



Building A Better Community

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Informal Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, May 28, 2014 7:00-9:00 p.m.
American Jewish University 15600 Mulholland Drive Bel Air, CA 90077**

THESE MINUTES REPRESENT AN INFORMAL MEETING OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF A QUORUM, AND, ACCORDINGLY, NONE OF THE MOTION ITEMS WERE VOTED UPON AND ALL ACTION MATTERS WILL BE HEARD AT THE MEETING SET FOR JUNE 25, 2014.

Present: 10

Quorum: None

2014 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
<i>Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association</i>		
<i>Irene Sandler</i>	X	
<i>Bel Air Ridge HOA</i>		
<i>Andre Stojka</i>	X	
<i>Benedict Canyon Association</i>		
<i>Michael Chasteen (Kerry Welland present; ineligible to vote)</i>		X
<i>Alan Fine</i>	X	
<i>Don Loze</i>	X	
<i>Nickie Miner</i>	X	
<i>Casiano Estates Association</i>		
<i>Gary Plotkin</i>	X	
<i>Faith-Based Organizations</i>		
<i>Lonnie Mayfield</i>		X
<i>K-6 Private Schools</i>		
<i>Vicki Kelly</i>		X
<i>K-5 Public Schools – Open Seat Pending</i>		
<i>7-12 Private Schools</i>		
<i>John Amato</i>		X
<i>Laurel Canyon Association</i>		
<i>Jamie Hall</i>	X	
<i>Cassandra Barrere</i>		X
<i>Monica Weil</i>		X
<i>Tony Tucci</i>		X

2013 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
Members-at-Large		
Larry Leisten (Excused absence)		X
Chuck Maginnis (Excused absence)		X
Residents of Beverly Glen		
Robert A. Ringler (Excused absence)		X
Roscomare Valley Association		
Robin Greenberg	X	
Michael Kemp	X	
Save Our Strip: Pending		
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy		
Travis Longcore, Ph.D.	X	
Total:	10	10

City Officials

From DONE:	Thomas Soong, Project Director:	Not Present
From CD5 Office:	Jeff Ebenstein, Field Deputy:	Not Present
	Noah Muhlstein, Planning Deputy:	Present
	Gurmet Khara, Council Deputy:	Not Present
	Shawn Bayliss, Director PLU:	Not Present
From CD4 Office:	Sharon Shapiro, Deputy:	Not Present

Present, who signed Guest List:

Mogjan Manavi
 Lauren Sand
 Bruce D. Kuyper
 Dan Love
 Patricia Hearst
 Maureen Krawczyk-Smith
 Mackenzie King
 Tracy Stone

Present, who signed Speaker Cards:

Jay Beeber, Non-agendized Issue: Spoke on LA Parking Freedom Initiative; asked to be agendized at next meeting
 Daniel Saparzadeh: For PLU Agenda Item 14(a)8: 11767 Bellagio; did not speak
 Lauren Sand: Spoke for Moratorium on Small Lot Subdivision
 Patricia Hearst: Spoke for Moratorium on Small Lot Subdivision
 Gita Amar: Spoke on streets needing repair
 Tracy Stone: Spoke on PLU Agenda Item 14(a)4: 1857 Benedict Canyon

Also Present

Officer Chris Ragsdale, Senior Lead Officer, WLA, who gave report
 Officer Mark Dondower, Reserve Officer, WLA, who accompanied Chris Ragsdale

Special Guest Speakers:

Eli Lipmen, Newest Commissioner on the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, from the West area & Palms Neighborhood Council President.
 Nazario Saucedo, Director, Bureau of Street Services

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS Call to Order

- 1. Call to Order:** Council President, Gary Plotkin, called the meeting to order at 7:27 p.m.
- 2. Roll** was called by Secretary, Robin Greenberg. 10 members were present and 10 absent; a quorum was not met; **therefore all motions were tabled until the June meeting.**
- 3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

4. Approval of April 23, 2014 Minutes of General Meeting – TABLED to June meeting
5. Approval of April 23, 2014 Minutes of Special Meeting – TABLED to June meeting
6. Approval of May 28, 2014 Agenda – TABLED to June meeting
7. Public Comments

– Non-agendized

Patricia Hearst: RE: RE:Code LA. Patricia reported that the Hillside Federation is against the City with regard to Plan Re:Code LA’s initial evaluation report. She encouraged attending a special meeting on June 6th at City Hall.

Jay Beeber: RE: “LA Parking Freedom Initiative.” Jay introduced himself as having been the 2nd VP of the Sherman Oaks NC. He requested that the Board agendize this item for our next meeting. He is working with the Mayor’s office to set up a working group that will probably begin in June, with the goal of changing the attitude in the City “from penalties to customer service” with regard to parking. Gary asked that he provide a summary and motion if any before the next meeting.

Gita Amar: RE: Beverly Glen street repairs. Gita introduced herself as a resident of Bel Air Ridge, a private citizen working on efforts to get the rest of Beverly Glen paved. She has sent wording of a resolution, via email, to Paul Koretz, Building & Safety and 50-60 individuals. She was told to contact Joan Pelico. Gary suggested that she and Andre come up with some salient points, and noted that we will have Paul Koretz at our July meeting. Jamie related that Kevin James, Director of Public Works, spoke to his group recently, and brought up the idea of a tax exclusively for funding street services. Jamie recommended being proactive in the next few months, that a vote for this tax will fix the streets.

- Agendized

Patricia Hearst: RE: PLU Agenda Item #14 (a) 7: Moratorium on Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance: Patricia pointed out that the guidelines are only “suggestions” and that it is up to the neighborhood councils and individuals to check these out with their Community Plans.

Lauren Sands: Agenda Item: 14 (a) 7 & 8: Lauren stated she strongly supports a Moratorium on the Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance & asked the Board to vote in favor of a moratorium at the next meeting. She would like there to be no motion #8 approving the Bellagio project.

Daniel Saparzadeh: RE: PLU Agenda Item #14 (a) 8 – 11767 Bellagio (small lot subdivision): Daniel came to support the project at however, left and did not speak.

Tracy Stone: RE: PLU Agenda Item #14 (a) 4: 1857 Benedict Canyon. Tracy spoke, on behalf of the applicant requesting an over-height fence to 6-8 feet on the property line. She stated that the fence is now 5’10” to 6” and they would like to increase it up to 8 feet. She discussed the subtle sloping of the lot which will result in a wall that will step and vary in height. They feel that a higher wall will increase the property value and those of the neighbors’ homes, if it is secure, private and protected. There will be a hearing on July 1st. Gary suggested that she speak with Michael, go to his next meeting and come back to the next meeting when this will be included in the PLU report, with a motion to approve or not.

8. (Agendas, brochures, & public service handouts available)

9. **President's Report – Gary Plotkin**

FAST TRACK – REPORTS: (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action)

- a. **Vacant Seats:** Public Schools K-5 Rep & Business Rep
- b. **White Paper Generated by the NC Budget Advocates dated April 7, 2014** – to review and vote to support the paper and its findings and file a CIS supporting the paper. See **Exhibit “B”**.

MOTION: BABCNC supports the findings and request for execution of those matters contained in the White Paper generated by the Budget Advocates dated April 7, 2014.
Tabled to June meeting

- c. **Farewell Event Honoring Retiring Supervisor, Zev Yaroslavsky – Gary Plotkin**
Gary related that Zev has been our CM and supervisor and has been extremely supportive to the community over the last 30 years. He would like to sponsor a celebration for Zev in September or October, and have the officers Co-chair. A straw vote was taken, none were opposed. He suggested coming up with a proposal to vote on at the next meeting, and will look for a site.
- d. Gary stated that he attended the Dedication of the I-405, with Mayor *Garcetti*, CM *Koretz & LaBonge* & others from Washington. Apologies were given for the problems this project caused the neighbors, and that it took 2-1/2 years longer than expected.
- e. Gary announced that our Bylaws Chair, *Larry Leisten*, is out sick today and the Bylaws package will be completed and reported on at the next meeting.

10. **Presentation by Special Guest Speaker, *Eli Lipmen***, newest Commissioner on the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, from West LA, and the Palms NC President:

- *Eli* noted that the NC system has been around for 14 years and there are 95 NCs. Board members brought up frustrations with DONE's funding process. *Eli* reported that *Grayce Liu* announced the imminent roll out of the new checking system, initially with about a dozen NCs. He recommended that we put our name on the list.
- Asked about the process of change, *Eli* said members of the Commission propose a policy, discuss it, the City Attorney writes it up, and if it passes it goes to the NC's Committee. Until it becomes an ordinance and City Council passes it, the change doesn't get made. He advised Board members to show up at City Council meetings.
- He mentioned that his NC Outreach Committee is looking for volunteers to create a template for good outreach practice and is looking for an alternate for the Westside. *Gary* complimented our *Robin Greenberg* as one of the best Outreach people. Thereafter, Robin Greenberg offered to join his NC Outreach Committee and her offer was accepted.
- *Eli* suggested that Councilmembers should attend Congresses and relate to the real people. He stated that while the NC system is young and has a lot to work out, there has been growing participation, evidenced by the 26% increase voter turnout and recent increase in candidates at the NC elections. He mentioned CM *O'Farrell*, who founded a NC, and Controller, *Ron Galperin*, who came from a NC.
- *Eli* emphasized the importance of submitting a Community Impact Statement (CIS) as a way of influencing City Council, beyond just making a motion, and expressing the opinions of the community.
- *Irene* asked how to address the need for improved participation by City Council representatives with the NCs, so that the neighbors can be heard at Board meetings and by the Councilmen. *Eli* reiterated the need to use community impact statements.

- *Eli* would like to see an improvement in the CIS format to allow Boards to say we are considering what we like and don't like, and would like to see certain items changed, rather than only making a definitive yes or no vote on an item.
- *Travis* expressed that 30-day comments for CEQA reviews exclude NC comment & the City needs to extend the commenting period on the environmental review to a time long enough to allow NCs to meet.
- *Eli* welcomed emails Commissionerlipmen@gmail.com Gary thanked him for coming.

11. Presentation by Special Guest Speaker, Nazario Saucedo, Director, Bureau of Street Services, (BSS) on street repairs in Bel Air Beverly Crest area
Tel: 311 or 800-996-CITY -- bss.lacity.org/request.htm
Mobile Apps: MyLA311 (IOS & Android) LABSS (Android only)
Twitter: [Twitter@BSSLosAngeles](https://twitter.com/BSSLosAngeles)
Facebook: facebook.com/BSSLosAngeles

- *Nazario* related that he has worked in civil service for 28 years with the City, and was involved with the team that designed the NCs, with Professor Cooper.
- *Nazario* stated that he is here to work with us, and **will make his staff available.** He described BSS as one of Public Works' services. It maintains & preserves infrastructure in LA.
- He discussed L.A.'s extensive streets and noted that resources have been reduced to balance the budget. There are now 12 out of previously 45 supervisors looking for problems in the streets, trees, etc., & a huge reduction in employees & pothole trucks. (They're employing "honorary employees" from NCs.) *Nazario* considers the streets of LA to be in "fair" condition.
- He encouraged everyone to **take notes & communicate w/ BSS on street & tree** concerns.
- **The 1st core service is Pavement Preservation.** He stated that L.A.'s is the largest Public Works program in the nation and maybe the world. He provided a list of streets that will be resurfaced or slurry sealed, and stated that he **can work with NCs to come up with a strategic plan to deal with the needed street repairs, 4-8-year, etc.**
- **The 2nd major service is Urban Forestry.** He stated that due to lack of funding, they were not trimming trees; however, this year there is increased funding & hopes for more trimming.
- **The 3rd program is Street Cleaning/Sweeping.** One-third of the streets get cleaned with restricted parking and tickets, & depending on debris, other roads are cleaned, less frequently. *Nickie* asked about frequency of sweeping & *Nazario* replied there is a 97% efficiency rate.
- **The 4th program is Enforcement** of illegal encroachments, needed to keep streets safe, particularly in this area, where there is always construction going on.
- **Mulholland Drive:** Gary brought up the need for striping on the newly coated section of Mulholland Dr., and for a lot of work that still has to be done, for health and safety reasons, in the BA-BC area. *Nazario* acknowledged the importance of striping and offered to remind DOT to expedite this. He noted Mulholland Drive's capital improvement projects are under the purview of "Engineering" which "requires millions." He said the canyon's roads built in the early 1900s wouldn't pass today's standards.
- **Beverly Glen:** *Gita Omar*, stakeholder, related that she is pleased with the repairs on upper Beverly Glen to Mulholland but wanted to know what is planned for the rest of Beverly Glen. *Nazario* related that the street was "resurfaced" and not "slurry sealed," as led by Paul Koretz, and that he is working with Joan Pelico to get the other section done, hopefully after July 1st if they get money from Measure "R" and/or gas tax. He is currently working on projects approved four years ago. Gary thanked *Nazario* for coming.

12. Secretary's Report – Robin Greenberg – No report

13. Treasurer Report & Funding Expenditure Requests – (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action) Alan Fine & Jamie Hall

a. Ad-Hoc Special Committee on Use of Financial Surplus Before End of Fiscal Year -

Jamie Hall, Chair, with Alan Fine, Treasurer

Alan related that he submitted to DONE a request for an increase in the P-Card limit, at the suggestion of *Betty*, whom he and *Cathy* met on May 15th. Only one demand warrant (prepared by Cassandra for red flags) met the requirements at that time. It later became clear that even when using a P-Card, invoices & artwork need to be submitted along with other paperwork. *Jamie* noted that he & the ad-hoc committee have to spend time to get these invoices & artwork by the June 13th deadline.

b. Software Administration Plan – Gary Plotkin TABLED to June meeting

MOTION: BABCNC approves the full Software Administration Plan with New Web Pricing Options, as set forth in the email of *Aaron DeVandry* dated May 20, 2014, including items 1-4, which stated:

(1) The Base Plan \$100/month: This is your basic plan, where I will host your website, handle software upgrades, be on-call if your website requires my expertise, and teach board members how to maintain the site themselves. I will also maintain your board emails, as well as your stakeholder email list. Also included with this plan is an annual re-design of your NC website. You will be able to do all maintenance of the website on your own, including uploading agendas and minutes.

You must have this basic plan to have any of the other options listed below.

(2) Website Content and Social Media Updates \$75/month: Add this to your basic plan, and I will continue to add relevant content to your website weekly. I will stay in contact with your local representatives and post content to the website that is appropriate to your NC, much like I currently do now. I will also continue to add informative and intriguing content to your social media (Facebook and Twitter). I counted separate 28 posts to one of my NC's Facebook pages in the past month, and other NCs have a similar rate of social media posts. So I believe the value is there.

(3) Calendar Updates \$75/month: This addition to your plan is for maintenance of your website calendar. Currently I use the Trumba Calendar web software, which is costly to me. This plan includes additions of events to your calendar (both community events and your NC events like board and committee meetings). It also includes the weekly calendar email that is sent early Saturday morning.

If you choose to not have this, I can provide another calendar, with no cost attached, that you can maintain on your own, though it does not have the functionality to email itself each week.

(4) Email Blasts - 1 free per month/each add'l \$20: I will send one email blast per month to your stakeholder list, inviting them to your monthly board meeting, and highlighting items of interest on the agenda. Additional email blasts will cost \$20/each. If you want, I can show your board members how to use the Mailchimp email system to send email blasts on their own.

These new rates will take effect July 1 with the new fiscal year.

c. Approve Treasurer's Report – Alan Fine

MOTION: BABCNC approves the current monthly expenditure & P-Card Statement.

TABLED to June meeting

14. Planning & Land Use Committee Report (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action)

a. Update on 05/13/14 PLU Meeting - Michael Kemp

All action items are TABLED to the June meeting

The BABCNC Planning and Land Use Committee, from their meeting of May 13, 2014, recommend to the BABCNC Board, the following actions:

(1) **Motion to congratulate and support** Councilman Koretz in his effort to have four (4) new positions to the LA City Planning Dept. (2 for BMO revisions & 2 for Historic Overlay Zones) added to the upcoming City Budget.

(2) **Motion to support** Councilman *Koretz's* motion 140518, to the City Council, for the investigation into, and creation of Wildlife Corridors, as they relate to new construction and development.

(3) 2166 & 2170 Stanley Hills Drive, ZA 2013-2084-ZAD, ZA 2013-2087-ZAD: (Three (3) new Single Family Homes). PLUC voted 6 – 0 at their May meeting to recommend to BABCNC that they oppose the project. **Motion** to oppose the project.

Jamie reported that a Hearing is set for June 12th and noted that they can write a letter stating that the PLU voted to recommend opposition though it could not be voted on this evening.

(4) 1857 Benedict Canyon, ZA-2014-0620: (Over in height wall in front yard): PLUC voted 5 for, 1 abstain; at May meeting to recommend to BABCNC that they oppose the project. Since the May meeting, the applicant has requested to the PLU Chair, some brief time at the BABCNC meeting to present the project to the Board, and consideration of the Board not to oppose the project. **Possible motion.**

(5) 1602 N. Clear View Drive, ZA-2013-3044-ZAA (Reduced side yard for new pool house): PLUC voted 6 – 0 at the May meeting to recommend to BABCNC that they oppose the project. **Motion to oppose** the project.

(6) 10040 Reevesbury Drive, ZA-2013-3981-ZAD (Conversion of storage building to dwelling unit): PLUC voted 6 – 0 at May meeting to recommend to BABCNC that they oppose the project. **Motion** to oppose project.

(7) **Moratorium on Small lot Subdivision Ordinance** – *Nickie Miner*

MOTION: That members of the Los Angeles City Council promptly enact a moratorium on the Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance until a complete staff report can be commissioned to review the merits of the 2004 ordinance and to see if current construction is meeting the intent of the original ordinance for in-fill density and affordable housing options. The process would include Town Hall meetings in the five geographical areas to hear input from Neighborhood Council officials & the public. In the report, the following needs to be addressed:

- Goals for in-fill density.
- Goals for affordable housing options utilizing the small lot subdivision ordinance.
- Study of the impact and the sustainability of these subdivisions on current and future.
- Resources in the affected communities.
- Development of an actual ordinance that defines small lot subdivisions, not just guidelines.
- Plans for outreach to the communities most impacted by small lot subdivisions.
- Creation of a small lot subdivision ordinance that meets the needs of Los Angeles and still retains the quality of life and character of neighborhoods and communities of Los Angeles.

(8) 11767 Bellagio Road, VTT-72465-SL (Small Lot Sub-Division) – Michael Kemp

- Update of project since last Board meeting. Motion continued from last month:

MOTION: BABCNC supports the developer's project at 11767 Bellagio Road, in accordance with Draft Plans and Design set forth in architect's email dated April 16, 2014, @ 6:11 pm addressed to Heather Bleemers, as per **Exhibit "A"** and 3 pdf files with images of site.

Additional documentation in this evening's packet regarding Agenda Items 14 (7) & (8) includes:

- **Exhibit C** Paper on Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance New Design Guidelines from WLANC
- **Exhibit D** Email between *Bruce Kuyper* & *Farhad Ashofteh* from April 2014 RE: Bellagio Road
- **Exhibit E** Paper by *Donald Loze* urging opposition to 11767 Bellagio Road from 04/22/14

b. **JMB Century City Proposed Project at 1950 Ave. of the Stars** *Michael Kemp* – Discussion tabled to June meeting

15. Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee (Update) – *Chuck Maginnis* (absent)

- Senior Lead Officer, *Chris Ragsdale*, WLA Community Police Station
- Senior Lead Officer, - *Ralph Sanchez*, Hollywood Community Police Station
- May 2014 EP Committee Meeting rescheduled to June 18, 2014 – *Chuck Maginnis* – No report

Senior Lead Officer, Chris Ragsdale, gave crime report update and answered questions:

- **Property Crime: Grand Theft of Autos:** Chris noted that there has been a slight increase in grand theft autos, usually Asian models, Hondas, Toyota's, Nissan's & Lexus, though others are also taken. He **advised using extra security efforts, e.g., club, tracking, etc.** In a recent case, surveillance footage on a building played a huge role and the car had a Lojack tracking device: The theft was reported in the morning and found in the early afternoon with suspects in it! He stated that overall we are doing very well.

- **Construction Burglaries:** Property crimes at this time largely involve construction materials that may be found north of Sunset. Thieves go so far as to blowtorch metal containers to get to materials, directly under peoples' noses. **Chris stated if you see something suspicious, call.**

- **Quality of Life issues: Trucks:** Chris stated they now have greater enforcement specializing in commercial vehicles. These officers can stop trucks without probable cause, to ensure that they're operating safely. He announced that this evening there would be a unit in the air tracking motorcycles up & down Sunset to identify & enforce violations.

- **Dan Love** asked about the huge construction projects & great numbers of truck trips daily. *Chris* stated he has people out there addressing these, and is working with Enforcement of haul routes, noise, and other issues, with Building & Safety and Council office. He adds "**it is best to work with bureaucracy.**" They are checking licenses, haul routes, and weights of commercial vehicles.

- **Don Loze** asked if there is coordination between the Police Department and Building & Safety, to limit these truck trips due to destruction of the roads, that results in a damage to people and property. *Chris*, responded that this needs to be considered in the planning process.

Marijuana Shops: *Michael Kemp* asked about marijuana shops, the new one in this area, to which *Chris* replied they are looking at this one; illegal ones will be shut down, and a letter will be sent.

Lauren Sand asked about kids buying marijuana and selling it in the alley, concerned about bringing in an element from the freeways or elsewhere. **Chris asked that people email him this info.**

16. **Bylaws & Rules Committee Report** (Updates, Discussion & Possible Action) *Larry Leisten* –
- a. **Update on Approval of Bylaws: Continued to the June meeting**
 - b. **Update on Request by “Save Sunset Strip” for seat on BABCNC Board: Continued to the June meeting**

17. **Outreach Committee Report** (Updates, Discussion & Possible Action) *Robin Greenberg*
Robin related that tote bags were distributed at the Fire Station Day event. She distributed them here this evening, and she has many more at her office.

Update from AD-Hoc Outreach Committee – (See Treasurer’s Report)

18. **West L.A. Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC)** – (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action) - *Robin Greenberg*

Update on May 21, 2014 WRAC Meeting - No report.

MOTION: Support Council Motion 14-0519 to preserve the wildlife corridors. (**Joint motion with Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Report below continued to June meeting.**)

19. **Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Report** (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action) - *Travis Longcore*

a. **SMMC Report** – *Travis Longcore* – No report.

b. **Wildlife Corridors** – *Robin Greenberg, Travis Longcore & Tony Tucci* – **Continued to June meeting**

(See **Exhibit “F”**)

MOTION: Support Council Motion 14-0519 to preserve the wildlife corridors and file a CIS supporting the motion as follows:

WHEREAS, the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council territory includes natural lands and low-density residential neighborhoods that allow wildlife movement in the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains, and

WHEREAS, the process of land development in the BABCNC territory often involves actions that might affect wildlife movement, and

WHEREAS, viewing and enjoying wildlife is a unique experience characteristic of the quality of life in the BABCNC territory, and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Paul Koretz has introduced a motion (Council File 14-0518) to establish a process to develop and ordinance that would clearly delineate the responsibility of potential land developers to map maintain wildlife connectivity on properties to be developed to ensure that wildlife such as deer and bobcats can range through the eastern Santa Monica Mountains, and

WHEREAS, said motion was seconded by four City Councilmembers representing broad support across the City, and

WHEREAS, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has begun to undertake the development of wildlife corridor maps within its territory and already currently advocates for measures similar to those being proposed by Councilmember Koretz,

WHEREAS, both private property interests and environmental considerations benefit by definite and consistent guidance on the environmental constraints and considerations in real estate development, and

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council supports Councilmember Koretz’s wildlife connectivity motion and requests to be consulted by the City Attorney and Planning Department in the development of said ordinance should the motion be passed by the City Council.

c. **Fire Hazard Zone – Travis Longcore & Andre Stojka Continued to June meeting**

MOTION: WHEREAS, the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council territory is recognized as a Very High Severity Fire Hazard Zone by the State of California, and

WHEREAS, the greatest source of fire risk in southern California is human-caused fires, and WHEREAS, tens of thousands of commuters and residents drive through the BABCNC territory each day, and

WHEREAS, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy owns a number of prominent properties within the BABCNC territory, and

WHEREAS, the SMMC properties already have posted signs that are seen by thousands of drivers each day and which direct people to report “suspicious activity” but do not mention smoking and

WHEREAS, smoking in a Very High Fire Severity Hazard Zone violates the law and a fire started by a smoker poses a significant danger to the BABCNC community,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that BABCNC requests that the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy include the text “NO SMOKING” to all of its property signs.

20. **Ad-hoc “I-405 Sepulveda Widening Improvement Project” & Metro Update on Sidewalks @ Skirball Bridge to Mulholland -- Irene Sandler & Gary Plotkin**

Gary and Irene related that there was an opening of the northbound diamond lane, but there is additional cleanup work and landscaping which should be completed sometime later this year.

21. **Ad-Hoc Standing Committee on Los Angeles 2020 Report “Monitoring City’s Solutions & Actions”** (established on 01/22/14) – Co-Chairs, Andre Stojka & Tony Tucci – No report

22. **Ad-Hoc Transit Committee** (established on 01/22/14) – Select New Chair – Continued

23. **Council District 5 Report - Planning Deputies, Noah Muhlstein & Gurmet Khara**

Noah Muhlstein was available for questions:

Taxing Developers to Repair Streets: Don Loze asked if a tax could be imposed on developers to repair streets by having every vehicle over a certain weight pay. Noah replied that Paul Koretz is considering a fee, and that his #1 concern is safety of human life. Don clarified the relationship between damage to roads and risks to human life.

Development & Haul Routes: Noah noted that there are about 10 active haul routes now in the neighborhoods, as a result of a great deal of new development. There are large projects on Ariel Way, where a haul route was shut down, with an agreement to reduce the number of truck trips.

Noah will send a haul route list to Gary.

Grade Exemption Loophole: Noah noted that Paul Koretz is looking at a grade exemption that allows one to sink a home underground but that he couldn’t get support from City Council to address it. He sees a need to amend that ordinance to close that loophole.

Chalon Sewer Project is Finished: Noah mentioned the Chalon sewer work project that had caused a hardship to everyone is finished. Robin related that there was a cement truck up there on Saturday morning at 6:00.

Need for Higher Level Environmental Review: Asked by Mr. Love if they work with this group to determine an appropriate number of projects in a given area, Travis responded that this should

happen in the environmental review; that **they do not note cumulative impacts**, and that Noah's office needs to talk to Planning. If there are already six projects on a street, there needs to be a higher level environmental review, and that this is a problem with cumulative impacts analysis in CEQA in general. *Jamie* added that **no one goes to B&S Commission meetings**.

Haul Route Notices: *Jamie* asked who gets noticed of haul route hearings, to which *Noah* replied, those 500 feet from the project.

City Pushing Projects: *Jamie* asked if there is an internal direction at Planning and B&S to get projects pushed along faster to stimulate the economy, to which *Noah* replied that there is a hiring increase for Assistant Planners and more Code Enforcement, to review more projects.

Travis stressed that there is a need to increase the attention to these projects at the front end. *Jamie* added that we would like to see greater notice, greater code enforcement team, greater staff, and that we, as a neighborhood council, want to work with CD5 on all these things.

Paul Koretz has been invited to a future meeting for which all Board members were asked to prepare questions and provide them to Gary in advance of the meeting. Subsequent to the meeting, it was arranged that **Paul Koretz will be available for the October** Board meeting.

24. **CD4 Report** Field Deputy/Deputy of Housing & Transport *Sharon Shapiro* – No report.
25. **Traffic Committee Report & Police Advisory Board Report** – *Robert A. Ringler*
Next LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee: Wednesday June 11, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. at the West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue.
26. **Private and Public Schools News** – No report.
27. **New Business / General Announcements:** (Discussion & Possible Action)

L.A. City Central Collections System - *Don Loze* - No report
Council File #: 14-0600 (FY2014-2015 City Budget Proposal)
28. Meeting adjourned at 9:17 by unanimous hand vote.

NEXT BABCNC MEETING: June 25, 2014 @ AJU

Special Guest Speaker Next Month: Debbie Weiser, from Science Application for Risk Reduction (SAFRR), USGS Pasadena, who will speak on earthquake notification systems