

structure spaces - will not be necessary because when the City/County "enhancement" project and the Caltrans project are done, Sepulveda Pass will be a parking lot!

So, folks, brace yourselves! This is Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's, along with the County Board of Supervisors' (Zev), and the State of California's idea of - Moving Traffic.

I was going to do an article on the "Homeless Meeting" but had to do the above instead, because the traffic "enhancement" is timely - public response by March 19, 2007. Read and weep at your computer, then send your comments as to how this will negatively impact you, to:

Dr. Ara Kasparian, Manager;
Att: Lisa Ochsner, Environmental Supervisor,
1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600, LA., CA 90015 or
email: lisa.ochsner@lacity.org

See you in March!
PATRICIA BELL HEARST,
Chairman Emeritus

405 FREEWAY OUT OF THE LOOP

The Los Angeles Times article on February 17, 2007, shows funding for California freeways, but leaves Southern California's #405 - BETWEEN #10 and #101-OUT OF THE LOOP!

This 10-MILE STRETCH HANDLES 300,000 cars per day. The project for carpool lanes - going Northbound on the 405, between the 101 and the 10 - had a price tag of \$950 million. It seems the City and County engineers had set a date for construction in late 2011. The California Transportation Commission told staff to bring this back in another year. The Commission, appointed by the Governor, also stated that "funds are not dispensed by how many people live in an area, but choose projects based on READINESS FOR CONSTRUCTION, DEMONSTRABLE CONGESTION RELIEF, CONNECTIVITY BENEFITS AND GEOGRAPHIC BALANCE". Well, if the City, County and State engineering staff, D.O.T., and Caltrans can't connect the dots to make a case for our VOTED BOND (transportation funds) of last November, THERE SHOULD BE SOME SERIOUS HOUSECLEANING OF EMPLOYEES WHO COLLECT SUBSTANTIAL SALARIES FOR

SHOWING UP JUST 4 DAYS A WEEK. Supervisor Gloria Molina is quoted: "It's an insult to the people of Los Angeles County, and is unacceptable."

With the history of our Board of Supervisors asleep at the switch, it's no wonder Los Angeles traffic issues are only going from bad to worse! Bandages (dollars\$\$\$) for the Martin Luther King Hospital did not work - now it seems we aren't even getting a "bandage".

Could it be that our local elected politicians are short on political juice - when we get less than 12% of the funds on the project list? Something to think about when they run for their next term or next office!

PAT BELL HEARST

REMINDERS: ISSUES & PETITIONS

Federation meetings are scheduled to start at 8:00 pm, and end at 10:00pm and, in order to end on time, an OUTLINE OF ISSUES & PETITIONS to be brought before the Board should be mailed to : Pres. POLLY WARD at P.O.Box 1041, Studio City, CA 91614 or faxed to: (818) 761-4065, or e-mailed to: polward@aol.com, 48 hours before the scheduled meeting.

MOTIONS to be made at the meeting should be thought out beforehand, and put into writing so that they are clear and concise. EACH SPEAKER will be allowed 5 minutes to make his/her presentation, so that meetings can be kept on time.

BEL AIR/ BEVERLY CREST NC OFFICE

Chairman STEVE TWINING, also President of the above Neighborhood Council, advises that If you are interested in attending any Neighborhood Council meetings, please contact STEVE TWINING at the Council office: 310-479-6247, Fax: 310-479-0458, 1525 S. Sepulveda Blvd., #5. The office is open Mon. & Wed., 9am-6pm, and Fri. 9am-1pm.

MULHOLLAND SCENIC PARKWAY DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

MARVIN BRAUDE SAN FERNANDO
CONSTITUENTS SERVICE CENTER
6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys
Date: the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month
Time: 6:30pm

duced by Jack Weiss in Feb. 2006 asking the Planning Dept to prepare a report discussing the "feasibility of drafting a citywide ridgeline protection ordinance". Status: Unknown.

2. McMansionization Ordinance -CF# 06-1292 introduced by Tom LaBonge in June. 2006, requesting that the Dept of City Planning, in conjunction with the City Attorney and the Dept. of Building and Safety, be directed to prepare an ordinance amending the LAMC to establish the appropriate size of single family homes in flat and hillside areas. Status: Planning workshops were held last year re: homes in the flats; hillside areas still to be discussed.

3. Grading and Hauling - CF# 06-1593 introduced by Jack Weiss and Wendy Greuel July, 2006 to request a report from Building and Safety within 60 days to look at various ideas to reduce the negative impacts of grading and hauling in our hillside areas. Status: Report submitted to PLUM in Dec. 2006 from Building and Safety with their responses. Report did not address any solutions. Report is available on-line at www.lacity.org - or available by request from Carol Sidlow.

4. "Cumulative impacts" - CF# 07-0161 - introduced by Jose Huizar and Eric Garcetti- requesting that the Planning Dept. with the assistance of the City Attorney, prepare a report within 30 days to present to PLUM that provides an interpretation of the California Environmental Quality Act, relative to "cumulative impacts" and how this section is interpreted by City staff and its impact on development in hillside areas of the City. Status: we will monitor.

It is important that the Hillside Federation continue to monitor these proposals and to let our City officials know that we are involved and concerned.

CAROL SIDLOW, Vice President

ALERT TO ALL CROSS-MOUNTAIN ROAD COMMUNITIES - SEPULVEDA ENHANCEMENTS

(Time to Move Out of Town?)

It seems we had a brief success of holding off a Reversible Lane in a 1929 Tunnel that is in total disrepair - but this package has resurfaced, in a County and City project - W.O. #E1904736, and B.E. #114-07.

4 In this new package:

- Right turn pockets at Wilshire & Sepulveda
- Turning pockets between Moraga Dr. & Church Lanes
- Add Northbound right turn lane at Skirball Center Drive
- Add third Southbound traffic lane North of Skirball Center Drive
- Create Reversible Lane in Tunnel at Mulholland & Sepulveda.

The City cover letter begins with "...proposing to enhance vehicular traffic...". Is "enhance" a new word to replace "increase"?

Grading and excavation, hauling soils, destruction/replacement of curbs, gutters and sidewalks, retaining walls, roadway re-alignment, relocation of power poles, street lights and traffic signals, new paving, new storm-water drain - which is just the tip of the iceberg.

So, when two lanes are closed down for this "enhancement" of Sepulveda - from 18 to 24 months, at least - where will the cross-mountain traffic go? You guessed it - Roscomare, Beverly Glen, Benedict Canyon - and any other road that goes over "the Mountain". Oh, add Calneva and Longview to the list! The Westwood and Brentwood Libraries did not have the documents for public review at the date of this writing:

Brentwood Branch Library, 11820 San Vicente Blvd., L.A. 90049 - 310-575-8273

Westwood Branch Library, 1248 Glendon Ave., LA. 90024 - 310-474-1739.

All communities need to be alerted: the website is: http://eng.lacity.org/techdocs/emg/Environmental_Review_Documents.htm

On top of this project, Caltrans has their plan - Sepulveda & 405 Freeway between #10 & #101 - closing ramps (entry-exit) at Moraga, closing ramp at Montana; a new overpass at Skirball (wider, for more cars). Their website: www.dot.ca.gov/dist07/move405/index.php

Getty/Leo Baeck Temple/School has an "approved" huge parking structure, to exit & enter on Sepulveda (hundreds of spaces) for 2007.

Also: Skirball/Milken School - a huge (hundreds of spaces) parking structure, to enter & exit on Sepulveda - "approved."

It just hit me as funny - all these additional parking

have to be a vote at the end of five years so that the public could decide whether to continue the mayor's reform or break up the district. The mayor negotiated with the teacher's union and came out with a compromise."

What does Richman think of the AB 1381 Compromise legislation? "It's unconstitutional - It sets up an ambiguous management structure with no accountability. If we want to bring accountability to LAUSD ... it has to be broken up."

MOTIONS TO BE PROPOSED IN PRESIDENT'S SECTION OF THE BABCNC MEETING
FEB. 28, 2007

1) The BABCNC supports the residents and Board of the Roscomare Valley Association, the Glenridge Association and the Bel-Air Association and CPOR (Committee to Preserve Open Reservoirs) in its study and conclusions regarding the Upper Stone Canyon reservoir. The options include covering it similar to a pool cover, a cement cover with water on top, three immense tanks buried underground, landscaping with native plants etc. etc. Cost of construction estimates range from \$14 Million to \$253 Million.

2) The fire department strongly recommends that hillside residents in the brush area acquire BARRICADE a product formulated from crushed diapers which when mixed with water provides a sponge like material to be applied with water upon the inci-

dent of an approaching fire. All fire trucks in the city of Los Angeles carry this product on their trucks. The motion is as follows: The Bel-Air Beverly Crest NC recommends that residents purchase the product BARRICADE either individually or in groups to help protect their properties.

3) Steven L. Robinson, a Helicopter Pilot III of the Los Angeles Fire Department has come up with a system which accurately predicts the spread of a brush fire by using computer equipment which can map a brush fire. At the moment, his group is searching for funding so that helicopters equipped with this equipment, which currently have to land to transmit their prediction, can stay airborne to transmit this information. The proposed motion is as follows: The BABCNC supports the efforts of Steven L. Robinson and Oscar A. Barrera, Senior Systems Analyst I of the LAFD to acquire the necessary equipment through the city of Los Angeles Budget to be able to transmit fire mapping information directly to a Command Center without landing. Cost estimates range in the \$750,000 to \$1 Million range.

4) The Roscomare Valley Association has requested that the road which some believe is badly in need of repaving be moved to a priority position on Council District 5's repaving list. Sharon Howard, BABCNC manager, to provide other requests received by BABCNC. The motion is that the BABCNC supports the RVA in its efforts to have the road repaved ASAP.

5) The President of the BABCNC wishes to make the following motion: The BABCNC thanks the Mayor of Los Angeles for his efforts to provide state funding for the HOV project on the 405 Northbound between the 5 and the 101.

STEVE TWINING, Chairman
President, BABCNC

IMPORTANT MOTIONS PROPOSED BY CITY COUNCIL THAT WILL AFFECT OUR HILLSIDES & CANYONS

Over the past year, several important motions have been introduced by various members of the Los Angeles City Council that directly affect our hillside and canyons.

The following are some of the most important:

1. Ridgeline Ordinance- CF# 06-0399 - intro- 3

DUES NOTICE FOR 2007

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR THE YEAR 2007 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150.00, ARE DUE JANUARY 1, 2007.

You may bring a check to the March meeting, or mail it to:

**The Hillside Federation
Fritz Zeiser, Treasurer
2841 Roscomare Rd.,
Los Angeles, CA 90077**

Each Association has been called to find the correct person to receive the invoice.

the establishment of new medical marijuana dispensaries, citywide. The ICO will remain in effect for one year, with a maximum of 2 six-month extensions.

DATE and Time: Thursday, March 22, 2007, after 8:30 am

LOCATION: Van Nuys City Hall
14410 Sylvan St
Council Chamber 2nd Floor
Van Nuys CA 91401

Your President's take on the issue:

I personally believe marijuana should be regulated just as any other drug is --- that is, prescribed by a doctor, sold through a regulated store, and available on regulated demand. The problem is (perhaps because of conflicting Federal, State, and City rules), unlicensed stores are proliferating throughout the city. In my neighborhood, there are 4 such unregulated stores in a 1-mile stretch of Ventura Blvd.

I would hope that sensible regulation of these sales could make the drug available throughout the city to those who would benefit without putting the onus of availability on any one community.

POLLY WARD, President

VALLEY VOTE - FEBRUARY MEETING

You Vote For Bond After Bond and What Do You Get?

Another Day Older and Deeper in Debt

Had the San Fernando Valley's Cityhood Campaign succeeded back in 2002, Dr. Keith Richman would have become Mayor. The Valley's loss was the

FEDERATION'S WEBSITE UP AND RUNNING

The Federation's new website is
www.hillsidecanyon.org

Please take a look at it, and if there's something else you'd like to see on it, or if you want to send in an article to the Newsletter, we'd love to hear from you. Call Steve Twining at (310) 472-6091 to give your suggestions.

NEWSLETTER

Editor/Publisher **MARILYN STEFANO**

HEY! Is anyone reading this beside Claire Carafello & Alan Fine? What's happening? 'Sup? What's going on in your neighborhoods? I feel like the mother whose children don't call anymore - isn't anyone interested in spreading the word about great (or awful) news in their neighborhoods? We want a Newsletter that keeps us informed about what's happening (let's have some fun stuff, too). Please PLEASE send us stuff. Articles might be subject to some editing for grammar or syntax, if needed - NOT for content.

For APRIL send by MARCH 24th

Fax a hard copy 2 weeks before the next meeting to

**818-706-2922; OR email at
marijoe90210@sbcglobal.net**

California Assembly's gain, since Richman returned to Sacramento where he worked until last year. But as his tenure came to a close what alarmed Richman was the mounting debt and unfunded liabilities the state was accruing for retiree pensions and health care.

In addition to County and City liabilities, on the state level, California annually pays \$3 billion for pensions and \$6 billion for retiree health care - equal to the amount we spend on higher education. California has a total of \$250 to 300 billion in unfunded liabilities to pass on to its children. This comes at a time when the state requires \$150 billion in infrastructure improvements.

Now freed from elective office, Richman has established the California Foundation for Fiscal Responsibility to devise solutions to the looming pension and health care crisis. "I have no confidence the legislature will address these issues because it's controlled by public employee unions. The only way it will happen is through the initiative process.

Richman explained that he had tried while in the Assembly to divide LA's 720,000 student school district into smaller districts with no more than 50,000 students, but that his proposal was rebuffed by legislators afraid of confronting the powerful teachers' union. Richman said he and other legislators offered to establish an interim commission that would have allowed Mayor Villaraigosa to control the schools temporarily. "Our one condition was that there would

FOUNDED IN 1952

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE FEDERATION**

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Cahuenga Pass
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Hollywood Heights
Hollywoodland
Holmby Hills
Homeowners of Encino
Kagel Canyon
La Tuna Canyon
Laurel Canyon
Lookout Mountain Alliance
Los Feliz Improvement
Mt. Olympus
Montecito Heights
Mount Washington
Nichols Canyon
No.Beverly Dr/Franklin
Outpost
Pacific Palisades
Residents of Beverly Glen
Roscomare Valley
Shadow Hills
Sherman Oaks
Studio City
Tarzana
Torreyson-Flynn
Upper Mandeville
Whitley Heights

CHAIRMEN EMERITUS

Jerome C. Daniel
Patricia Bell Hearst
Gordon Murley

**CHAIRMAN IN
MEMORIUM**

Brian Moore

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Thank you all for the beautiful cymbidium plant delivered to my house the night of the February Board Meeting by Patricia Bell Hearst and Fritz Zeiser. The plant is on my dining table where it will stay until the weather permits transfer outside. Thank you - I will take good care of it. I hope to be back at the March meeting - I am walking without crutches or cane now, and even driving a car!

So back to the world - and it is a busy world.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

Just a brief note. The city Council's Education and Neighborhoods Committee and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners are scheduled to discuss what is known as the "delinking" plan. This radical plan proposes to abolish the existing NC system and amend the City Charter to turn NCs into nonprofit organizations which would get their \$50,000 and special privileges from the city through grants. These privileges are Community Impact Statements printed on agendas, participation in the city's budget process, inclusion in the Early Notification system, free office space, etc.

TRANSPORTATION

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa says "Take action! Make your voice heard." If you are tired of sitting in traffic ... If you are tired of waiting for traffic relief you are paying for....then let Sacramento know about it.

I am asking you to call or email the State Transportation Commission directly. You can reach the commission directly by phone at 916-654-4245 or by email at California_Transportation_Commission@dot.gov."

The mission of the Hillside Federation shall be:

To protect the property and the quality of life of 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.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, MARCH 7, 2007 - 8pm

OSULA

Corner 3921 Laurel Canyon
& Maxwellton
Studio City

AGENDA

- * Introduction of Members and Guests
- * Minutes of February Meetings
- * Results of March Election
 - School Board Elections
 - Charter Amendments L and M
- * Present Status of Stephen Wise School
- * Review of status of By-Laws & Code of Conduct
 - Where should we go from here?
- * Preservation of Legal Funds
- * Reports - President
 - Chairman
 - Vice Presidents
 - Treasurer

Villaraigosa says that LA commuters lose more than 2 work weeks per year sitting in traffic. We are working hard to reduce congestion on our roads and highways - but we still need more investment to open our clogged roads and freeways. Last year LA voted for a \$20 billion transportation bond billed to reduce traffic congestion. But under current recommendations, LA commuters would get the short end of the stick, receiving less than 12% of the funding currently available.. And the proposal denies funding for the northbound carpool lane on the 405. LA COMMUTERS NEED TO BE HEARD IN SACRAMENTO."

MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES

The City Planning Commission invites your testimony or written comments at the City Planning Commission public hearing regarding a proposed interim control Ordinance (ICO) temporarily prohibiting