

Safe Transportation & Traffic Committee
Special Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 24, 6:00 pm

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

Chairperson Pat Kramer called the meeting to order at 6:01PM. Quorum was achieved with 4 committee members: Pat Kramer, Chair; Jon von Gunten, Co-chair; Natalie Cruz, & George Arakel.

Also attending:

Cindy Cleghorn, STNC VP

Ricardo Flores, CD7

2. Motion to approve minutes from January 2025 meeting.

Jon moved to accept minutes as written. Natalie seconded. Unanimous approval.

3. Chairperson's Message: Update on last tree event, securing supplies, efforts to grow our STAT committee, any other updates

Pat stated that ten volunteers mulched 35 trees during our February event in about 90 minutes. This included some trees at City property, NVCH. The Crescenta Valley Group of the Sierra Club funded \$100.00 for refreshments.

Pat asked Ricardo Flores for watering capability for our next event in April.

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council board approved our funding request for three events: \$80 each. Ross bought lids for mulch and water buckets that Pat has.

4. LAPD Traffic Stats - recent fatalities/accidents.

LAPD Traffic Officer Sal Venegas sent us the following stats: February to March 9, there were 3 fatalities:

Foothill/Scoville, 7 Feb, pedestrian not in crosswalk,

Foothill/McVine 18 Feb., 60-yo driver had med emergency, hit many vehicles, killed his passenger.

There was a traffic fatality in front of Descanso Spa on Foothill. An Audi rammed a trailer truck, slid under it, killing car's driver. Due to final positions, speed was apparently a factor.

S-T had 4 traffic collisions during last 4-week reporting time.

- At the Bubble-Up Carwash, someone driving a white van crashed into a Corvette.

5. Updates from CD7, LADOT, CA High Speed Rail

Ricardo Flores of CD7:

- CD7 said he was arranging grants for people who lost jobs due to fires.
- A completely new intersection design is in process, but many regulations involved, including ADA compliance. He has meeting in 2 weeks to unstick barriers.
- Oro Vista program is going forward. It will drain and salvage rainwater runoff, and include native plants. Yet, Oro Vista is only a 2-lane road with no current sidewalks, so it won't be simple.
- As City has a billion-dollar deficit, things are hard. City is proposing thousands of layoffs, cutting costs and shrinking departments.
- Ricardo did an experiment to see who would report a bulky item that needed pickup. No one did after two weeks. A new MyLA311 system is being introduced, based on AI. All will need to download it this Friday; old one goes down Saturday.

- For your own residence, only 2 bulky pickups are free per year. For public locations, it is unlimited.
- Someone asked whether our councilwoman is in favor of dumping toxic sediment into Seven Hills? Air, soil, groundwater? LA City has a committee for "equitable distribution of fire-related debris" Council File: 25-0006-S56.
- Ricardo is requesting County to continue testing. Ricardo spoke to all who called. Asked Department Sanitation to go in. County says City must repair its own roads. He is very well aware of public sentiment.
- Jon, who lives near the dump site, says odor is erratic and unpredictable. He asked that they publish a bullet list of what they've done.
- Cindy Cleghorn asked about Oro Vista intersection. It's getting a left-turn pocket.

6. Tree Adoptions

- 8 trees have been adopted, but an adopter of 5 returned them all due to health. Pat has postcards on the topic. We should all push tree adoption and use Pat's STNC email address.

7. Public Comments

DONE calls STNC's election a SELECTION because it's in person at Elks Lodge, not online.

Candidates' application deadline is one week from tonight. Elections are 17 May. City's white paper on budget shows huge shortfall

George says at Tujunga Canyon Blvd. and Foothill Bl. an extra light is needed for left turns south onto Tujunga Canyon Blvd. to control westbound on Foothill.

Natalie left at 7:17pm

8. Committee Reports: None.

9. Next Meeting: April 22, 2025

10. Adjourn by 7:00 p.m.

Minutes by Jon von Gunten