**STAT – SAFE TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC**

**COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, November 28, 2023, 6:00 pm**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 6:00 p.m. by Chairperson Pat Kramer. **Roll Call:** Welcome. Quorum reached with board members present: Pat Kramer, Jon von Gunten, co-chair, Leny Freeman, member and George Arakel, member. Also attending:

Cindy Cleghorn, STNC board secretary, Justin Grams, stakeholder, Charles Peyton, from Shadow Hills, and an unknown person whose identity could not be validated after two requests to unmute.

1. **CHAIRPERSON’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Pat summarized the traffic stats from 2023 with 22 traffic fatalities this year in the Valley Division. Guests suggested mitigating measures. Pat will request funding of $150 from STNC for tree care expenses plus another $150 later for our year-end volunteer appreciation get together. California High Speed Rail's will apparently pursue their "preferred route," but it's still vague and unconfirmed. HSR's route will take people's homes by eminent domain. Its construction will necessarily affect air quality, which they hope to ameliorate by spraying water on dirt road routes. That is a time-tested measure, but we're now in drought conditions. Potluck gathering date and time is TBD at Jon and Karen's house for tree care volunteers.
2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of STAT Meeting** **October 2023:**  (Freeman/Arakel) moved to approve. The minutes were approved unanimously. Pat summarized the minutes of the last in-person meeting on October 24 at the S-T Library. Longtime member Barbara (Babz) Rowe, now resigned, is in a board and care on Estepa. She called Pat, sounds well, hoping to stay in touch.
3. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

Guest Charles Peyton ([charlescpeyton@hotmail.com](mailto:charlescpeyton@hotmail.com)) lives in Shadow Hills by McBroom and said there are three blind curves near his home at 10165 McBroom. Previous signage has been vandalized and he fears this can lead to accidents when buses pick up his daughter who has MS. Pat advised that he lives outside our NC district and suggested he contact Foothills Trails District NC.

1. **Updates From CD7, LAPD, LADOT**: Pat received an email from Ricardo Flores at CD7 saying that work is underway on a pedestrian-activated hybrid crossing beacon at Wyngate and Foothill near S-T LAFD Station 74 to enable safe exit of emergency vehicles. There is also a new speed display sign at Foothill/McCrea.

Cindy asked if the City removed left turn signal at Valmont. Pat will relay this question to Ricardo. The Oro Vista/Foothill left hand turn signal is still out for bid. Pat learned of a weekend fatality on Big Tujunga Canyon Rd. It's in County of LA, not LAPD territory. Montrose Search and Rescue said it was fatality of motorcycle driver. It was a "still alarm," an incidental discovery of an accident, not based on a phone call. It's Altadena CHP station. Apparently, another fatality occurred Saturday involving a pedestrian crossing Foothill. Info to be determined.

1. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE MOTION:**

Justin Grams, a S-T stakeholder presented a plan to reallocate traffic safety officers from CD1 (Eunisses Hernández) and CD13 (Hugo Soto-Martínez) districts to CD7. Councilmembers in both districts campaigned and were elected based on promises of reducing police presence in their CDs. Mayor Bass agreed, per an article Gram sent Pat. All STAT committee comments were favorable toward writing a letter asking Mayor Bass and LAPD Police Chief Moore for their thoughts on moving forward with this measure.

* Jon liked it, but doubted any city person will actually move. He suggested we tune into LA Police Commission meetings on Tuesdays.
* Leny suggested getting endorsements from C-PAB, Foothill Div. and others.
* Pat will work with Justin on a letter to promote STNC's vote to move forward.

1. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS’ REPORTS:**

* Leny says Slow-Down signs were not put up due to high winds and no way to erect them. Where to put them? Large streets like Ellenbogen are best. Better to have people wave signs rather than post them static.
* George left a message with CD7 for Elmhurst signage.
* Jon put Traffic Officer Venegas' email [35917@lapd.online](mailto:35917@lapd.online) into the Chat section for Charles Peyton to contact.

**8. ADDITION OF ANY PROSPECTIVE STAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** None

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Pat asked who was available for the next tree care day. So far, 72 trees have been rescued!

10. **MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:21 p.m.

Minutes by Jon von Gunten and Pat Kramer