



# Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

*Certified May 27, 2003*

*P.O. Box 635 • Tujunga, CA 91043-0635 • 818-951-7411 • Website: stnc.org*

January 10, 2024

**DRAFT FOR STNC BOARD APPROVAL**

To: LAPD Chief Moore and Mayor Karen Bass:

Our S-T neighborhood has experienced a higher percentage of pedestrian, motor vehicle and motorcycle fatalities in recent months and years (we have been tracking this for at least eight years and have seen the deaths growing by leaps and bounds).

We have twice presented motions to our Councilperson Monica Rodriguez to allocate \$100,000+ for another LAPD Motorcycle Traffic Officer but have not received any support. We also met with California State Senator Anthony Portantino, who contacted our Councilperson and offered to allocate monies from the state budget, but his request was rebuffed as the Councilperson did not believe there was a need.

Our community's Number One concern is that our local traffic has gotten very dangerous with widespread lawlessness taking over due to a lack of consequences. Our Safe Traffic and Transportation Committee is overseeing these stakeholder concerns and has been asked numerous times to take some action to make our streets safer.

To that end, we are presenting the following proposal: "That our community be sent the police that we need and are requesting, which would include at least one more full-time Traffic Officer. We propose this be done by the City, LAPD and the Mayor's Office agreeing to reallocate these police resources from Council Districts 1 - Eunisses Hernandez and Council District 13 - Hugo Soto Martinez, whose councilmembers campaigned and promised to have less of a police presence and were elected by their stakeholders on that promise.

By reallocating LAPD officers to our Sunland-Tujunga area to provide a steady police presence, you would be satisfying the campaign promises made by the council members in those two districts, as well as Mayor Karen Bass who promised that communities that want more police would get them. And in doing so, you would be satisfying the needs and requests of our Foothill community, which is the furthest distance away from Foothill District LAPD police headquarters and thus, requires the longest response to any traffic-related or crime-related issue that we have.

In the last 30-days, several pharmacies have been broken into and looted. In addition, Penas Tacos and Joselito's, two popular restaurants, also were broken into and no suspects were arrested. These small businesses make up the heart of our community as we do not have any "Big Box" chain restaurants and we rely on them for our local needs. Clearly, crime is on the rise and we don't feel we have adequate resources from LAPD because of early retirements, reallocation of police resources and a loss of officers across the entire department in recent years.

In summation, we respectfully request that at least one extra patrol officer and an additional full-time traffic officer be allocated permanently to the Sunland-Tujunga/Shadow Hills area of the Foothill District of LAPD.

Sincerely,

Pat Kramer, Chair of the Safe Traffic & Transportation Committee of STNC

Jon von Gunten, Co-Chair of the Safe Traffic & Transportation Committee of STNC



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Lydia Grant, President of the Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council

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