

THE VALLEY VILLAGER

VALLEY VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



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P.O. BOX 4916, VALLEY VILLAGE, CA 91617

Upturn in Valley Village Construction

With the economy gradually recovering, there has been a resumption of development activity in Valley Village. Recent projects that have been reviewed by Neighborhood Council Valley Village are:

5237-5253 Ben Avenue This is a small lot subdivision consisting of four parcels between Weddington Street and Magnolia Boulevard on the west side of Ben. Sixteen single family units with enclosed garages are proposed along two community driveways with a height of three stories and 33 feet. The zoning for the project site is RD1.5, a low-medium density that is less than the typical density for apartments. The buildings will have a stark modernist style that is not consistent with the design guidelines manual recently issued by the Vision Committee of the Neighborhood Council (NCVV).

4725 Morella Avenue This is a former nine lot subdivision. Due to neighborhood protests it has been scaled back to be a lot split which creates a second single family home lot. In reviewing the lot split, the NCVV focused on adding conditions to prevent any further subdivision of the property and maintaining the existing front setback, constructing a wall on the west side of the property, replanting trees that were removed, and installing a speed bump on Morella Avenue.

Starbucks - Southwest corner of Laurel Canyon Boulevard and Burbank Boulevard. A second Starbucks is proposed for Valley Village to meet additional demand beyond that handled by an existing Starbucks at Laurel Canyon and Riverside Drive. It is to be a drive-through restaurant with extensively landscaped parking spaces. This project is an improvement over the previous project proposed for that corner, a Jiffy Lube. Starbucks is applying for an exception to the Valley Village Specific Plan that prohibits drive-through restaurants. It is unlikely the Los Angeles Planning Department will recommend approval of an exception.

The Neighborhood Council asked that Starbucks contribute to the cost of installing a landscaped median in Laurel Canyon to prevent left turns from the Laurel Canyon entrance, but Starbucks was not agreeable due to the additional cost involved.

Oakwood School This is a long term project to modernize and expand the campus of Oakwood School at 11600 Magnolia Boulevard. The school is almost 50 years old. The existing buildings are homey, "shabby chic." The character of the proposed new buildings is to be non-institutional. The buildings are to have brick on the first story and a steel and glass façade on the second story. Future plans are for a three story performing arts center with 350 seats, as well as a library/technology building on the northeast corner of Lemp Avenue and Magnolia Boulevard.

Not all of these proposals meet the Valley Village Specific Plan conditions. The 60 foot and 45 foot buildings will violate the Specific Plan. In order for the expansion project to be approved, it will need amendments to the existing conditional use permit for the school and an exception to the Specific Plan for increased height.

Manny's Beat

Information from Valley Village
Senior Lead Officer
Manny Arreygue

Friends,

First off, I want to thank all of you for your continued support with our effort to combat crime in our area. Unfortunately, as of October 3rd, we currently have an increase of 3.6 % in overall crime compared to last year during the same period. Surprisingly, car break-ins are not our current problem. There is a rise in car thefts! The vehicles of choice for thieves are Hondas, Toyotas and motorcycles. Please take preventative measures by parking in well- lit areas, and try to park your vehicles in driveways or garages. Doing this, will assist us in reducing this type of crime.

Even though we have a reduction in car break-ins, please continue to remove all valuables from your vehicles! Last year during this same period, we had a drastic spike in this type of crime. The increase caused us to end the year in the plus column. As always, I look forward to continuing a strong partnership and friendship with my community as we work to make Valley Village a safe place to live, work, and play!

Thank you, and take care!

*Senior Lead Officer,
Manny Arreygue*

Neighbors Working Together To Improve The Quality Of Life

New Commander at No Ho Police Station

Captain Stephen Carmona assumed command of North Hollywood Area Station on June 16, 2013. He is a 31-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department. After graduating as a Police Officer in 1982, he held assignments at Foothill, Communications Division, Rampart, Van Nuys, Hollywood Patrol and Hollywood Vice. Captain Carmona worked as a patrol sergeant at Foothill, and as the Officer in Charge (OIC) of the Foothill Gang Enforcement Detail and the Foothill CLEAR unit. He also worked as a Pacific Division beach supervisor and as the OIC of the Pacific Special Problems Unit. Captain Carmona earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Management and graduated from the Los Angeles Police Department's West Point Leadership Program. He graduated from the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute and recently completed the Enhanced Emergency Management Unified Command Course, Texas Engineering Extension Course. Captain Carmona played a key role in the openings of two of the newest Police Stations. Valley Village residents look forward to a warm and productive relationship with Captain Carmona.

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A Letter from the President

Aging and the end of life are a uniquely difficult time for the elderly and their families. Many issues tend to arise, including decisions about medical care, formal and informal caregiving, social activities, transitions in living arrangements among the community, assisted living, nursing homes, financial impacts, and whether to use advance directives and living wills. Many are unknowledgeable or confused as to what safety nets are available. We hope to be able to answer and clarify some of these problems or give guidance as to where the answers can be found. You are invited to attend an event called "Community Support for Active Seniors". The event is sponsored by our City Councilmember Paul Krekorian and our State Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian and the Valley Village Homeowners Association.

It will be on Wednesday, November 7, 2013 at 7:00pm. Through the generosity of the Oakwood School it will be held at their North Campus, St. David's Church, 11605 Magolia Boulevard. Parking is available in the lot on the North Campus and in the lot at Lemp Avenue and Magnolia.

We hope this event helps you learn about healthy aging and opportunities to live life to the fullest. The humanitarian Daisaku Ikeda said, "the problems of aging present an opportunity to rethink our social and personal lives in order to ensure the dignity and welfare of each individual."

We are all part of an aging society. What we make of it depends on what opportunities we take advantage of to make our lives longer and healthier. Please join us.

Alan Brody, President - Valley Village Homeowners Association



www.Facebook.com/ValleyVillageHA

4th of July Parade

It was another gala celebration in Valley Village. More than 2000 participants enjoyed a Red, White and Blue Independence Day with two marching bands, vintage cars, creative floats, and a happy crowd of walkers, bike riders and skaters.

VVHA, as always, organized and provided free corn dogs, cupcakes, watermelon and cold water. Certificates were awarded to float entries. Best in Parade went to the depiction of Mount Rushmore mounted on golf carts put together by the Merlan, Convey & Hardman families and friends. Raffle winners were: Stewart & Jennifer Bailey, Bill & Carol Sindelar, and The Lisbe Family. Congratulations!

Light Up Valley Village

The third annual Light Up Valley Village celebration this year promises to be bigger and better than ever. It is co-sponsored by the Valley Village Homeowners Association and the Neighborhood Council Valley Village with enthusiastic participation of the merchants along Laurel Canyon Boulevard from Magnolia to Chandler and along Magnolia to Whitsett. They will be hosting open house from 5PM to 7PM on Saturday, December 7th. Sidewalk displays, merchant coupons, entertainment and refreshments are all part of the event along with a holiday visit from Santa. Laurel and Magnolia will be awash in lights and decorated with banners that will set the festive mood from mid November to mid January. Be sure to mark your calendars and bring family and friends. Join in the fun in support of our local merchants and neighbors.

Valley Village Projects Filed At The Planning Dept

- 12517 Chandler:* The addition of sports related uses to an existing private high school.
- 12106 Burbank:* Construction of 18 foot high 605 square foot, one story drive-through restaurant with 739 square foot patio for outdoor eating and an 11.5 foot high 147 square foot storage facility.
- 5237 Ben:* Request for Tract Map change.
- 5432 Hermitage:* The construction of five multiple family dwelling units on the site.
- 4725 Morella:* Subdivision of one lot into two lots developed with two existing single family residences to remain.

City Trunk Line South Unit 4 Project

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) earlier this month began another phase of its trunk line replacement project in Valley Village as they continue upgrading the city's water pipeline system.

The City Trunk Line Unit 4 aims to install a new 54-inch water pipeline in Valley Village by March 2014, replacing a deteriorating pipe built in 1914. A work zone on Magnolia Boulevard, west of Goodland Avenue to west of Beeman Avenue, has been set up.

Traffic lanes on Magnolia Boulevard, between Coldwater Canyon Avenue and Whitsett Avenue, will be restriped with at least one traffic lane open for use in each direction on the boulevard. Work days and hours are Monday through Friday, 7am to 4pm.

The new trunk lines aim to improve capacity, reliability and flexibility in the water system. For more information about the DWP's trunk line replacement project, visit www.ladwp.com.

Working on the Bylaws

On a quiet street in Valley Village, sitting behind stacks of old bylaws, corrections that have been carried from previous Boards and new directives from the current Board, the Bylaws Committee, Bob Belz and Ellen Wilhelm, are under the spotlight. They've had to enlist the assistance of Breice Reiner, Peter Sanchez, Steve Ajalet and Stuart Simen. It's a tedious task with a looming deadline. Will they be able to do it? Look for their mailing in December. Now, back to work!

New DWP Contract Saves Money

Mayor Eric Garcetti, Council President Herb Wesson and our Councilmember Paul Krekorian have secured a labor agreement by which ratepayers will gain savings of more than \$400 million over the next four years.

Councilmember Krekorian, said "At the same time, we ensured that the Council and the Mayor will retain authority to continue implementing much needed and overdue reforms at the DWP."

A 2% cost-of-living raise scheduled for Oct. 1 will be postponed until 2016 under the agreement, saving the city \$385 million over four years. Changes to the pension tier for new employees are expected to save the DWP \$41 million over the next four years. The contract also allows the City Council and the mayor to weigh in on future changes to the pension tier.

Councilmember Krekorian, who recently led a joint committee hearing with Councilmember Felipe Fuentes to consider the proposed agreement, said, "the contract represents a step in the right direction on the road to DWP reform."

"This contract certainly is not the end of our continuing efforts to reform the DWP, but it is a very important step in the right direction that achieves significant savings for ratepayers," Councilmember Krekorian said. "In the months and years ahead, I look forward to working with my colleagues and the Mayor as we continue to change the culture of the DWP and institute better practices and oversight to ensure that the people's utility will serve the best interests of the people."

Homeowners Association Meeting

Wednesday, October 16, 2013 - 7:00pm

Colfax School Auditorium

11724 Addison Street

Valley Village, CA 91607

Valley Village's City Councilmember Paul Krekorian

Paul Krekorian was raised in the San Fernando Valley. He attended Cleveland High School in Reseda, graduated from USC and went on to law school at UC Berkeley's Boalt hall. For twenty years Paul had a successful law practice in business litigation and intellectual property. He served as President of the Burbank Board of Education. In 2006, Paul was elected to the California State Assembly. In 2009, he was elected to Los Angeles City Council District Two, where he serves today. Paul lives in Studio City with his wife Tamar and their three children.

Also at the meeting: Senior Lead Officer Manny Arreygue. He will give an update on Neighborhood Watch, crime and Police activities.

Light Refreshments will be served

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