumer protection and environmental laws.

Mike authored the law requiring ignition interlocks in vehicles of convicted drunk drivers.

**Agenda
April 3, 2013
7:00 pm**

- I. Call to Order
City Attorney Candidate Forum
Mike Feuer & Carmen Trutanich
- II. Approval of Mar. 13, 2013 minutes
- III. Officers' Reports
 - A. President's Report
 - B. Treasurer's Report
 - C. Nominating Committee - Barbara Dohrmann**Election of Officers**
- IV. New Business
- V. Old Business
 - A. Millennium Hollywood
Greg Johnson
 - B. Gilcrest update -Juliana Maio
 - C. Curtis School update -
Mark Stratton
 - D. Off-site Digital Signs -
Wendy-Sue Rosen
- VI. Adjournment
Next meeting - Wed., May 1, 2013

Pinz Bowling Center, next to Jerry's Deli
12655 Ventura Blvd., Studio City 91604
CA 101 between Coldwater Canyon exit
and Laurel Canyon exit

Hillside Federation mission: To protect the property and the quality of life of the residents of the Santa Monica Mountains and other hillside areas of Los Angeles and its environs, and to encourage and promote those policies and programs which will best preserve the natural topography and wildlife of the mountains and hillsides for the benefit of all the people of Los Angeles.

He wrote the Crime Gun Identification Act, requiring that new semi-automatic hand guns be microstamped so that bullet casings are imprinted with data. After the scandal at Penn State, Mike wrote the law protecting children by requiring college employees to report suspected child abuse.

Mike wrote legislation requiring California insurance companies to insure children with pre-existing conditions. He also fought to give California officials the authority to reject excessive health insurance rate increases. Mike authored the most comprehensive state law in the nation to get cancer-causing chemicals out of consumer products.

A champion for senior citizens, Mike jointly authored the legislation requiring nursing homes to post quality of care ratings and established the only state program to investigate nursing home abuse and neglect.

In the wake of the foreclosure crisis Mike jointly authored the Homeowners' Bill of Rights, providing homeowners confronting foreclosure significant rights.

Acutely aware of Los Angeles' traffic congestion problems and the need for mass transit infrastructure improvements to help alleviate traffic, Mike placed Measure R on the ballot.

Mike is also a longstanding advocate of equal rights for all people. He is a co-author of legislation to establish marriage equality in California. As a *pro bono* attorney he drafted briefs in a California Supreme Court case establishing key adoption rights of same-sex

couples and led efforts in both houses to file a friend-of-the-court brief urging the state Supreme Court to overturn Prop 8.

Mike previously served for six years on the Los Angeles City Council, where he wrote some of the toughest laws in the nation to curb gun violence, fought successfully for anti-gang and after-school programs, and funded jobs for disadvantaged youth. He initiated L.A.'s 3-1-1 non-emergency services system, improving 9-1-1 response times and making L.A. government much more effective. Mike was the Council's leader on ethics reform and spearheaded business tax reforms.

Prior to his work on the City Council, Mike directed one of the nation's leading public interest law firms, Bet Tzedek Legal Services (The House of Justice) helping more than 50,000 indigent, primarily elderly or disabled clients.

Mike has also taught at the UCLA School of Law and the UCLA School of Public Affairs. He practiced law at two of the nation's leading firms, Hufstедler, Miller, Carlson & Beardsley and Morrison & Foerster. Mike has also been a commentator on NPR member station KPCC. He began his career as a judicial clerk for California Supreme Court Justice Joseph Grodin.

He has received numerous awards reflecting the breadth of his achievements as a legislator and lawyer. Mike is a Phi Beta Kappa, *magna cum laude* graduate of Harvard College and *cum laude* graduate of Harvard Law School.

P.O. Box 27404 Los Angeles, CA 90027 president@hillsidefederation.org www.hillsidefederation.org	ORGANIZATIONS: Beachwood Canyon Bel Air Knolls Property Owners Bel Air Ridge Association Bel Air Skycrest POA Benedict Canyon Association Brentwood Hills Homeowners Brentwood Residents Coalition Cahuenga Pass Property Owner Canyon Back Alliance Crests Neighborhood Assn. Franklin Ave./Hollywood Bl. W. Franklin Hills Residents Assn. Highlands Owners Assn. Hollywood Dell Civic Assn. Hollywood Heights Assn. Hollywoodland Homeowners Holmby Hills HOA Kagel Canyon Civic Assn.	Lake Hollywood HOA Laurel Canyon Assn. Lookout Mountain Assn. Los Feliz Improvement Assn. Mt. Olympus Property Owners Mt. Washington Homeowners Nichols Canyon Assn. N. Beverly Dr/Franklin Canyon Oak Forest Canyon Assn. Oaks Homeowners Assn. Outpost Estates Homeowners Pacific Palisades Residents Residents of Beverly Glen Roscomare Valley Assn. Shadow Hills Property Owners Sherman Oaks HOA Studio City Residents Assn. Sunset Hills HOA	Tarzana Property Owners Assn. Torreyson Flynn Assn. Upper Mandeville Canyon Whitley Heights Civic Assn. CHAIRPERSONS EMERITUS Shirley Cohen Jerome C. Daniel Patricia Bell Hearst Alan Kishbaugh Gordon Murley Steve Twining Polly Ward CHAIRMAN IN MEMORIUM Brian Moore
PRESIDENT Marian Dodge CHAIRMAN Charley Mims VICE PRESIDENTS Mark Stratton Wendy-Sue Rosen SECRETARIES Carol Sidlow Donna Messinger TREASURER Don Andres			

Carmen Nuch Trutanich

Carmen “Nuch” Trutanich, born Aug. 12, 1951, grew up and attended school in San Pedro. He was elected as LA’s City Attorney on his first political outing, on May 19, 2009. During his first term, Trutanich has compiled an impressive list of achievements as the protector of LA’s taxpayers, its neighborhoods and its most vulnerable citizens.

Trutanich has both a business administration degree and a master’s degree in business administration from USC. Trutanich enrolled in night school at South Bay University College of Law and earned his law degree in 1978.

In 1978, Trutanich began working as a deputy DA in the LA County District Attorney’s office. There, Trutanich received numerous commendations and landed a coveted position in the department’s hard-core gang unit. Trutanich’s passion was working in the courtroom, trying cases. He excelled at it, handling dozens of gang murder cases.

Trutanich was the environmental/OSHA unit’s premier trial attorney. He tried and won the first conviction under a law enacted in 1984 that made certain hazardous waste disposal violations a felony.

From 1998 to 2009, Trutanich was in private practice where he managed two successful private law firms, litigating 100’s of cases, many of them jury trials, and received an AV rating, the highest rating possible signifying that the attorney is held in the highest esteem by his peers for his legal ability and ethical standards. Throughout his career, Trutanich has continued to focus on environmental compliance and litigation. The California Lawyer named him one of the top 10 attorneys in the state in the fields of environmental and land use law.

In 2009, after a successful career in private practice, Trutanich entered the LA City Attorney’s race, his first attempt at running for elected office. After his election, Trutanich lived up to the Times’ view of him by providing vigorous and innovative leadership to protect the taxpayers. His achievements include winning 112 of 129 civil liability cases brought against the city and saving taxpayers from having to pay out \$235 million in claims sought in those cases. In 2011, the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, a national organization, honored Trutanich with its

Innovations in Criminal Justice Award, citing his use of civil injunctions to attack graffiti vandals and to protect skid-row’s homeless from predatory gang-bangers and drug-dealers.

Trutanich has always been active in his community. Trutanich had a strong sports background in high school and college, and later in life he was named a regional commissioner for AYSO Soccer. As someone who has been a life-long runner – who has participated in nearly two-dozen 26-mile marathons, and more 10K’s, 15K’s than he can count – Trutanich believes athletics teaches young people discipline and goal achievement, and he brought that vision to his job as an AYSO commissioner. Trutanich’s commitment to young people was also evident from 1974 to 1988 when he taught courses in business and real estate law at Harbor and Marymount Junior Colleges. He possesses a life credential to teach college level courses in California.

Proposed Slate of Officers

President: Marian Dodge

Chairman: Charley Mims

Vice President: Mark Stratton

Vice President: Wendy-Sue Rosen

Secretary: Carol Sidlow

Treasurer: Don Andres

Exec. Secty: Donna Messinger

Reducing Los Angeles' Helicopter Noise Plague

by Bob Anderson



Gerry Hans

Los Angeles County is plagued with helicopter noise – from the Santa Monica Mountains, to the Hollywood Sign, to the beaches. Some of the noise comes from critical essential services, such as LAPD and LAFD, but much comes from non-essential helicopters, such as news media and tours. The noise peaked during Carmageddon I when the Mulholland Bridge was demolished and media helicopter hovered over homes after midnight to watch pieces of concrete fall.

Can anything be done? Yes, it can and is! The Los Angeles Area Helicopter Noise Coalition (LAAHNC) is a broad coalition of concerned citizens who are working to reduce helicopter noise. LAAHNC currently includes members from Griffith Park, Beachwood Canyon, Sherman Oaks, Encino, Tarzana, the Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council, Palos Verdes, and Torrance. We are working with local, state, and federal agencies, elected leaders, and helicopter pilot groups on multiple ways to safely reduce helicopter noise.

We worked with Congressman Berman's office on his landmark legislation, the Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2011. LAAHNC members helped organize the Congressman's very successful August 2012 public hearing on helicopter noise where more than 400 outraged citizens from across the county expressed their concerns to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials.

LAAHNC is currently supporting the Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2013. Introduced by U.S. Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer as S. 208, and U.S. Representatives Adam Schiff, Janice Hahn, Brad Sherman, and Henry Waxman as H.R. 456, the act directs the FAA to establish regulations on flight paths and altitudes for non-emergency helicopters to reduce helicopter noise in residential areas. The California Legislature, County of Los Angeles, and many local cities have already supported the legislation, including Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, West Hollywood, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills Estates, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Lomita.

In December 2012, LAAHNC members met with the FAA as part of their current study on helicopter noise in Los Angeles, and provided sixteen recommendations. The FAA will release their study report in May 2013. We are anxiously hoping they will offer positive ways to help solve noise challenges.

In February 2013, LAAHNC held an initial meeting with helicopter pilot and operator associations. Our goal was to begin opening lines of communication and better understanding helicopter noise challenges from both sides.

There is one important fact that has surfaced. Even though there are thousands of helicopter noise complaints across the county each year, there is no centralized, resident friendly, easy-to-use system to collect complaints. LAAHNC is working to determine how and when a complaint system could be implemented. This will not solve the overall noise problem, but will go a long way to understanding it and developing long-term solutions essential to helping communities experience a better quality of life.

In the meantime, we urge every city and community in Los Angeles County to support the Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2013 – and to join LAAHNC. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact me at BobHillsideOrdinance@roadrunner.com or 213-364-7470.

Bob Anderson
President, Los Angeles Area Helicopter Noise Coalition
Chair, Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association Helicopter Noise Committee

Kim Lamorie
Third District Woman of the Year



Ms. Lamorie discovered a secret place that changed her life forever. More than twenty years ago, she moved into a small semi-rural community in the beautiful Santa Monica Mountains—an escape from the frenzied world of comedy entertainment where she began her career with Second City, SCTV, and National Lampoon.

Ms. Lamorie fell in love with the majestic ridgelines, sweeping open spaces, magnificent oak woodlands and the wild and wonderful things that shared this piece of paradise, and it ignited old flames of activism and passion.

Principles instilled by a strong Swedish mother into her four daughters “to stand up for the underdog” and “to be a voice for those who can’t speak for themselves” resonated as always, and so it became a natural transition for her to become a voice for the mountains.

Then Ms. Lamorie found what she was supposed to find—Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation—and became President of the greatest collection of activists driven by conviction, who share the same voice—the preservation, conservation and quality of life in the Santa Monica Mountains.

Ms. Lamorie is humbled and honored to receive this award. It is a tribute to the great organization she serves and to the warriors who make it what it is.

Ms. Lamorie has been married for 24 years to her husband Bill, who is a pilot. Together they have a daughter, Krista who will be graduating from high school this year as valedictorian. They cherish their two German shepherd rescues who are also avid hikers.

Ms. Lamorie looks forward to continuing her outstanding work with Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky so that current and future residents of Los Angeles County may know the thrill of the wild splendor of our mountains.

Congratulations, Kim!

[Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation located in LA County near Calabasas is a sister organization to the Hillside Federation. The two organizations cooperate on open space and environmental issues.]

**Save these dates for Hillside
Federation meetings**

April 3

May 1

June 5

July 10

August - no meeting

September 4

October 2

**Hillside Federation
Draft Minutes
March 13, 2013**

I. Call to Order

President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:10. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Guest speaker - Millennium Hollywood Project

The Millennium project was presented by Alfred Fraijo, their land use attorney. It is a mixed-use project with residential, sports club, retail, restaurants, and office space. The design and planning team is Handel Architects, Roschen Van Cleef Architects and James Corner Field Operations.

Open space is to preserve views of the Capitol Records building although the new buildings are more than twice the height of Capitol Records. They are requesting a CUP for a restaurant, hotel with an observation deck, and to tie the development because the lots are on both sides of the street. They are requesting variances for parking and for outdoor dining and a zoning change for a FAR greater than 4.5:1.

The project has been approved but is being appealed before the Planning Commission on March 28.

Members had many questions. How much parking? 1961 spaces. How does the project deal with traffic issues? 47 intersections will be affected and 2 of them cannot be mitigated: Franklin/Argyle and Franklin/Highland. How many years for construction? Construction will be phased with one side of the street taking 3 years and the other side 3 years. President of the City Planning Commission Bill Roschen will recuse himself. Will Millennium consider lowering the height of the project? If height is lowered there will be less open space because Millennium will not budge on the increase to the FAR requested. Millennium pointed out that other heights had been considered –220, 400, 550 & 585 – but that a reduced FAR is not considered an option.

The project shown is very conceptual. Due to the equivalency program the use can change so even though the concept is presented as mixed use this can change for example to all residential or all office space.

II. Approval of Minutes

The February minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report - Marian Dodge

Good news – Kim Lamorie from Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation has been designated Woman of the Year by Zev Yaroslavsky. She is an unequivocal supporter and ardent follower of open space issues.

We are having issues with cell poles being installed on scenic overlooks. There is a hearing coming up on April 8th. Let's keep an eye out for these eyesores so the Federation can write letters.

Marian asked if the Federation should add their logo to the Planning and Conservation League's CEQA Works web page. Motion passed.

The finalists in the City Attorney's race will be present next month. Please send Marian questions to ask the candidates.

The election of officers will take place next month.

Marian will send a reminder about the DWP project closing of Coldwater Canyon.

Web Site

The Hillside Federation has a new web site,

www.hillsidefederation.org.

One of the things we want to do is have live links to the web sites of all our member organizations. Please send us the link to your association's web site. In return, we ask that you post a link to the Hillside Federation web site on your web site.

You may also visit the web site for letters on positions taken by the Federation and past newsletters and minutes.

B. Treasurer's Report - Don Andres

Almost all organizations have renewed their dues. Don reported on the status of our bank accounts.

The Holiday party will be held Thursday, December 12 at the Mulholland Tennis Club. If the party is held on a Thursday rather than on Wednesday, then the Federation will have the whole club, more guests can come and more parking is available.

IV. New Business

A. Millennium Hollywood towers - Terri Gerger & Greg Johnson (Hollywood Dell)

Hollywood Dell and others are opposed to the Millennium Project because it is too dense (FAR 6:1); height is unacceptable; under parked; bigger than Staples, LA Live and Hollywood and Highland; project short on hard details and too conceptual.

MOTION: Terri Gerger moved that the Hillside Federation oppose the Millennium Hollywood project as currently proposed since it is out-of-scale and character to the recently approved Hollywood Community Plan, and has an excessive cumulative negative impact on the health, safety, traffic, and infrastructure of Hollywood and the neighboring hillside communities. Motion passed.

Hollywood Dell is asking Federation member organizations to contribute to a fund to hire an attorney to present the appeals to the Planning Commission on March 28th.

V. Old Business

A. Sign Ordinance - Marian Dodge

At PLUM's request the Billboard and Visual Landscape Visioning Group was formed. Marian Dodge represented HF. Wendy-Sue Rosen attended as well. Many sign companies were present. The California Supreme Court refused Clear Channel's appeal so the Summit decision holds: Digital billboards must be removed. The original judge will issue an order to revoke the permits. The day before the Visioning Group's first meeting Clear Channel sent threatening letters to the City Council vowing to sue to recover \$100 M in lost revenue. No decisions were made at the group meeting. Marian thinks the real purpose of the Visioning Group was to make Clear Channel and CBS Outdoor's attempt to get digital signs outside of sign Districts appear to have had public input. The community wants the Sign Ordinance to be respected with digital

signs only permitted in Sign Districts; the Summit decision complied with; and illegally permitted signs removed. The consultant who facilitated the Visioning Group will present to PLUM on March 26. Get comments in to Alan.Bell@lacity.org. Letters should ask the City to follow the Sign Ordinance and to remove illegal digital billboard conversions.

B. NBCUniversal - Marian Dodge

The LA County hearing on NBCUniversal was held Feb. 27. Wendy-Sue Rosen, Lois Becker, and Marian spoke about concerns of visibility of signs outside the project. There will be no off-site signage; all signs face inward. The original regular billboard at Buddy Holly Drive will be moved back 10 feet to accommodate road widening but will not be converted to digital. Ben Saltzman says the County has included a lot of protections. The project was approved.

C. Helicopter Noise Relief Update - George Abrahams

There was a meeting with the FAA and helicopter pilots. The FAA will issue a report in May of all discussions so far. According to current law, residents have no property rights over helicopters flying over their property. We are asking that helicopters have to fly under instrument flight rules. The LA City Council supports H.R. 2677 (112th) Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2011.

Announcement - George Abrahams gave an update on the lawsuit against the Hollywood Community Plan.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Lucy Gonzalez
Acting Recording Secretary

**Mulholland Scenic Parkway
Design Review Board**
Meets 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month,
6:30 pm
Marvin Braude Constituents Service
Center 6262 Van Nuys Blvd. Van Nuys
1st floor conference room

Members Present:

Beachwood Canyon	George Abrahams
Bel Air Skycrest	Mark Stratton
	Barbara Dohrmann
	Lois Becker
Benedict Canyon	Nickie Miner
Brentwood Residents	Don Keller
Cahuenga Pass POA	Dan Bernstein
Franklin Av/Hlwd Bl	Don Andres
	Yvonne Hessler
Franklin Hills Resid.	Charley Mims
Hollywood Dell	Terri Gerger
	Greg Johnson
Hollywoodland HOA	Lucy Gonzalez
Kagel Canyon	Kit Paull
Laurel Canyon Assn.	Tony Tucci
	Jamie Hall
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Marian Dodge
N. Beverly/Franklin Can	Robert Levy
Oaks Homeowners	Caroline Schweich
	Wayne Schlock
Resid. Beverly Glen	Gillian Calof
Sherman Oaks HOA	Elke Heitmeyer
	Niles Chapman
Studio City	Claudia Freedle

Guests Present:

Millennium Hlwd	Laurie Goldman
Sheppard Mullin	Alfred Fraijo
	presenter
N. Beverly/Franklin	Connie Levy
Outpost Estates	Gary Nestra
	Vladimir Velasco
Upper Nichols Canyon	Susan Mullins
	Stacy Sillins
	Cyd Zeigler

Bringing an Issue to the Federation

If your organization has an issue to bring to the Federation, please complete the Request for Action form (available on the website www.hillsidefederation.org) with documentation and send it to president@hillsidefederation.org no later than 7 days prior to the meeting. This will help you organize your presentation so that our meetings can flow efficiently.