Safe Traffic & Transportation Committee
Meeting Oct. 27, 2026

1.Call to Order by Chairperson Pat Kramer at 6:02 PM

2.Roll Call/Quorum achieved with 3 committee members:

- Pat Kramer, chair
- Jon von Gunten, cochair
- George Arakel, member

Plus Cindy Cleghorn, STNC Corresponding Secretary

3.Chairperson's Message: Where STAT committee stands
Pat stated that the committee needs a chairperson and committee members to continue as she will be resigning in December. Jerry Jaskol said on Facebook he'd like to join.
Jon said he would continue as cochair if someone else is chairperson.
Pat will transition to the Beautification Committee in January 2027 and continue running the tree care events. Pat hopes the infrastructure she has set up for the STAT committee will continue. Her goal is to expand the volunteer base with community groups.

4.Tree Watering Oct. 31, 2026- Beautification & Volunteers from schools
Probably will need to cancel based on the weather forecast, moving it to following Saturday. Pat got Starbucks to commit to coffee and talked with Lydia re freezable snacks for volunteers. There will be a mulching event behind CD7 in the future.

5.Last chance ideas for traffic plans
No specific traffic plans were suggested by the committee as there is not enough time to request funding through Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council and LA City's three-step process.

6.Approval of the June and Sept. 20 26 STAT Minutes.
June
Pat reviewed the June 2026 meeting minutes.
Jon moved to approve, George seconded, the motion carried.
September:
Pat reviewed the September 2026 meeting minutes.
Jon moved to approve; George seconded, the motion carried.

7.LAPD, LADOT,CD7 Ricardo Flores updates.
Jon shared updates from LAPD Traffic Officer Sal Venegas.

8.Committee Reports: George spoke about his efforts with the Armenian business owners to ask them to water trees. He said a new restaurant on Foothill, Lavash Barbecue, is offering to help. Management of S-T Market, a grocery store, wants to trim a tree, but George has told him he needs a permit as it's City property.

Mihran Kalaydjian sent Pat full info on legalities and restrictions for trimming City's trees on Foothill. We can use that written info as THE definitive info on the topic.

9. Public Comments – Non-agenda items.
a. Neighborhood Watch Updates: Jon stated,
The last Neighborhood Watch meeting covered LAPD's Communications Division., Jon's full report coming out shortly.
He related how a fraudulent $800K home sale by squatters was squelched a few days before escrow closed. The fortuitous cancelation began with a tip from a local resident, which was followed up by a patrol car's visit. The patrol's report brought the matter to the attention of LAPD who pursued it to a successful conclusion.
Pat's neighbor is very worried about home robberies and Pat will ask for a Neighborhood Watch meeting in that friend's garage.
A friend of George's got robbed and none of the neighbors noticed even though it was during the day. The burglars are reported to be young, athletic masked, gloved males dressed in black, they hop fences and run away faster than can be caught. Often at night, or from adjacent vacant homes. They break in by smashing windows. They sit in their cars on streets, watching homes. Residents need to be on alert for people loitering in cars!

10. Final Comments: Pat will request certificates of appreciation for present and past STAT committee members. There was a discussion about where and when to get together in December for this purpose and to socialize. Joselitos was suggested as well as Jon and Karen’s home and Pat’s backyard.

Pat Kramer, George Arakel, Jon von Gunten, Leny Freeman, Natalie Cruz/Toni & Theo), Mark Dutton, Ross Herman, Dante Calvo, Cheryl Schmidt, Gerald Sherman, Glenn Klatte, John Yard, Cindy Cleghorn. (13)

10. Meeting Adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Minutes by Jon von Gunten