

The Hollywood Heights View

March 1, 1995

Your Community Voice

Hollywood, CA

Whats Happening To Highland Avenue?!?! County realigns Odin Street

In article in the Wednesday, 8 February issue of The Hollywood Independent, Ms Tina Barseghian reported on the situation now in progress on Highland Avenue around the Bowl, especially the destruction of many of the trees in that area. The following are excerpts from the article.

"Los Angeles County officials say that the purpose is to help facilitate traffic in and around the Bowl. Nearby residents aren't opposed to the plan as much as they are to the lack of forthcoming information from the County," according to Allan Goldpenny.

"They've removed all the trees there," Goldpenny says. "There's nothing but an empty, barren lot there now, and they never even tried to notify any of the neighbors."

A community meeting was called on February 2 by HHA, with the help of Mary Presby, Councilman John Ferraro's Field Deputy. Ginny Kruger of Supervisor Yaroslavsky's Office also attended. But it was too little, too late, says Herb Berlin. "The primary problem is that we've never in any way been apprised of what's happening until after it's done," he says. "Replacing the old trees with the new ones will work if you live long enough," Berlin says. "Some of these trees are not replaceable."

"We got some vague information, [at this meeting]" he said. "They were very vocally cooperative about being more communicative, but I think they were just yea-saying to get us off their backs. But it's not going to be easy to get Hollywood Heights off their backs."

In a follow up meeting at the Freeman House two weeks later, it was made clear that no trees were to be replaced in the center median islands along Highland because of the

installation of traffic-monitoring cameras. Also, left turns now possible at Odin would be forbidden, stranding the residents of Alta Loma Terrace and those needing access from northbound Highland to Camrose. "While we all share concerns about Highland bowl traffic, this is sacrificing the form and elegance once found on this street, the community's needs for access, and the parklike setting of the Bowl's entry and parking, all for traffic mitigation," said HHA Board Member Jeffrey Chusid. "Without working with the community to explore consequences or alternatives, these plans serve only the interests of the Hollywood Bowl."

Contacted later, HHA's representative to the Mayor's Mobility Action Committee, Tom Glover, also said that the street realignment and changes in traffic patterns were never brought by the County to that Committee for discussion.

Ginny Kruger said that she would talk with LA Department of Transportation and others about the questions being raised, and get back to neighbors with answers at the next meeting on March 2, scheduled for the Bowl Advisory Committee and the community to continue looking at the Odin Street realignment and to discuss the upcoming Bowl season.

HHA Board Meeting Discusses Pinehurst Park

At the monthly Board of Directors meeting on February 7, topics discussed were:

Pinehurst Park: Arnie Nicholson and Joyce Breiman reported on the lack of cooperation by many dog owners in cleaning up after their dogs. The board voted to temporarily allow the Oaks School to lock the gate, and give out keys only to HHA members, while a mutually acceptable solution was worked out which addressed the interests of the children, dogowners and others.

Laura Kush talked about the MetroRail construction problems. Hollywood Bowl

construction was reviewed by Joyce Dyrektor and Herb Berlin. Henry Mars reported on the Public Safety Steering Committee. Theo Wilson reported on the Hollywood Heights View.

Do You Know the Story Of Pinehurst Park?

by Pinehurst Park Committee

Pinehurst Park is that lovely green space between Hillcrest and Pinehurst on Bonita Terrace. It is not a public park. Residents of Hollywood Heights joined with the Oaks School and the Church, cleaned up a vacant city lot, planted it, fenced it, and put in sprinklers.

Since the City does not maintain the park, the \$3,000 annual cost is shared by the HHA, the Oaks, and some generous local neighbors and landlords.

What you can do to help: If you have a dog, scoop the poop. Scoopers and trash cans are provided. Also, don't let your dogs run loose while there are school kids in the Park.

Also, all contributions for the care and maintenance of the Park are gratefully accepted. This little Park is our special treasure. We need everyone's joyful participation in order to keep the park a pleasant spot for kids of all ages.

Metrorail Construction On Hollywood Blvd.

In a letter to Gary Bozé, Public Affairs Officer of MTA MetroRail Red Line Segment Two, Ms Fran Offenhauser requested a series of mitigations to reduce the noise of construction. Some of the points dealt with starting and quitting times, especially during night work.

Also, Fran requested the relatively quiet auguring process for piles; the elimination of all backup beepers not only at night.; and the discontinuance of any work on "Sunday," which means from the close of work noon Saturday until the start of work on Sunday evening.

Since work in various areas will run for several years, these are all important requirements.

Morgan Woodward: Our Resident Star

by Jean Gordon

In Palm Springs, Bob Hope and Frank Sinatra each have their Drive. Gene Autry has his Trail. But in Arlington, Texas, Morgan Woodward has his way: a street newly named Woodward Way, that is.

At a black tie affair at Governor Bush's Texas Ranger Stadium in September, Morgan was presented with the Keys to the City by the Mayor.

The event was held not only to recognize over forty years in TV and movies, but also because Morgan is a native son of Arlington. This Life Achievement Award was the first such award and will be given to future deserving natives of Texas.

In spite of his busy schedule -- Morgan has been in over 250 TV shows and movies -- he always found time to support Hollywood Heights. And was involved in the original meetings when HHA was just an idea.

Congratulations, Morgan! We're happy you still maintain your home among us.

Hollywood Heights General Membership Meeting to be held March 7

A general membership meeting of the Hollywood Heights Association will be held at 7 pm on Tuesday, March 7, in the Skyroom of the Yamashiro Restaurant on Sycamore. All HHA members and residents are urged to attend. The agenda will include adoption of the Revised Bylaws. A special presentation will be made on the multi-year, Hollywood Bowl Renovation. There will also be an update on the Odin Street Realignment, and LA's new General Plan Framework. Questions and issues can be raised by area residents for attention by HHA Board members and/or city and county representatives.

This issue of the view was produced by Jeffrey Chusid and Herb Berlin. Theo Wilson is taking a brief sabbatical.