

SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Safe Transportation & Traffic (STAT) Committee
Special Monthly Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, January 28, 2025 6:00 pm
Los Angeles Public Library community room
7771 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL - 6:08PM

Welcome by STAT Chairperson Pat Kramer. Pat handed out a brochure designed by Karen von Gunten, whom she thanked. Quorum was achieved with four STAT committee members:

Present:

Pat Kramer, chair

Jon von Gunten, co-chair

George Arakel, member

Natalie Cruz, member

Mary Ellen Hussung, public

Toni, Theo and baby girl.

Pat announced that Bill Andrews has withdrawn from STAT for health reasons.

2. Chair's update by Pat:

- Mt. Gleason to 210 stretch: Residents adopted 32 trees out of 148 present.
- Last August, a crew from Urban Forestry removed many agriperms coverings to complete the trees that needed it in Sunland along Sunland Blvd. to the intersection of Foothill Blvd. (by Ralphs). In some cases at least, they buried the agriperms into the well they removed it from. Perhaps to maintain an even "grade" with sidewalk to avoid tripping hazard.
- Pat made contact with the owner of Great Caesar's Banquet Hall regarding two trees that were butchered in front of his business on Foothill Boulevard. The owner has become extremely uncooperative and claimed he had the "right" to "do whatever he wants to the trees in front of his business," although he also denied chopping them down.
- Thanks to City of LA regulation, getting STAT any funding, even pizza for an event, etc., is a painful, multi-step process that also requires long notice to get it through the Budget Committee, then the Board.
- We are planning a mulching event in February at NVCH.
- Theodore Payne Native Plants Foundation has many February classes on native plant care including irrigation.
- Ross Herman approved \$350 for the purchase of lids for buckets that our STAT committee can use.
- Pat shared an article that revealed that traffic accidents have risen by 80% in last several years.

3. Motion to approve minutes from 26 November 2024 meeting.

Pat summarized the minutes and mentioned that 14 people watered 41 trees in 1.5 hrs. Jon moved to approve/George seconded. The motion carried.

4. Should we partner with Code Enforcement on chopped-up trees?

Pat asked whether having a contact at Code Enforcement could bring us faster results when trees are chopped down. Jon liked this idea. George was ambivalent as he doesn't want confrontations. Mary Ellen said Urban Forestry probably won't agree to help with this although Ross reported good results with Urban Forestry.

(Gerardo Miranda, Adrian Sanchez, supervisor). Ross will send Adrian's email to Pat along with several more names.

5. LAPD Traffic Stats: LAPD Officer Venegas: None due to wildfire patrols.

6. Updates from CD7, LADOT, CA High Speed Rail: None.

7. Tree Adoptions: See Chair's introductory remarks above.

8. Public Comments

Mary Ellen Hussung was concerned about the new Starbucks adding 500 cars/day. She said it was at a blind curve. An earlier DEIR/EIR has already cited Canyon Hills as overloaded.

- Pat says she gets only raw stats for traffic accidents, not names and locations.

9. Committee Reports: What programs should we promote?

George says that traffic and speed limit signs "aren't enough," because people ignore them. In Glendale, there are mid-block warning signs to "Slow Down." Says we should do the same. He will investigate that situation, and send his photos to Pat.

Natalie suggests giving tree adopters a T-shirt that brags on their work.

Ross wants a flyer to help recruit for Neighborhood Watch+Coffee + Cop. But Joselito's back room is usually full.

JON to contact Code Enforcement. Ross will send me their info so I can pursue and get into contact with Code Enforcement. What's the relationship?

10. Next Meeting: February 18, 2025

11. Adjourn at 7:18 p.m.

Minutes by Jon von Gunten