CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

Draft

Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Special General Board Meeting
Minutes

Wednesday, November 16, 2026, 7:00 pm

Virtual

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE JANUARY 1, 2026 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 707 (DURAZO) AND LA CITY COUNCIL FILE 23-1114, THE SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.

This meeting was rescheduled to Monday, Nov. 16, 2026 at 7PM due to original date being on Veteran's Day.

1. **CALL TO ORDER -** Lydia Grant, President - Call to Order & Roll Call, Confirm Quorum & Voting Eligibility. Lydia called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. Comments by Lydia below.

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	President
VACANT	N/A	N/a	1st VP
Melissa Sagastume	Present	Yes	2nd VP
Carol Hutchinson	Present	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec
Leny Freeman	Present (until 8pm)	Yes	Region 1 Rep
VACANT			Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep.

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Mikal McEnany	Absent	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Dillon Dorothy	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep.
Vicky Cerpa	Absent	No	Region 4 Rep.
Dante Jose Calvo	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Mark Seigel	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Ross Herman	Absent	NO	Region 4 Rep
Cheryl Schmidt	Present	Yes	Public Safety Rep
Nina Royal	Present	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Present	UNK	Community Interest Rep
Vickie Nailing	Present	No	Education
Members of the Community (MC) with information as identified.			
MCs not identified; about 10 MCs present (not including speakers and invited guests).			
	14 present/3 absent		

- Changing Executive meeting to Tuesday night (two weeks before General Board meeting), to be able to get vote approvals for MERs at the General Board meeting.
- STNC Community Survey Reminder. Melissa encouraged people to take the survey. Dante provided the link for the surveys in CHAT: https://forms.gle/nfqcJ9HwMgDevc45A
- Lydia explained that taking the Planning 101 Training allowed General Board members to vote on land-use issues that the LUC did not address. Karen sent out link for training.
- Voting eligibility. Only Ross had to sign Code of Conduct as Lydia understood current training.
- Lydia commented about an item not on the agenda stating that while she would state it, no discussion was allowed until it was officially on the agenda (next month). Inside information is that DWP rates are going to rise greatly; a system is being set up to

eliminate natural gas and force homes and businesses to go to electric only. The expenditure could be up to $100B to redo infrastructure. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Lead by Leny.
3. **Discussion / Action to fill board vacancies** for First Vice President, Region 1, Region 2. Lydia may have (2) interested candidates.
4. Motion to Approve Outstanding **Minutes for October 14, 2026.** Cindy made the motion to approve, Mark seconded, there was no discussion, and a vote was taken which passed.

Item 4 Approve General Board October 14, 2026 Minutes **Motion: Cleghorn Second**: **Seigel**					
Yes	**No**	**Abstain**	**Ineligible**	**Recuse**	**Absent**
Grant, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Drorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Nailing ***12 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent, 18 total***		Keshish			McEnany, Cerpa, Seigel, Herman, Royal

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION: **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Current fiscal year balance; remaining financial obligations.
   a) Approve September 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report. Melissa made the motion to approve, Cindy seconded. Cindy showed the packet, there was no discussion, and a vote was taken which passed.

Item 5a Approve September 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report **Motion: Sagastume Second**: **Cleghorn**					
Yes	**No**	**Abstain**	**Ineligible**	**Recuse**	**Absent**
Grant, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Drorothy, von Gunten, Seigel, Calvo, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish ***14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal

   b) Approve $500 Quarterly Refreshments. Motion changed to change motion to approve $500 to the Beautification Committee for refreshments for the clean up crew. Cindy made the motion to

approve, Melissa seconded, there was no discussion other than amending the motion, and a vote was taken which passed.

Item 5b Approve $500 to the Beautification Committee for refreshments for the clean-up crew. **Motion: Cleghorn Second: Sagastume**					
Yes	**No**	**Abstain**	**Ineligible**	**Recuse**	**Absent**
Grant, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, Drorothy, von Gunten, Seigel, Calvo, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish ***13 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent, 18 total***	Freeman				McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal

c) Approve $125 Selections Postcards. Cindy made the motion to approve, Carol seconded. Cindy explained that this is for the Selection process. There was no discussion, and a vote was taken which passed.

Item 5c Approve $125 for Selections Postcards. **Motion: Cleghorn Second: Hutchinson**					
Yes	**No**	**Abstain**	**Ineligible**	**Recuse**	**Absent**
Grant, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, Drorothy, von Gunten, Seigel, Calvo, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish, Freeman ***14 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal

6. **DISCUSSION//Updates/Q&A:***)* LAPD, LAFD, Elected Officials/Representatives: Mayor, CD7, State Assembly, LAUSD, DONE, NC Budget Advocates, City Departments, Budget Advocates

- **Officer Caloca, LAPD SLO.** Ofcr Caloca provided a general status on crime. There was a homicide that took place outside the Hillhaven family housing area; details not able to be provided at this time. Also break-ins. Caloca advised calling Dispatch (911, 311 and per Jon in CHAT - 877-ASK-LAPD) - and not her - because she might not be available. Caloca noted complaints about a big rig parking on Foothill, continuing challenges with electric bikes with kids. Caloca noted that there was the potential for parents to be charged if their child is grossly irresponsible. The focus is on educating people at this time. Leny suggested preparing a video or

instructions for citizens that would be helpful in reporting crimes – what to observe, remember, report, etc. Caloca also discussed the challenges in the Hillhaven family housing area. Lydia asked about the status of past arsonists; Caloca will follow up on it with Lydia.

- **Officer Gody, LAPD SLO.** Ofcr Godoy discussed an issue about a person on Fenwick & Foothill. Godoy said that officers may contact Housing Authorities for people, but they are not allowed to get personal information about anyone from the Housing authorities. Sunland Park is always a challenge. Lydia said that she noticed that a restaurant was putting up a sign for Valet parking right in the middle of the bike lane. She informed the manager that this was illegal and could harm someone on a bike riding in the lane and removed the Valet sign. Gody will talk to the manager also. Lydia brought up the fact that STNC has an Emergency Preparedness Committee that might be helpful in egress, etc. Gody will be on vacation for the next 2 weeks.
- **Kelly Gomez Board Member L.A. Unified School District**. Gomez provided a status of the 2026/2027 school status, noting improvements in test scores over the last year (LA Unified test results). There is a decline in enrollment (serving 300,000 fewer students than in past years) due to birth rate declines, immigration decline and ICE concerns, and people moving out of the area because of the cost of living. Gomez, in CHAT, answered a question about the phone number for immigration resources; it is lausd.org/weareone and the LAUSD Family Hotline is (213) 443-1300. Lydia discussed past problems with emergency egress of students which were relocated to other schools but had to drive through the area(s) of concern to get there. Lydia would like to pursue evacuation to a Glendale school. Gomez said that egress is limited to schools within L.A. – we don't have a Memo of Understanding (MOU) with surrounding school districts. Gomez said she could follow up on this (MOU). Lydia noted several issues with a past evacuation, saying it was a disaster. Parents were not allowed to take their children when they went to the school, and they should have that right; teachers were not allowed back in the community to get their cars and go home; principals didn't make announcements they were evacuating other than emails. We need to work together to ensure improvements are made in the future. Cheryl asked about how things could improve from decisions during Covid if a similar situation existed (mandatory vaccines, etc.) Jon asked about why ACT and SAT scores were being discontinued. Lydia felt that LAUSD should be more charter-school friendly, recognizing it would be additional impact on L.A. finances. Kelly noted in CHAT: her contact info is kelly.gonez@lausd.net. Maria Gomez provided her contact info also in CHAT: m.d.flores@lausd.net The LAUSD website is https://superintendent.lausd.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=4387916&type=d&pREC_ID=2774155&tota11y=true
- **Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) with EmpowerLA**. Galdamez discussed up-coming events and Funding training deadlines. The Funding training expires in 2 years. If there are any training issues, reach out to him. Galdamez noted that Selections info was discussed previously. There is a new Council File Management System. Cindy said that there was a youtube on using it that was well done. Lydia suggested that DONE send out info on the Council File Management System and how to use it. There was a discussion about removing a Board member who has never completed training and has missed many meetings. Lydia noted that the violations were clearly written in our By Laws; Galdamez felt that more protocols needed to be followed before a member is removed. DONE had reached out to the member to see if they could assist in training, and STNC Board members have also. After additional discussion, it was agreed that item #8, to remove the member, could go forward.

7. **General Public Comment** up to two minutes per person non-agenda items. None.

8. Discussion/Action regarding removal of Vickie Cerpa from the Board due to failure to complete required training. Removal of Vickie Cerpa was discussed with Jose Galdamez (see above). There was no additional discussion. The motion was made by Melissa and seconded by Cheryl, a vote was taken which passed.

Item 8. Approve removal of Vickie Cerpa from the Board due to failure to complete required training **Motion: Sagastume Second: Schmidt**					
Yes	**No**	**Abstain**	**Ineligible**	**Recuse**	**Absent**
Grant, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, Drorothy, von Gunten, Seigel, Calvo, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish, ***13 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal, Freeman

9. Motion to combine the STAT and Emergency Preparedness & Public Safety Committees. Jon made the motion and Cindy seconded it. Cheryl and Melissa expressed enthusiasm for the merger of the committees. A vote was taken which passed.

Item 9. Approve combining the STAT and Emergency Preparedness & Public Safety Committees **Motion: VonGunten Second: Cleghorn**					
Yes	**No**	**Abstain**	**Ineligible**	**Recuse**	**Absent**
Grant, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish, ***11 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal, Seigel, Freeman, Drorothy,

10. Discussion/Possible Action to reaffirm members of STNC Committees: Outreach, Beautification and Emergency Preparedness & Public Safety Committees. Melissa will send emails asking members what committees they serve on and we will continue this at the next meeting. ***POSTPONED.***
11. Discussion/Possible Action regarding 7134 W. High Cliff - ZA-2026-2538-CU1-ADJ-HCA- New 2 Story SFD with attached garage in R1-1 hillside zone. CONDITIONAL USE ADJUSTMENT AREA HEIGHT YARD AND BLDG LINE ADJMNTS HOUSING CRISIS ACT. ***Cindy requested this item be POSTPONED.***

12. Discussion/Possible Action to approve not having the December 9 STNC Board meeting. The motion was made by Cindy and seconded by Jon. Cindy noted that there is a lot going on and having a meeting would be difficult, but that it would be good to have an informal meeting to discuss up-coming events and plans. Melissa agreed. Cheryl offered her house but Lydia said that wouldn't be possible because the general public would need to be invited unless it was just a party and no business was discussed. Lydia noted it could also be in January.

Item 12. Approve not having the December 9 STNC Board meeting **Motion: Cleghorn Second: VonGunten**					
Yes	**No**	**Abstain**	**Ineligible**	**Recuse**	**Absent**
Grant, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, von Gunten, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish, Seigel ***11 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal, Freeman, Drorothy, Calvo

13. Discussion/Action: To approve the STNC Selection Committee Stipulation Form. A motion was made by Cindy and seconded by Melissa. Cindy went through draft on-line. A date of May 22nd was decided on for the Selections with comments from Jon, Lydia, Cindy, Sherry and Karen, and added to the form. A vote was taken to approve the form which passed.

Item 13. Approve the STNC Selection Committee Stipulation Form **Motion: Cleghorn Second: Sagastume**					
Yes	**No**	**Abstain**	**Ineligible**	**Recuse**	**Absent**
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, von Gunten, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish, Seigel, Calvo ***11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal, Freeman, Drorothy, Hutchinson

14. Discussion/Action: Support Community Impact Statement (CIS) CF16-1468-S6 for ICO: Prohibit building permit issuance for detached ADUs exceeding 1200 sq. ft. threshold. A motion was made by Lydia and seconded by Melissa. Lydia noted this has been discussed in previous meetings, where there are 3,800 sq ft ADUs going up that could potentially house many adults with a need for 30 parking spots - and there are NO requirements for parking. The example Lydia was aware of had a projected income for the ADUs that were being put up (5 bedroom units) that would be $65K a

month. Lydia said that the City could put a ban on this while the State re-addresses the issue. A vote was taken which passed.

Item 14. Approve supporting Community Impact Statement (CIS) CF16-1468-S6 for ICO: Prohibit building permit issuance for detached ADUs exceeding 1200 sq. ft. threshold. **Motion: Grant** **Second**: **Sagastume**					
Yes	**No**	**Abstain**	**Ineligible**	**Recuse**	**Absent**
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, von Gunten, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish, Seigel, Calvo ***11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal, Freeman, Drorothy, Hutchinson

15. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Community Impact Statements (CIS), Council Files, and Letters.** *Cindy read through all the items voted on below. There was little to no discussion before votes were taken. Items a and f were already voted on during the last meeting.*

    a. Discussion and possible action to approve CIS regarding CF25-0848 / AB747 City Compliance Status Existing Evacuation Plans/Improve Evacuation Route Infrastructure. Council File: 25-0848 / AB 747. ***THIS ITEM WAS VOTED ON DURING THE OCTOBER 2026 MEETING. NOT DISCUSSED AGAIN.***

    Position: SUPPORT WITH RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS

    The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC) supports Council File 25-0848 and efforts to implement AB 747 to strengthen emergency evacuation planning, wildfire preparedness, and community resilience throughout Los Angeles. Sunland-Tujunga includes hillside neighborhoods, wildfire-prone areas, and constrained roadways where evacuation capacity and emergency access are critical public safety concerns.

    STNC urges the City Council to:

    - Complete and publicly report evacuation capacity assessments, including identification of roadway bottlenecks, vulnerable populations, and cumulative development impacts.
    - Integrate evacuation safety into land-use decisions, particularly for projects in high fire hazard areas or along constrained evacuation corridors.
    - Prioritize and actively pursue State and federal grant funding for evacuation infrastructure, emergency access improvements, and community resilience, with greater interdepartmental coordination to avoid missed funding opportunities.

- Provide transparent progress reports identifying funding applications, awards, implementation timelines, and outstanding evacuation planning needs.

The September 11, 2026 City Administrative Officer report demonstrates both the availability of potential funding and the importance of improved coordination and timely grant applications.

Public safety must remain a priority in land-use planning and infrastructure investment. STNC urges the City Council to move beyond informational reports toward measurable implementation of AB 747, with clear accountability and meaningful community involvement.

STNC supports Council File 25-0848 with these recommended amendments.

b. Discussion and possible action to approve a CIS regarding Council File 16-1468-S5, Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) / Proposed Ordinance / Maximum Size Limitation. ***This item was voted on in Item 14.***

RE: Council File 16-1468-S5Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) / Proposed Ordinance / Maximum Size Limitation

Position: SUPPORT

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council supports efforts to establish reasonable maximum size limitations for attached Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) while maintaining compliance with California housing laws and preserving neighborhood compatibility.

We recognize the importance of ADUs in expanding housing opportunities throughout Los Angeles. However, ADU development should remain consistent with the scale and character of existing residential neighborhoods and should not result in disproportionately large structures that undermine the intent of accessory housing.

We support consideration of the proposed limitation that attached ADUs not exceed 50 percent of the existing primary dwelling's floor area, with an overall maximum of 1,200 square feet, to the extent permitted by state law.

We also support the City Council's direction to the Department of City Planning to:

- Evaluate the impacts of SB 9 and SB 1211 on attached ADU development.
- Identify legally permissible local regulations that protect neighborhood compatibility.
- Examine the use of breezeways and other attachment configurations that may circumvent intended development standards.
- Ensure that proposed regulations are clear, enforceable, and consistent with state housing requirements.

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council urges the City to adopt a balanced approach that supports additional housing while preventing oversized attached ADUs, protecting existing residential neighborhoods, and ensuring fair and consistent application of development standards.

We respectfully request that the City Council consider these concerns as the proposed ordinance moves forward.

c. Discussion and possible action to approve a CIS regarding CF25-1083-S2 - Streamline Development Projects / Accelerate Project Approvals / Incorporate the City's Missing Middle LA Work Program / Technical Amendments.

Council File: 25-1083-S2Position: Against

Re: Streamline Development Projects / Accelerate Project Approvals / Missing Middle LA Work Program / Technical Amendments

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council opposes this motion as currently proposed and urges the City Council to return to the drawing board.

While we recognize the need to improve the development approval process, streamlining must not come at the expense of transparency, public oversight, or meaningful community participation.

There must be more public participation in land-use decisions, not less. Residents and Neighborhood Councils deserve early notification, adequate time to review proposals, and meaningful opportunities to provide input before decisions are made.

Efficiency and community engagement are not mutually exclusive. We urge the City to reconsider this motion and develop a revised approach that protects public participation, ensures accountability, and respects the voices of the communities most directly affected.

The public must have a seat at the table, not be streamlined out of the process.

A motion was made by Lydia and seconded by Cindy, a vote was taken which passed without further discussion.

Item 15c. Approve CIS regarding CF25-1083-S2 - Streamline Development Projects / Accelerate Project Approvals / Incorporate the City's Missing Middle LA Work Program / Technical Amendments

Motion: Grant **Second**: **Cleghorn**

Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, von Gunten, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish, Seigel, Calvo ***11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal, Freeman, Drorothy, Hutchinson

d. Discussion and possible action to approve a CIS regarding Council File 26-1238 - Ad Hoc Committee on Charter Review / Amendments / Governing Provisions / Deadlines and Procedures / Public-Facing Matrix / Solicit Testimony

CF-26-1238Position: SUPPORT

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council supports the establishment of an independent, Citywide Inspector General to strengthen transparency, accountability, and public trust in Los Angeles City government.

Currently, the City lacks a centralized, independent oversight office with broad authority to investigate misconduct involving City departments and senior officials. When departments are responsible for investigating complaints about their own management or practices, legitimate concerns arise regarding impartiality and accountability.

This issue is particularly important to communities such as Sunland-Tujunga, where residents depend on fair and transparent enforcement of building, safety, land use, and other municipal regulations.

The City has previously explored independent oversight through Council File 23-0188 and the Charter Reform Commission's Inspector General proposal (CRC 26). These efforts deserve renewed consideration.

We urge the City Council to pursue a Charter amendment establishing an independent Citywide Inspector General with authority to:

- Investigate complaints involving City departments and officials.
- Obtain records, compel cooperation, and exercise appropriate subpoena authority.
- Protect residents, complainants, and whistleblowers from retaliation.
- Publicly report findings and recommend corrective actions.
- Refer suspected criminal misconduct to appropriate authorities.

An independent Inspector General would complement existing oversight agencies while addressing gaps in accountability.

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council urges the City Council to advance this proposal and ensure that Los Angeles residents have access to meaningful, independent oversight of their City government.

A motion was made by Cindy, seconded by Melissa. There was no further discussion. A vote was taken which passed.

Item 15d. Approve CIS regarding Council File 26-1238 - Ad Hoc Committee on Charter Review / Amendments / Governing Provisions / Deadlines and Procedures / Public-Facing Matrix / Solicit Testimony.

Motion: Cleghorn **Second**: **Sagastume**

Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, von Gunten, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish, Seigel, Calvo ***11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal, Freeman, Drorothy, Hutchinson

e. Discussion and possible action regarding Council File 26-1199, Whistleblower and Anti-Retaliation policies and procedures, reporting misconduct, and anonymity protections.

File: 26-1199Subject: Whistleblower and Anti-Retaliation / Policies and Procedures / Reporting Misconduct / Anonymity Protections

Position: SUPPORT

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC) supports Council File 26-1199 and efforts to strengthen whistleblower protections, anti-retaliation policies, and confidential reporting procedures throughout Los Angeles City government.

City employees must be able to report fraud, waste, abuse, corruption, and misconduct without fear of retaliation or professional consequences. Effective policies must ensure clear reporting procedures, independent investigations, meaningful confidentiality and anonymity protections where legally permissible, and accountability for those who engage in retaliation.

Protecting whistleblowers is essential to safeguarding taxpayer funds, promoting government transparency, and maintaining public trust.

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council urges the City Council to ensure these protections are enforceable, consistently implemented, and regularly reviewed to promote accountability and integrity in City government.

Cindy read the information. A motion was made by Cindy, seconded by Lydia. Jon noted the very real need for this to be passed. A vote was taken which passed.

Item 15e. Approve Council File 26-1199, Whistleblower and Anti-Retaliation policies and procedures, reporting misconduct, and anonymity protections.

Motion: Cleghorn Second: Grant

Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, von Gunten, Schmidt, Nailing, Keshish, Seigel, Calvo ***11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent, 18 total***					McEnany, Cerpa, Herman, Royal, Freeman, Drorothy, Hutchinson

f. Discussion and possible action regarding Council File 26-1330, Measure FD implementation and the LAFD Expansion Plan and recommendations. ***THIS ITEM WAS VOTED ON DURING THE OCTOBER 2026 MEETING. NOT DISCUSSED AGAIN.***

Council File: 26-1330Title: Measure FD Implementation / LAFD Expansion Plan / Recommendations Proposed

Position: FOR IF AMENDED

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council supports the development of a comprehensive LAFD

Implementation and Expansion Plan, contingent upon voter approval of Measure FD on November 3, 2026. However, planning must translate into meaningful investments in firefighters, emergency personnel, facilities, and equipment.

Sunland-Tujunga and surrounding foothill communities face significant wildfire exposure, challenging terrain, and increasing emergency service demands. Our fire stations must be adequately staffed, properly equipped, maintained, and modernized to meet today's emergencies and prepare for tomorrow's challenges.

We recognize the long-overdue need for Sylmar Fire Station 31 and support its consideration among priority capital projects. At the same time, existing fire stations, including Sunland-Tujunga's Stations 24 and must receive the staffing, equipment, and improvements necessary to protect our communities.

We urge the City Council to incorporate the following priorities into CF 26-1330:

- Staffing, Training, and Retention: Prioritize hiring and retaining highly qualified firefighters, paramedics, dispatchers, and essential support personnel. Provide ongoing professional training, competitive recruitment, career development, and adequate staffing levels to maintain reliable emergency response and wildfire readiness.
- Invest in Our Future Firefighters: Expand youth outreach, Fire Cadet and Explorer opportunities, school partnerships, mentorships, and career pathways that encourage young people from our communities to consider careers in firefighting and emergency medical services.
- Strengthen Foothill Fire Protection: Prioritize improvements to existing stations, apparatus replacement, wildfire response capabilities, and completion of needed facilities based on documented community risks and operational needs.
- Leverage Available Funding: Coordinate Measure FD revenues with federal, State, and other funding opportunities to maximize investments in personnel, training, equipment, and infrastructure.
- Ensure Accountability: Establish measurable staffing and training goals, response-time improvements, implementation timelines, and transparent public reporting. Ensure Measure FD revenues supplement rather than replace existing LAFD funding.

Our greatest public safety investment is in the people who protect us. We must recruit, train, support, and retain exceptional emergency personnel while inspiring the next generation to serve.

Emergency preparedness cannot wait until the next wildfire. Our communities deserve dependable staffing, modern facilities, and the resources necessary to respond effectively when every second counts.

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council respectfully requests that these priorities be incorporated into CF 26-1330 and the proposed LAFD Implementation and Expansion Plan.

16. Discussion/Possible Action: Soil dumping at Zachau Cyn update. ***POSTPONED*** (Lydia needs to work with Diana to reschedule a visit)
17. ANNOUNCEMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STNC COMMITTEES: Comments primarily from Cindy on the following. Brief overview.
    a. Land Use - Canyon Hills, VHGC, McGroarty Hearing
    b. Beautification - Community Cleanups. Clean-ups and tree watering will now be under the Beautification Committee with the dissolution of the STAT committee. See item 8B.
    c. Outreach – Tree Lighting @ Sunland Park Dec. 4; Chili Bowl Dec. 5-6; Hanukkah in the Foothills Dec. 10. Melissa – volunteers are needed for these events; Melissa will send out an email asking for help from Board Members.
    d. Planning 101 Link: Board Members: https://lacity.csod.com/ui/lms-learning-details/app/course/b67e8a97-9b7e-4768-8db7-32671f d9c82f - Everyone: https://planning.lacity.gov/planning-101-series. Cindy noted this is a one time class and that there is a youtube video that is helpful to watch also.
18. Next meeting will be January 13th (the second Wednesday of January).
19. Adjourn. 9:10pm.