

email: [president@hillsidefederation.org](mailto:president@hillsidefederation.org)  
website: [www.hillsidefederation.org](http://www.hillsidefederation.org)

**FOUNDED IN 1952**

**PRESIDENT**

Joan Luchs

**CHAIRMAN**

Lynette Berg Robe

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Charley Mims

Lannette Pabon

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Ann Walnum

**TREASURER**

Dan Palmer



**State Assemblyman  
Mike Feuer**

**Guest Speaker**

Mike Feuer was elected to represent California's 42nd Assembly District in 2006. As the chair of the Assembly Judiciary Committee, and the Assembly Committee to improve State Government, Mike has emerged as a leader on many of the most significant issues confronting California.

He wrote legislation authorizing Los Angeles' Measure R which will fund transportation projects across the county, as well as the first legislation in state history to target major reductions in statewide urban water use—20% by 2020. Mike authored the biggest leap forward in chemicals policy, granting California officials broad authority to regulate dangerous chemicals found in consumer products. Mike also wrote the Crime Gun Identification Act, and legislation requiring nursing homes to post grades, rating quality of care. Another law Mike wrote established a pilot project making California the first state in the nation to create a right to counsel in civil cases where basic needs are at stake, including foreclosure proceedings and child custody cases.

*Continued on page 2...*



*Important  
Information  
Enclosed*

**NEXT MEETING**

**Wednesday  
February 3, 2010**

**ALERT**

**NEW STARTING TIME  
Meeting starts promptly at 7 pm**

**UNIVERSAL CITY NISSAN**

**3550 Cahuenga Blvd. West between Lankershim  
-Universal Drive bridge off ramps; park under-  
ground garage/street take elevator to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
conference room.**

**AGENDA**

**Introductions: Members/Guests**

**Minutes: January, 2010**

**President's Report:**

**A. Nominating Committee**

**Presentation and Motion: 3200 Durand  
Drive – Crosby Dow**

**Special Guest Speaker:**

**Assemblyman Mike Feuer**

**Adjournment:**

**CHAIRMEN EMERITUS**

Jerome C. Daniel

Patricia Bell Hearst

Gordon Murley

Polly Ward

**CHAIRMAN IN MEMORIAM**

Brian Moore

... continued from page 1

Mike served on the Los Angeles City Council for six years, delivering budgets that were on time, balanced and effective. When he chaired the Budget and Finance Committee he also spearheaded numerous groundbreaking initiatives. These included creation of L.A.'s 3-1-1 non-emergency service system, laws to combat gun violence, business tax reforms, efforts to create California's first playgrounds accessible to disabled children, support for Affordable Housing Trust Fund, funding meals for 75,000 indigent seniors, reforming the City's Charter, and bolstering the City's Ethics Commission.

Prior to being a City Councilman he led Bet Tzedek Legal Services, the House of Justice, which provides free legal assistance to more than 50,000 primarily elderly and disabled clients during his tenure. Mike has practiced law at two of California's leading law firms, taught both Law and Public Policy at UCLA and been a commentator on National Public Radio station KPCC. He is a Phi Beta Kappa, *magna cum laude* graduate of Harvard College and a *cum laude* graduate of Harvard Law School. He and his wife, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Gail Ruderman Feuer, have been married twenty-six years. They have two teenage children.

**ASSEMBLYMEMBER MIKE FEUER**  
42<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

## REMINDERS: ISSUES & MOTIONS



Federation meetings are scheduled to start at 7:00 PM and end by 9:30 PM. In order to end on time, issues to be brought to the Board require a complete outline and a background, including what is being requested, then emailed to [president@hillsidefederation.org](mailto:president@hillsidefederation.org) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting along with a direct phone and fax number or phone and email address if available.

**MOTIONS** to be made at the meeting should be well thought out and printed so that they are clear and concise, with enough copies for all member associations. Each presenter will be given 5 minutes to make a presentation so that meetings can be kept on time. All requests to agendize an issue **MUST** be approved in writing by the President before the item will be placed on the Agenda.

## MULHOLLAND SCENIC PARKWAY DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

**Meets the first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM**

**MARVIN BRAUDE CONSTITUENTS SERVICE CENTER**  
**6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys, CA**  
**First Floor Conference Room**

Free parking under the building: Entrance just east of Van Nuys Blvd.  
on Sylvan Street



## WHY HAVE LAWS.....IF THEY ARE NOT ENFOCED?

### City ignores seven-year old 'Order to Comply':

Without a permit and over a weekend an owner built a fence on top of a Historic Monument Wall located at 3200 Durand Drive. Although an Order to Comply was issued 2/03 the owner's request for an Exception to the Hollywoodland Specific Plan was denied. Now, seven years later, the City refuses to enforce removal of the illegal fence.

Located in Hollywoodland on a half acre, both the house and the Historic wall were built in the 1920's. After the City refused to enforce its own laws for several years ... a concerned resident, realtor and preservationist, Crosby Dow organized the "Committee to Save the Hollywoodland Specific Plan" and teamed up with the preservationist organization "Hollywood Heritage" and sued the City for not enforcing Preservation Law.. In December, 2008 the Superior Court of the State of California ruled the City was in violation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and ordered a Writ of Mandate, directing the City to vacate the issuance of the Exception for the illegal fence.

Although the judge ruled that CEQA requirements must be met, despite court's ruling the Deputy City Attorney is claiming that CEQA laws are not a priority when there is a budget crisis. As a result the City is not pursuing the owner to meet CEQA requirements having instead referred the case to their Civil Division.

Now that the owner submitted another application.... logic would say that any pending Order to Comply should first be enforced but the City Attorney says it comes down to 'Prosecutorial Discretion' which is another way of saying as the Department sees fit.

Since the Judge's decision records have either been deleted or altered. Councilman Tom LaBonge's office was also contacted requesting enforcement of this seven-year old 'Order to Comply' but to date no support from CD 4 has been forthcoming..

More recently the LADBS Code Enforcement inspector who issued the Order to Comply states that he will no longer concern himself with this case. I wonder who asked him to do that. If the City gets away with ignoring CEQA and 'Orders to Comply', why bother having laws that are not enforced?

### JOAN LUCHS

President  
Hillside Federation



## CITY COUNCIL VOTES TO SHUT DOWN HUNDREDS OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES

In a 9-3 vote, on 1/26/10 the Los Angeles City Council gave its final approval to an ordinance that will shut down hundreds of medical marijuana dispensaries and impose strict rules on the location and operation of the remaining dispensaries allowed.

The ordinance, which the council first began discussing more than four and a half years ago, will cap the number of dispensaries at 70, but make an exception to allow all those that registered with the city in 2007 and have remained open. City officials believe that number is around 150.

## **LADOT PUTS THE PEDDLE TO THE METAL ON SPEED LIMIT INCREASES**

As the City of Los Angeles grapples with a financial crisis of epic proportions and the City Departments struggle with the exodus of approximately 3000 employees, more speed limit increases make their way through the City Hall meat grinder starting with the Department of Transportation and ending up with the City Council where the rubber stamping concludes with an ordinance proposal that raises the speed limits on local streets, all in an effort to maintain the right to use radar/laser speed limit violation enforcement on the streets of Los Angeles.

This week City Council's Transportation Committee will consider speed limit increase proposals on Riverside Drive (up to 40 mph) and on Chandler Boulevard (up to 45 mph.)

These speed limit increase proposals are for streets that fall partially in Council District 2, newly elected City Councilman Paul Krekorian's district. Krekorian is the author of AB766, the Safe Streets bill that he took to the State Assembly last year when he served as Assemblyman for the 43rd District and in his role as the Assistant Majority Floor Leader for the State Assembly.

Essentially, Krekorian's Safe Streets bill argued that local communities should have more authority over setting speed limits.

The City of Los Angeles gave quiet support to the Safe Streets Bill but when it came up in the State Assembly's Transportation Committee, both LADOT and LA's legislative representatives sat silent.

Their silence spoke volumes and serves as a powerful contradiction to City Council's resolution passed in support of AB766.

As for the upcoming speed limit increase proposals, the streets get wider, the speeds get faster and the environment gets more hostile for anybody who dares to walk, ride a bike or take mass transit.

As Chair of the Transportation Committee, Bill Rosendahl has an opportunity to show that his promise to make LA a more walkable and bikeable city is a real commitment that comes with action, not just talk.

It will also be interesting to see what influence Councilman Paul Koretz of CD5 will have over the process, especially in light of his stated support for a robust Bike Plan that lays down a real vision for a bikeable city.

Yes...our City is in the middle of a budget crisis but why don't we put our energy into pursuing funding sources that would allow us to improve the quality of life on our streets and allow us to work together to make Los Angeles a walkable, rideable, livable city that works for everybody. It's time to put down the old paradigm and to make people a priority.

Let's see whether our Transportation Chair Bill Rosendahl will take the lead and reject the proposed speed limits and if Councilman Paul Koretz will support him.

Who knows, maybe the LAPD might even show up to explain how public safety is one of their basic commitments and how increasing speed limits doesn't increase safety or save lives.

### **Stephen Box**

Writer for City Watch

Transportation and Cycling Advocate

**VIEW FEDERATION WEBSITE at [www.hillsidefederation.org](http://www.hillsidefederation.org)**

Latest Newsletters, News and Update Links are available

**If there is something else you'd like to see, or if you want to send an article for the newsletter, let us hear from you. Call Joan Luchs at (213) 368-6120 with your suggestions.**

**JANUARY MINUTES  
DRAFT MINUTES  
HILLSIDE FEDERATION**

General Membership Meeting January 6, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Joan Luchs at Universal City Nissan. A quorum was present. Federation minutes from June were approved as presented; September minutes were approved by correcting a misspelled name.

It was announced that Ron Galperin, president of Crests Neighborhood Association, was appointed to the L.A. City Quality and Productivity Commission.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**

President Joan Luchs announced a summary and dialogue of events for 2009 and prognosis for 2010. Ongoing attention is needed regarding the Baseline Hillside and Cultural Heritage Ordinances.

Despite favorable legislation and judicial action, the proliferation of Billboards continues at a troubling pace. Former City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo had made the administrative decision that prosecution of billboard regulations was not worth the time of the City Attorney’s office.

These enforcement questions and problems continue:

- 1) Can the laws on the books be adequately enforced to be effective?
- 2) Will the city fine the billboard companies enough to force illegal signs removed?
- 3) Can Building and Safety assign enough enforcement inspectors to be effective? Signs are erected over the weekend when inspectors are not working. Companies don’t get permits because Building and Safety hasn’t enough resources to sanction them.
- 4) A citizens’ advisory committee will meet on January 11.
- 5) “No action to tear them down, not even Super-Graphics.”

The EACHLA (densification ordinance) SB 1818 settlement yielded returns for litigants; \$900 was Hillside Federation’s share.

Councilmember Jose Huizar was instrumental in causing Autry National Center to drop its Griffith Park expansion plans. Also an El Sereno open space park will be purchased by the city after a developer failed an environmental review.

Codification of a “granny flat” ordinance has been postponed. Currently there are insufficient resources to process applications so neighborhoods will be provided zoning protections.

The defeat of the heavily lobbied Las Lomas Santa Clarita area project through the efforts of Councilmember Greig Smith was hailed.

Hillside Federation will be represented on a committee addressing the Hillside Mansionalization Ordinance. Our representatives will be President Joan Luchs (Cahuenga Pass Neighborhood Assoc. Bill Eick (Shadow Hills Property Owners), Ron Galperin (Crests Neighborhood Assoc.), David Garfinkle (Tarzana Property Owners), and Dan Wright (Mount Washington Homeowners Alliance). A draft report is due in February.

Issues discussed include aesthetics and narrow streets, the first 400 feet of garage footage should be included in the basic calculations, garages not storage should be used for parking, minimize uncompleted homes through Completion Bonds, borrow from an apartment building program using “conservation inspectors” funded by builders, and application of A.B. 283 rules requiring zoning to conform to Community Plans.

**CITY CONTROLLER:**

Ron Galperin reported on a meeting with Controller Wendy Gruel and her staff. Better enforcement and collection of business taxes is necessary. There is an inadequate oversight process. Additionally it was revealed that 46% of Laura Chick’s audits have not been heard.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Treasurer Dan Palmer reported that membership renewal fees are due by March 1st.

**PLANNING FEE CHANGES PUT ON HOLD:**

Dan Wright was among those raising concerns at City Council about drastic changes in fees and rules on appeals in the City Planning process. Application of these proposed changes has been postponed.

**NBC/UNIVERSAL STUDIOS PRESENTATION**

President Luchs is working on a date to have a Hillside Federation meeting at Universal Studios where a model of their project has been set up.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Walnum  
Recording Secretary

**FEDERATION OFFICERS PRESENT**

President	Joan Luchs, Cahuenga Pass
Vice President	Charley Mims, Franklin Hill
Treasurer	Dan Palmer, Resid of Bev Glen
Record. Secretary	Ann Walnum, Mt. Washington

**FEDERATION DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Mark Stratton	Belair Skycrest Property
Nickie Miner	Benedict Canyon Assoc
Ron Galperin	Crests Neighborhood
Marian Dodge	Los Feliz Improvement
Daniel Wright	Mt. Washington Home. All.
Madeline O’Donnell	Nichols Canyon Assoc.
Robert Levy	No. Beverly/Franklin Cyn.
Niles Chapman, M.D.	Sherman Oaks Homeowners
Laura Gutierrez	Sherman Oaks Homeowners
David Garfinkle	Tarzana Property Owners

**GUESTS PRESENT**

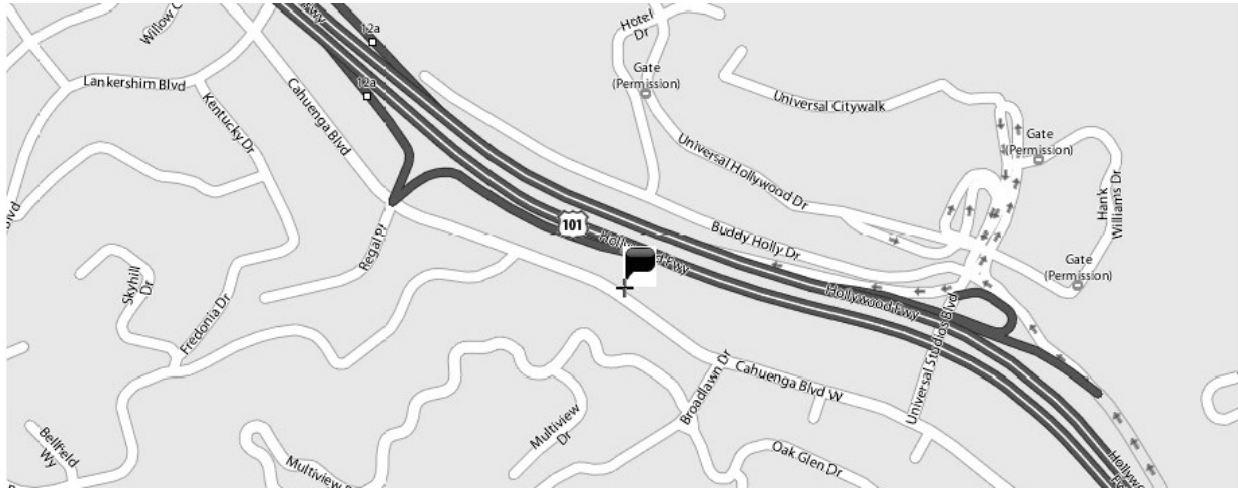
Connie Levy                      No. Beverly/Franklin Cyn.

**NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 3, 2010  
ALERT NEW STARTING TIME  
PROMPTLY AT 7 PM**

**UNIVERSAL CITY NISSAN**

3550 Cahuenga Blvd. West  
Los Angeles, CA 90068

Between Lankershim and Universal Drive bridge off ramps:  
Park on street or in underground garage; take elevator to "S" street level or enter  
through showroom, turn left, follow signs to 2nd floor conference room



**THE FEDERATION**

OF HILLSIDE AND CANYON ASSOCIATIONS, INC.

PO BOX 1673  
HOLLYWOOD HILLS, CA 90078  
213-368-6120



**Important Information  
Enclosed**

