

**Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council  
State Traffic & Transportation Committee  
Minutes of 27 September 2022**

**1. Call to order:** 6:00 Pat Kramer called the meeting to order. Quorum was achieved with committee members: Pat Kramer, Chair; Jon von Gunten, Cochair; Barbara Rowe, Member; Roger Swart, Member; Leny Freeman, Member/Zoom Host; and Glenn Klatte, Member. George Arakel, Member, arrived at 6:10 p.m. Also present were: Karson Johnson, VHS Student; Gigi C. VHS Student; Luz Celeste Jiménez, VHS Student; and Jolee Innocent, VHS Student.

**2. Chairperson's Report:** Pat introduced the mission of the STAT committee and its goals. Then attendees introduced themselves. Pat reported that members of the STAT committee watered about 100 trees at our last Tree Care event in August. To date, our team has improved the fertilizer, mulch and hydration of 50 trees.

**3. Officials of the City of L.A. reports.** None.

- Pat shared that CD7 rep Mary MacAdam gave permission for a new pile of mulch to be dropped off at the park behind CD7 for our tree care events. Pat, Glenn and George retrieved 26 buckets of mulch which are being stored in Pat's yard for our future use.
- Jon von Gunten shared stats from September's LAPD/Neighborhood Watch event. Pat said she emailed Sunland SLO Figueroa about a neighbor who invites thieving transients to live on his property. This has increased crime in her neighborhood.
- Pat shared that La Crescenta Ave is scheduled to become one lane in each direction due to Glendale City Council approving narrowing the city to add bike lanes in both directions.
- Pat reported stats from LAPD Traffic Officer Joel Flores of 65 DUI arrests in Foothill Div. this month. Pat suggested asking CD7 for 100K for enhanced traffic enforcement, especially mentioning Rodríguez' support for \$100K for Blumenthal's CD3. Motion approved.
- Pat will call the T-shirt company to get information on ordering STAT T-shirts. All agree the polyester polo shirts are inappropriate. Pat will look into bright green moisture absorbing rayon blend T-shirts at \$16 each. Pat asked everyone for their preferred size.
- We discussed having new banners made for our easy-up events 12 - 15 inches deep. Leny said he would research costs, sizes.

**4. Update on Tree Care Event for October:** Pat has asked CD7 for funding for our October 29<sup>th</sup> Tree Care Day, tentatively scheduled for the Chamber of Commerce in Sunland, although Ralph's and DIY Center have offered their facilities and water. Ralph's spigot is at their entrance so it would require a hose strung to our area, which is a public tripping liability. Since Pat was leaving for a vacation on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, everyone agreed to promote the event in her absence. Pat will involve the Sierra Club on this event and pursue communications with Mary MacAdam.

**5. Tree adoption:** No news from Natalie who said she'd help get parents interested in tree watering projects. Two merchants said they'd continue watering trees in front of their shops. Efforts will continue to set up a tree adoption event of some sort.

**6. Billboard:** Gerry is no longer on the committee but he had suggested that we look into the costs of renting a billboard in S-T. Pat learned that a billboard might cost \$3500 for a highly-visible location.

Leny will research this further as there are several additional cost factors including: design, layout, production, and installation.

## **7. Public Comments:**

- Leny has been working on the Indigenous People's Day Event, which S-T Forward is producing with several tribal organizations on Oct 9, 12 – 3 p.m. at 12400 Big Tujunga Canyon Blvd. It is past the archery range. Entrance will be well signed that day.
- Pat says her severe illness after a Wash cleanup dissuades her from cleanups. She suggested anyone doing this wear masks and gloves when doing so.
- J.C. McKay, film student, is interested in doing a film project on our tree work. Pat is in touch with him.
- Pat displayed Leny's documentary video proving that AgroPerm is essentially impermeable. She will send Leny's video to McKay.
- Jon reported his communication with CD7's Mary MacAdam about the "BubbleGum" named and painted cannabis retailer on Foothill. It's within 600' of a preschool on Tujunga Canyon Blvd. whose owners object to it. Since that preschool is in a residential zone, the pot shop may have a loophole to continue building. Everyone is seeking a loophole to their loophole.
- Mark Dutton is running for LA County City College District seat against spendthrifts who want to buy more buildings before making sure that education is occurring. Jon encouraged every one to vote for him on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **8. Committee reports:**

George continues to try to get a stop sign for Elmhurst further up from Tujunga Canyon.

**9. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:12

Minutes by Jon von Gunten/Pat Kramer