

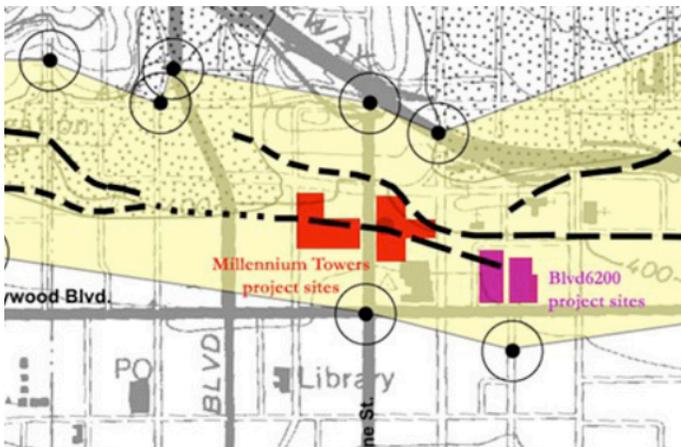
**Hillside Federation
Newsletter
February, 2014**



www.hillsidefederation.org

An Earthquake Fault Runs Through It

George Abrahams



The draft Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone Map for the Hollywood Quadrangle was released on January 8, 2014 in response to issues raised by Stop the Millennium Hollywood (STMH). The fault lines go through several of the new projects in Hollywood.

State Geologist John Parrish became alarmed by the development in Hollywood and a few days before the City Council approved the Millennium Hollywood Project he issued a letter warning the City that he was immediately beginning the mapping of the Hollywood Quadrangle and not to approve any project until the map was complete. Yet, City Council ignored the warning. Parrish immediately made completion of the Hollywood fault line map a priority.

STMH had become aware of several major projects in the Hollywood area that had

Agenda

February 5, 2013

7:00 pm

I. Call to Order

Guests : Mike Aguilera (Adam Schiff) -
Helicopter Noise legislation
LAFD Foundation - Karen Wagener
Pacoima Reservoir Sediment Removal -
Ken Rickard & Maria Castillo (LA
County)

II. Approval of minutes

III. Officers' Reports

- A. President's Report
Nominating Committee
- B. Treasurer's Report

IV. New Business

- A. Innsdale Dr. - David Benz,
Sheila Irani
- B. Rodenticide ban motion -
Ali Simard

V. Old Business

- A. 1500 Gilcrest Dr. - Juliana Maio
- B. 10550 N. Bellagio Rd. -
Steve Twining
- C. Curtis School - Mark Stratton

VI. Adjournment

Next meeting - Wednesday, March 5, 2014

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.*

inadequate geological studies which tested only for liquefaction. The Blvd6200 and the Argyle-Yucca apartments had no fault trace study. The 1824-1840 Highland project is being allowed to build the foundation immediately next to the fault and to have a portion of the building over the fault. The Millennium geological study in the EIR was altered to place it outside the LADBS Fault Rupture Study Area and the analysis of the borings was changed to make it seem that there was no fault on the site despite the finding that there was older alluvium over younger alluvium and a sharp differential in the water table on a latitudinal line midpoint on the site. Yet the LADBS approved all of these studies.

STMH claimed that the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS) was derelict in its responsibility to enforce the provisions of the Alquist-Priolo Act that “No structure for human occupancy, identified as a project under Section 2621.6 of the Act, shall be permitted to be placed across the trace of an active fault. Furthermore, as the area within fifty (50) feet of such active faults shall be presumed to be underlain by active branches of that fault unless proven otherwise by an appropriate geologic investigation and report prepared as specified in Section 3603.d of this subchapter, no such structures shall be permitted in this area.”

Now that the map has been issued, the City will be required to do mandatory seismic testing for any project within 500 feet of a fault trace indicated thereon once it is finalized in July.

This action was absolutely necessary. The earthquake fault line map confirms the findings of the Crook and Procter (1992) and the Dolan et. al. (1997) academic studies that there are at least two

fault traces crossing the Millennium site. At the City Council hearing in July Mitch O’Farrell expressed his confidence that there was no fault on the Millennium site. Now he says that the map confirms what he knew all along. The developer still claims that there is no fault under the site. And despite all the evidence LADBS has still not rescinded its approvals of the faulty seismic report.

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.

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 Upper Nichols Canyon Upper Riviera HOA 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			

Report Low Flying Aircraft



The Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act initiated by former Representative Howard Berman (D-Valley Village) in 2011 and continued by Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) was passed by Congress in early January. The FAA is now required to analyze helicopter routes to reduce the noise in residential areas of Los Angeles County. The FAA is also required to develop a system for reporting complaints. They will try to reduce noise voluntarily; however if that fails after a year, the FAA must develop regulations. Military and public safety agencies such as LAPD and LAFD are exempt from these regulations.

The following reporting information is courtesy of the Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association newsletter. Thank you, Fran Reichenbach.

The Professional Helicopter Pilots Association (PHPA) has mentioned several times in the last couple of years to anyone who will listen that the aircraft noise issue is the creation of a very few complainers. Realizing that the experience they are having above our homes is critically different than the day to day (and evening) experience we have, let's make an ACTION PLAN:

When you are bothered in any way by low flying aircraft, write down the time of day (in military time) and as soon as you get a moment, go to the FAA's Webtracker site. You will have to find your home on their map and zoom in a bit. On the lower left of that site, click on Historic and put in the date and the time to the minute that you had this experience. You will see the aircraft that

was buzzing your home or circling the sign, or whatever. Double click on the aircraft for details and click in the left box to file a complaint. Tell your story briefly.

Go to: [WebTrak-Van Nuys](#)

The website shows all the aircraft in our skies at any time of day or night.

Currently, while the tracking on the website works like a charm, the reporting function is not working. The website folks are scrambling to get it put back up. In the meantime, here's the number to call and lodge your complaint. We may find that calling is a more consistent and reliable method to use: Call Leonard Krugler at (800) 560-0010.

Listen: Which Way, LA radio interview:

[Will a New Helicopter Noise Law Make Anyone Happy? - Which Way, L.A.? on KCRW 89.9 FM | Internet Public Radio Station Streaming](#)

Check out this website for much more information:

[Los Angeles Area Helicopter Noise Coalition](#)

Read the LA Times article:

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-helicopter-bill-passes-20140116,0,1663791.story#ixzz2qm7vWGII>

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.

I-405 Closure Feb. 14 - 18

There will be an 80-hour closure of various lanes on the I-405 in the Sepulveda Pass on Presidents' Day weekend from February 14 - 18.

For more information on the closure go to:
<http://www.metro.net/projects/I-405/intermittent-80-hr-closure/>

Metro asks that community groups help them spread the word to make the closure go smoothly so please get the news to your neighbors.

Save these dates for Hillside Federation meetings

March 5
April 2 - Elections
May 7
June 4
July 2 ??

A Time for Truth Los Angeles 2020 Commission Mike Bonin Responds

The 2020 Commission report commissioned by City Council President Herb Wesson was highly critical of the management of the city. Commission leader Mickey Kantor found that the city lacks a coherent approach to economic development and job growth. The commission criticized the city's lack of leadership, poverty, declining city services, and unsustainable spending. The city suffers from a shrinking middle class, "continued economic decline" and some of the worst traffic congestion in the nation.

Part of the report criticized NIMBYism as being an impediment to progress. Not In My Back Yard - That would refer to homeowner associations like ours. Councilmember Mike Bonin, CD 11 responded in City Council. Bonin stood up for homeowners and stated that the city should focus on neighborhood-friendly development. He recognized that the pitiful traffic mitigation that developers agree to does not mitigate the increased traffic. He also criticized the failure of the commission report to address the environment.



[Click here: VIDEO: Bonin Responds to 20/20 Commission Report - Mike Bonin - Council District 11](#)

**Hillside Federation
Draft Minutes
January 8, 2014**

I. Call to Order

President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves. Marian introduced and welcomed Stacy Thompson from our new member group Upper Riviera Homeowners Association.

II. Approval of Minutes - The November minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report - Marian Dodge

Treasurer Don Andres was thanked for his help in making the Holiday Party such a great success.

A judge gave architect Gerhard Becker the minimum sentence of one year for using shoddy building materials in violation of code, causing the roof of his home to collapse and kill Firefighter Glenn Allen. The judge said he gave this lesser sentence because the Department of Building and Safety was also culpable.

The LAFD Foundation, a non-profit group that supports LAFD, has reached out to Marian to request help in purchasing special brush helmets for firefighters. Marian will contact the group to set up a meeting.

Mayor Garcetti sent an e-mail survey asking constituents to identify their priorities. Garcetti will be the guest speaker at the Sherman Oaks HOA meeting on Wednesday, February 19, 2014.

Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council has requested that the Hillside Federation provide contact information for member organizations that are in their area so the council can circulate information to them to encourage participation in the neighborhood council. Because the Federation does not share contact information, Marian will forward a notice to the associations within the NC boundary on behalf of HHWNC.

Marian will circulate an e-mail from Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife (CLAW) asking hillside dwellers to trim their trees in the winter before nesting season begins. <http://www.clawonline.org>

The Natural History Museum's First Friday events explore the city's wildlife from 5:00 - 10:00 pm. Check their website for ticket availability. <http://www.nhm.org/site/>

Hillside Federation Dues

Annual membership dues must be paid by March 1. Save times and trouble by bringing your check to the meeting Wednesday night. If you have already paid, thank you very much. If you haven't please send your organization's check for \$150 payable to Hillside Federation to:

Treasurer Don Andres
7470 Franklin Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90046

Hollywoodland HOA is seeking old minutes from its community meetings. Steve Twining mentioned that UCLA has some archive documents from the Federation and he will look into how to access them.

B. Treasurer's Report - Don Andres

Don Andres reported that the Holiday Party was a great success with 112 attendees. There was an impressive list of community groups, elected officials and representatives of federal, state and local government offices present.

Membership dues of \$150 per organization are due March 1.

The Federation has prepared a chart of its member organizations and their corresponding governmental representatives. The chart has been circulated to our member groups for review. The list will be posted on our website as soon as it has been finalized.

IV. New Business:

A. Rodenticide motion - Ali Simard, Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife (CLAW)

Ali asked the Hillside Federation to support City Council motion CF#13-1580, proposed by Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Tom LaBonge, requesting that the Department of Rec and Parks report back on the usage of rodenticides. Wendy-Sue Rosen stated that the Hillside Federation

passed a motion on this issue last year and asked Ali to fill out a Request for Action form and come back to make a presentation at the Hillside Federation's February meeting.

B. Area Planning Commissions - Wendy-Sue Rosen

Members of the community are concerned that the Mayor has appointed unqualified commissioners to the City and Area Planning Commissions. The LA Times reported that most of the appointees are campaign donors, but don't necessarily have land use expertise or experience. The most recent complaints have come from westside leaders who were successful in getting one potential appointee to withdraw after the LA Times did a story about her lack of relevant experience. There is concern that recently appointed commissioners do not understand the complexities of land use and will not address the community's need to mitigate significant impacts.

C. 10550 Bellagio Road – Victor Marmon, attorney for neighboring property owner

Victor Marmon filed a petition for Writ of Mandate for a similar project at 360 N. Stone Canyon Road, opposing a height variance granted by the City Council. The Bellagio project involves a similar height variance that was recently approved by a Zoning Administrator. This variance approval would undermine the Baseline Hillside Ordinance and set a negative precedent. The West LA Area Planning Commission is scheduled to hear an appeal on the ZA's determination on January 15, 2014.

MOTION MSP: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Federation oppose the Zoning Administrator's granting of the variance and support the appeal.

D. Zoning Advisory Committee - Carol Sidlow

Carol reported that she is one of 21 members of the city-wide committee to oversee a 5-year update of the 1946 Zoning Code. Carol introduced Edgar Khalatian, who is Co-Chair of the ZAC with Sharon Commins (Mar Vista). The focus of the first two years of the committee's work will be on the downtown area. The first meeting is set for Wednesday, January 15, 2014 at City Hall East. All are welcome to attend. For information regarding this 5-year program to revise the 1946 Zoning Code, check the Re-code LA website. <http://recode.la>

What's happening in your neighborhood?

Please send the Federation news of your activities with photos so we can share them with all our members.

V. Old Business

A. Harvard-Westlake Expansion - Marian Dodge

Marian reported that Doug Mensman from Councilmember Krekorian's office said the EIR is not expected to be circulated until March at the earliest because of the large number of comments submitted. Edgar Khalatian, representing Harvard-Westlake, concurred.

B. Hollywood Community Plan update - George Abrahams

George reported on the three successful lawsuits against the City on the Hollywood Community Plan. Judge Goodman rejected the City's arguments and found that the population projections used in the HCP were inaccurate. The judge ruled that the City must consider a downsized alternative because the population is declining.

George Abrahams also gave an update on the draft earthquake fault maps released by the State's geologist Dr. John Parrish. The Hollywood fault line appears to lie beneath the proposed Millennium Hollywood project as claimed in the SaveHollywood lawsuit. Several other projects along Hollywood Blvd. that are in various stages of construction are also along the fault line. George's group is demanding a Grand Jury investigation of the Dept. of Building and Safety for failure to require trenching near the fault lines.

C. Curtis School update - Mark Stratton

Mark described the City Planning Commission hearing held on December 19, 2013 in Van Nuys. Bel Air Skycrest attorney John Given objected that the application being heard by the Commission had been previously withdrawn by the Applicant. The City Attorney agreed and advised the Commission that it lacked jurisdiction

to consider the application. Curtis must file a new application.

VI. Announcements:

Steve Twining - the City is not enforcing or analyzing projects under SB-1818 to assure low income housing is created. These projects are receiving increased heights and reduced parking without increasing low income housing.

Steven Poster - The Laurel Canyon landslide mitigation project has begun. Steven will circulate weekly updates.

George will post the state geological earthquake fault line maps on his organization's website.

<http://www.stophemillenniumhollywood.org/>

VII. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Carol Sidlow,
Recording Secretary

Members Present:

Beachwood Canyon	George Abrahams
Bel Air Skycrest	Mark Stratton
	Lois Becker
Brentwood Res. Coal.	Tom Freeman
Cahuenga Pass	Patricia Weber
Canyon Back Allian.	Wendy-Sue Rosen
Franklin Av/Hlwd Bl.	Don Andres
	Yvonne Hessler
Kagel Canyon	Kit Paull
Laurel Canyon	Ali Simard
Lookout Mountain	Steven Poster
	Carol Sidlow
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Marian Dodge
Oaks HOA	Bob Young
Resid. of Beverly Glen	Stephen Benson
Roscomare Valley	Steve Twining
Sherman Oaks HOA	Elke Heitmeyer
Studio City Res.	Alan Dymond
Upper Riviera HOA	Stacy Thompson

Guests Present:

Studio City RA	Wanda Bailey
	Marc Singer
Paul Hastings LLP	Edgar Khalatian

**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