

## **STAT MEETING OF 22 February 2022**

1. **Meeting called to order** by Chairperson Pat Kramer on Zoom at 6:07PM. Present were: Pat Kramer, chair; Jon von Gunten, co-chair; Gerry Sherman, Leny Freeman, and Roger Swart. Quorum achieved with five members. (Absent: Barbara Rowe and George Arakel.) Also attending were Kenny Hodges Kenny is a reporter at Foothill Telegram: [Kennethodges@foothilltelegram.com](mailto:Kennethodges@foothilltelegram.com) for 4 months, covering mostly local sports but pitches in to cover NCs.

**2. Chairperson update:** Pat read an email from Eve Sinclair, Deputy for CD7 Councilwoman Monica Rodríguez, on Operation Bright Spot including the following: "Foothill Blvd is a Vision Zero Priority Corridor, which gets us more funding. City has put in two more crosswalks and two traffic lights. CD7 held a "Traffic Safety popup meeting" that excluded this committee. Coming are more speed feedback signs and beacon at our LAFD #74 for the public's, firefighter, and equipment safety."

**3. Approval of Minutes for January STAT Meeting:** (Roger/Gerry) moved to approve the January 2022 STAT Committee meeting minutes. Pat read the minutes as written. Roger asked that the minutes include his 8 years on C-PAB. The motion carried unanimously.

**4. Letter of Support for Officer Contreras:** The STAT committee unanimously agreed to support a letter asking for LAPD Officer Contreras to be reinstated as our Senior Lead Officer after being reassigned for an unknown reason.

### **5. Public Comment:**

Cindy Cleghorn, STNC board member spoke about two vacant board seats. Leny Freeman spoke about a recent STNC board vote where some of the board members have consistently voted against hiring more police, honoring police for brave acts, or helping our Traffic Safety Officer Joel Flores by taking another shift in our area. Leny pointed out that if someone has a person problem, they should recuse themselves from the vote. Board members should vote for community good, not personal agenda, involvement.

**6. Should We Print More Slowdown Signs?** Pat introduced Item #6 which former STAT member Levon Parian asked for involving recreating, printing and distributing our previous "Slow Down, No Speeding" signs. Although we have had about 10 requests for more signs, we would have to print at least 50 and store them, distribute them, etc. At our last event, less than half the advance signups showed up. The remaining signs were handed out slowly, one by one. Jon/Gerry moved to table this motion. The motion carried.

## **7. Committee Reports:**

Gerry Sherman suggested we try to contact insurance agents to see if they would be willing to finance a billboard asking motorists to slow down. The discussion led to a move to table that motion until further info has been obtained. Gerry asked if we could ally with insurance cos, as they have a financial interest in vehicle safety. Can they donate to LAPD? Does Jerry want to do that? He'll talk to his agents. Is there an association of insurance companies? LAPD HAS held fundraising meetings. Can insurance companies pay for a billboard on Foothill? Jon suggested calling auto insurance agents to compare our rates with other rates. Roger said his AAA agent promised two weeks ago that she'd research it.

Pat reported the February 19th tree mulching event, which many STNC and STAT members attended and helped with, in conjunction with Sierra Club and TreePeople, was a great success. All told, 57 trees were cultivated, fertilized and mulched in under 3 hours. Participants were ten children, 30 adults from Altadena, Pasadena, Shadow Hills, Burbank and S-T. Mulch retains water so mulched trees are more likely to survive.

At that event, Ralph's manager interceded with the mall owner to allow us to use Ralph's lot, Lowes donated \$200 worth of mulch and Sierra Club, Crescenta Valley Group, contributed \$100.00.

Roger praised the Sierra Club write-up of our tree project that they placed on Facebook. Pat suggested another face-to-face get-together.

**8. Meeting Adjourned at 7:10 p.m.**

Minutes by Jon von Gunten