

Safe Transportation & Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 6:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL - Welcome - STAT Chairperson Pat Kramer

Quorum achieved with three committee members.

Pat Kramer, Chair

Jon von Gunten, Cochair, notes

George Arakel, Member

Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council Secretary

Natalie Cruz, stakeholder and future committee member

Lionel Mares visitor from East San Fernando Valley

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of STAT Meeting April 2024

At the last tree event there were 20 volunteers. We improved 45 trees by weeding, watering and mulching. Pat and others 25 more the next day with Glen Klatte and Alexandra Squiers. Lots of mulch still available at NVCH.

Jon moves, George seconds. The motion to approve the minutes carried unanimously.

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Lionel Mares announced Marqueece Harris-Dawson of CD8 as next President of LA City Council:

<https://laist.com/brief/news/politics/los-angeles-city-council-president-marqueece-harris-dawson-paul-krekorian-vote-politics> Cindy will forward this news.

Cindy announced that STNC's Movie in the Park will be on 22 June, *Toy Story*. Then Fourth of July Parade organized by Rotary Club.

Lionel shared dangers to Metro transportation drivers and riders, and suggested we host a meeting. Now riders must "tap out" with their card to use Metro.

4. CHAIR REPORT: Code of Conduct requirements, Review of Tree Care events, May 4th & May 19. Review of recent events with Taco Stand and Report on Tree Trimming.

Jon had not finished DONE's Gender Equity training as it won't run on Firefox, or anything that's not Chrome. (Jon has since finished all required training.)

Pat, Glen Klatte and Squiers completed trees from Mt. Gleason to Oro Vista.

Next Saturday, several on this Committee completed more trees. Pat did more in the afternoon. More trees still need help, especially since hot days are coming.

There is an issue with a TACO STANDS tossing their used grease on a live tree on Foothill Blvd. in front of Vons where they set up every night. Leny, Pat and George observed the stench of the used oil coming up from the tree's roots and sitting around the base of the tree. A customer reported seeing the taco stand employees throwing the grease on the tree well.

Jon gave a report to LA County on the offending taco stand, including its name, address and Pat's photos. Then he spoke on the meeting that KT Travers and Leny convened on the larger issue of unlicensed food stands and potential dangers to public. Pat, Leny and others also reported it to L.A. County authorities.

5. Update on Traffic Town Hall with Cheryl Schmidt, Public Safety Chair

Cheryl could not attend. But Pat reported that our LAPD allies could not agree to the proposed date for a Traffic Safety Town Hall due to assignments to protect visiting dignitaries. There was discussion around the purpose and need for a Traffic Town Hall. This issue was tabled for the time being.

6. Updates : CD7, LAPD, LADOT.

Pat shared LAPD Officer Sal Venegas' most recent report: Violence down, S-T is among the very lowest in City of LA. And Traffic is among the safest. Officers concentrating on top 10 intersections in the area.

We heard examples of false reports from people who phrase their police reports carelessly, often out of an abundance of emotion.

Traffic signal at Mt Gleason/Foothill needs a left turn phase.

7. Committee Member Reports: Jon: Neighborhood Watch Report

Jon to publish reports of latest Taco with a Cop meeting at Joselito's, third Tuesday of the month at 10:30.

8. Addition of Any Prospective STAT Committee Members

Natalie is interested in joining the STAT committee with Toni as her alternate.

George will observe Foothill & Tujunga Canyon Blvd. near his home as west to east signal phase is too short, so drivers are in danger.

Need ideas for the Traffic Town Hall. Send to Cheryl and Lallah.

Jon suggests a sign-holding event up and down Foothill or Tujunga Canyon Blvd., both directions, probably on a Saturday morning. George says TCB needs more speed limit signs.

9. Public Comment

None.

10. Set next date for STAT: June 25, 2024

11. Adjourned at 7:07 p.m.