

# Hillside Federation Newsletter February, 2015



[www.hillsidefederation.org](http://www.hillsidefederation.org)

## Los Angeles Council District 4 Candidate Forum

The Hillside Federation will host a candidate forum for candidates in the upcoming Council District 4 primary election at our February meeting. The forum will be held at the International Cinematographers Guild, located at 7755 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles 90046. Free self-parking is available in the Guild's parking lot off Genesee. Expected to participate are: Jay Beeber, Teddy Davis, Sheila Irani, Wally Knox, Fred Mariscal, Tomas O'Grady, Joan Pelico, Carolyn Ramsay, David Ryu, and Steve Veres.

## Marian Dodge Honored by Studio City Residents Association

Hillside Federation President Marian Dodge recently received the Fran Quiqley Award from the Studio City Residents Association. The award, SCRA's highest honor, is presented annually in recognition for outstanding service to the community.



SCRA President Alan Dymond and 2014 honoree Dr. Carol Armstrong present the Fran Quiqley Award to Marian Dodge.

### Agenda

**February 4, 2015**

**SPECIAL LOCATION**  
**Int'l Cinematographers Guild**  
**7755 Sunset Boulevard**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90046**

**6:30 pm - socialize**

**7:00 pm - meeting**

**LAFD Special Guests**  
**Chief Ralph Terrazas**  
**Deputy Chief Joe Castro**

**Candidate Forum**  
**LA City Council District 4**

### *Next Meeting*

**Wednesday, March 4, 2015**  
**Pinz Bowling, next to Jerry's Deli**  
**12655 Ventura Boulevard,**  
**Studio City, CA 91604**

***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.***

## Council District 4 Candidate Information

Due to the large number of candidates for the upcoming Council District 4 primary election, rather than present candidate information here, we have opted to provide links to the candidate websites, where available. The links are provided in alphabetical order. Candidates have also been invited to bring biographical and other campaign information to our upcoming candidate forum (see front page of this newsletter for details).

### Regular Candidates:

Jay Beeber	<a href="http://jay4la.com">http://jay4la.com</a>
Tara Bannister	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/votetarabannister">https://www.facebook.com/votetarabannister</a>
Teddy Davis	<a href="http://www.teddydavisla.com">http://www.teddydavisla.com</a>
Sheila Irani	<a href="http://www.sheilairani.com">http://www.sheilairani.com</a>
Step Jones	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/StepJonescitycouncil">https://www.facebook.com/StepJonescitycouncil</a>
Wally Knox	<a href="http://wallyforcouncil.com">http://wallyforcouncil.com</a>
Fred Mariscal	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/FredforCD4">https://www.facebook.com/FredforCD4</a>
Tomás O’Grady	<a href="http://tomasogrady.com">http://tomasogrady.com</a>
Joan Pelico	<a href="http://www.joanpelicoforcouncil.com">http://www.joanpelicoforcouncil.com</a>
Carolyn Ramsay	<a href="http://www.carolynramsay.com">http://www.carolynramsay.com</a>
David Ryu	<a href="http://www.ryuforcouncil.com">http://www.ryuforcouncil.com</a>
Ross Sarkissian	<a href="http://www.friendsofrostom.com">http://www.friendsofrostom.com</a>
Mike Schaefer	no candidate website found
Steve Veres	<a href="http://www.steveveres.com">http://www.steveveres.com</a>

### Write-In Candidates:

Charles Craig Jackson	no candidate website found
Vincent James Young	no candidate website found

Additional information about the upcoming CD4 election is available at the following websites:

Los Angeles City Clerk: <http://clerk.lacity.org/elections/candidates/index.htm>

League of Women Voters of LA: <http://www.smartvoter.org/2015/03/03/ca/la/race/02/>

**Hillside Federation**  
**Draft Minutes**  
**January 7, 2015**

**I. Call to Order.** President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

**II. Approval of Minutes.** The November minutes were approved as submitted.

**III. Officers' Reports**

A. President's Report: Marian Dodge

Marian thanked Mark and Lois for providing coffee for the meetings and John Given, Executive Secretary for putting out the newsletter over the holidays.

Marian provided a summary of the work done by the Hillside Federation in 2014:

34 issue letters written, Hillside Federation represented by Marian at 12 hearings, 11 trips to City Hall, and many miles driven representing the Hillside Federation.

Liberty Canyon. The Wildlife Conservation Board sent a letter of thanks for the Hillside Federation's support of the wildlife crossing at Liberty Canyon.

901 Strada Vecchia. A meeting with City Attorney Mike Feuer was held regarding possible criminal charges to be filled against developer Mohammed Hadid regarding the development at 901 Strada Vecchia in Bel Air. The Hadid development on Royalton and the status of the Hastian Trail case were discussed.

CD4 Candidate Forum. The February meeting of the Hillside Federation will be a Council District 4 Candidate Forum held at a special location: the Cinematographers Guild, 7755 Sunset Blvd. (Sunset & Genesee). So far, the confirmed participants are Wally Knox, Sheila Irani, Joan Pelico, Fred Mariscal, David Ryu, Jay Beeber, Steve Veres

and Teddy Davis. The format and details for the Forum were discussed. Marian encouraged everyone to send questions for the candidates. In addition, Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas will attend the meeting for a 'meet and greet.'

Los Angeles River: Marian distributed a new map of the Los Angeles River prepared by the National Park Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Marian Dodge to Receive SCRA Award. Claudia Freedle from the Studio City Residents Association announced that Marian Dodge was unanimously chosen to receive the Fran Quigley Award – the association's highest award. It will be presented to Marian in recognition of her outstanding service to all our communities on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at the Garland Hotel. Everyone was encouraged to attend.

B. Treasurer's Report: Don Andres

Holiday Party. Don Andres updated everyone about the very successful Holiday Party. Over 50% of attendees were new attendees. Wendy made some suggestions for the 2015 Holiday Party. Don thanked Mark Stratton and John Given for the donation of wine.

Dues. Dues notices have been sent out to member groups. Payments are due March 1, 2015.

**Guest Speakers**

Tim Pershing – Assemblyman Richard Bloom's office

Assemblyman Bloom was re-elected in the November election. Tim gave updates regarding Liberty Canyon Wildlife Crossing and other legislation Assemblyman Bloom is working on. Hillside Federation members were encouraged to email Tim with issues of concern for Assemblyman Bloom. Some of

the concerns expressed by the members include: strengthening the Alquist/Priolo Earthquake Fault Act, increasing the power of the State Geologist's office to subpoena and gain access to investigation sites, changing the Owner/Builder Exemption, and the weakening of CEQA.

Samantha David – State Senator Ben Allen's office

Samantha introduced herself to the Hillside Federation. Members were encouraged to contact her regarding issues of concern. Wendy asked that she convey to the Senator the same concerns about the issues brought to Assemblymember Bloom's attention (described above). Regarding the weakening of CEQA, George Abrahams spoke about the change in the traffic metrics as an example. Wendy suggested that a committee be put together to address these CEQA issues.

#### **IV. New Business**

A. Mulholland Specific Plan Compliance - Rob Glushon

Attorney Rob Glushon spoke about his concerns about the lack of enforcement of the Mulholland Specific Plan and the role of the City Attorney's office in the South Valley Area Planning Commission meetings among other issues. He is meeting with City Attorney Mike Feuer about three issues:

- 1) City Attorney's office needs a better understanding of the Mulholland Specific Plan;
- 2) CEQA and Categorical Exemption issues; and,
- 3) Enforcement of conditions on projects.

Discussion included the City Attorney's office Land Use Division and CEQA division, enforcement of voluntary conditions and the need for implementation of those conditions

on development projects, the role of the City Attorney's office representatives in Area Planning Commission meetings, police powers of the City, and appointment of members to Area Planning Commissions. Mr. Glushon will up-date Marian after his meeting with City Attorney Feuer.

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.

B. High-Speed Rail Project: Bill Eick, Dave DePinto, Kit Paull

Kit Paull (Kagel Canyon HOA) and Bill Eick and Dave DePinto (Shadow Hills Property Owners Association) spoke about the High-Speed Rail project's Palmdale to Burbank Project Section and the East Corridor Alternatives. The High-Speed Rail Authority is proposing three East Corridor routes that would tunnel through the San Gabriel Mountains as alternatives to the original State Route 14 Corridor intended to connect the Burbank and Palmdale stations. These East Corridor routes would disrupt the environment and Rim of the Valley Corridors, wildlife, horse communities, deface open space, impact ground and drinking water, have negative impacts to the Angeles National Forest, and negatively impact the newly designated San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. Congressman Adam Schiff has written a letter in opposition to the East Corridor routes. A High-Speed Rail Protest meeting will be held at All Nations

Church on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

**MOTION:** Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation write a letter supporting the unified position of the Shadow Hills Property Owner’s Association, Kagel Canyon Civic Association, Lake View Terrace Improvement Association, La Tuna Canyon Community Association, Rancho Verdugo Estates Homeowners Association, and Representative Adam Schiff, to remove the East Corridor alternatives from consideration in the EIR. The motion passed.

**V. Old Business**

A. Recode LA: Carol Sidlow

The next meeting of the Zoning Advisory Committee for Recode LA will be on January 21, 2015. The 35-page report was distributed by Marian. There will be a two-track process that will look at the Residential component and the Downtown component at the same time. All were encouraged to go to the website and sign up to comment.

B. Scenario Lane: Marian Dodge

Marian reported that the property owner has demolished the existing house. The applicant has received a Lot Line adjustment.

C. 8150 Sunset Blvd.: Don Andres

Don attended the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council’s (HHWNC) Planning and Land Use Committee at which the City and developer provided a project briefing. HHWNC distributed a list of project alternatives for attendees to select their top three choices. Members discussed traffic impacts. The Draft Environmental Impact Report has been released; the comment period ends on January 20, 2015. Hillside Federation will re-send its previous letter.

D. Hollywood Sign Gate re-opening at Beachwood Canyon: Lucy Gonzalez

The new gate was opened on Monday; it was supposed to have been a quiet opening but was given a lot of press which only attracted more people. The emergency Preferred Parking District placard will take another 2 months with hopes of getting permanent ones soon. Enforcement is still an issue especially due to public safety concerns. George Abrahams reported that Tom LaBonge got an ordinance that allows the City to close park area streets in case of emergency. Lucy will provide up-dates to the Hillside Federation.

E. Sign Ordinance: Marian Dodge

The Board of Building and Safety Commissioners approved a modification for digital billboards the judge had ordered turned off to allow Clear Channel to wrap them with vinyl advertising. PLUM directed the Planning Department to report on the possibility of allowing billboards outside of Sign Districts. PLUM is also thinking of allowing amnesty for nonpermitted billboards. The Council File number for the Sign Ordinance is now 11-1705. PLUM proposed a number of amendments to the

Save these dates for future Hillside Federation meetings

2015  
March 4  
April 1  
May 6  
June 3  
July 1

Sign Ordinance, available online at:  
[http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2011/11-1705\\_misc\\_ltr\\_12-16-14.pdf](http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2011/11-1705_misc_ltr_12-16-14.pdf).

**VI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Carol Sidlow,  
 Secretary

**Members present:**

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Beachwood Canyon        | George Abrahams   |
| Bel Air Skycrest        | Mark Stratton     |
| Brentwood Hills         | Eric Edmunds      |
|                         | John Given        |
| Brentwood Residents     | Wendy-Sue Rosen   |
| Cahuenga Pass POA       | Krista Michaels   |
|                         | Steven Kates      |
| Canyon Back Alliance    | Lois Becker       |
| CASM-SFV                | Craig Smith       |
| Franklin Av/Hlwd Blvd   | Yvonne Hessler    |
| Hollywoodland           | Lucy Gonzalez     |
| Kagel Canyon            | Kit Paull         |
| Lookout Mt.             | Steven Poster     |
|                         | Carol Sidlow      |
| Los Feliz Impvmt.       | Marian Dodge      |
| Nichols Canyon          | Don Andres        |
| N. Beverly/Franklin Cyn | Robert Levy       |
| Oaks Homeowners         | Caroline Schweich |
| Shadow Hills POA        | Bill Eich         |
| Studio City Res.        | Claudia Freedle   |

**Guests Present:**

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Sen. Ben Allen    | Samantha David |
| Asm Richard Bloom | Tim Pershing   |
| Attorney          | Rob Glushon    |
| Resident          | Connie Levy    |
| Pacific Palisades | Leah           |

**State Coastal Conservancy  
 Grants \$1M to Liberty Canyon**

Supporters of the proposed Liberty Canyon Wildlife Crossing received wonderful news on January 29 when the board of the State Coastal Conservancy unanimously voted to grant \$1M in support of the project. The money will be disbursed to the California Department of Transportation, which will use it to conduct an environmental assessment and develop initial designs.

The Hillside Federation has voted to support the Liberty Canyon Wildlife Crossing, most recently by writing a letter in support of a grant of \$650,000 by the Wildlife Conservation Board. That money will be used to enhance an existing undercrossing approximately nine miles east of Thousand Oaks in Los Angeles County, to allow wildlife to cross the 101 Freeway.

P.O. Box 27404 Los Angeles, CA 90027 <a href="mailto:president@hillsidefederation.org">president@hillsidefederation.org</a> <a href="http://www.hillsidefederation.org">www.hillsidefederation.org</a>	<b>ORGANIZATIONS:</b> 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 CASM-SFV 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. Save Coldwater Canyon Inc. Save Sunset Blvd. Shadow Hills Property Owners Sherman Oaks HOA Studio City Residents Assn.	Sunset Hills HOA Arzana Property Owners Assn. Torreyson Flynn Assn. Upper Mandeville Canyon Upper Nichols Canyon Upper Riviera HOA Whitley Heights Civic Assn.  <b>CHAIRPERSONS EMERITUS</b> Shirley Cohen Jerome C. Daniel Patricia Bell Hearst Alan Kishbaugh Gordon Murley Steve Twining  <b>CHAIRMAN IN MEMORIUM</b> Brian Moore Polly Ward
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- PRESIDENT**  
 Marian Dodge  
**CHAIRMAN**  
 Charley Mims  
**VICE PRESIDENTS**  
 Mark Stratton  
 Wendy-Sue Rosen  
**SECRETARY**  
 Carol Sidlow  
**TREASURER**  
 Don Andres