Sustainability Report for 12-5-'22 Board Meeting

NCSA recent votes --

On behalf of the GVGC I voted to support the NCSA Wildlife Ordinance letter at this link:

https://assets.nationbuilder.com/ncsa/pages/507/attachments/original/1670080568/NCSA_letter_re_revised wildlife ordinance 2022 11-14.pdf?1670080568

This ordinance has been in the works for 8 years, has been watered down, but still faces opposition. It will be heard by the City Planning Commission 12-8-'22 at 8:30 a.m.

On behalf of the GVGC I voted to support the Sepulveda Basin proposal of the LA River Project with the letter at this link:

https://assets.nationbuilder.com/ncsa/pages/508/attachments/original/1669826147/2022-11-29 SB Resolution w logos.pdf?1669826147

Please note that the Board of Public Works has voted to support a contract for work on the Sepulveda Basin unrelated to this proposal. See a letter from the San Fernando Valley Climate Reality Project to Councilmember Raman's office here expressing serious concerns about that contract. The San Fernando Valley Climate Reality Project and The River Project are working with Councilmember Raman's office to find a way to ensure that the goals expressed in the letter are achieved.

Plancheck NC 11-12-'22 Zoom

There is an initiative to install electronic signage all over the city as part of the Metro Transportation Communications Network. There are concerns that these will be distracting and take up space for street trees. More information at TCN@metro.net and also on the PlancheckNC website https://plancheckncla.com/ (The Metro Board meeting on 12-1-'22 removed this item from their consent agenda so it is still in discussion.) Scenic Los Angeles has been leading efforts against this signage which includes electronic advertising: https://www.scenic.org/chapters-affiliates/losangeles/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=72d7810b-dd23-4200-8cdf-3ba90cbdcdf7

Studio City Neighborhood Council 11-16-'22 Zoom

Considerable opposition to the Sportsman's Lodge project that will remove 89 trees and an endangered native plant. The teardown of the hotel will remove 400,000 cubic yards of soil which they calculate as 70,000 truck trips. The Erewhon grocery store on the property is in opposition because it would eliminate their parking during years of construction, which proposes to build 800+apartments, with 78 very low income studio and 1 bedroom units that entitles a density bonus to go higher to 7 stories. There were many public comment call-ins that included complaints of cars backing up at Coldwater and Ventura.

Planning Hearing for Sportsman's Lodge 11-21-'22 (this is in our Community Plan area)

More was revealed. There is an SCEA (Sustainable Communities Environmental Assessment) on their website which does not require any mitigation, but no Environmental Impact Report was done, which would require mitigation. The 7 stories are on a podium. The developers are considering this infill housing. Coldwater Canyon Blvd. will be a red curb loading area, and there were complaints of trucks double parking in the current use. There is one protected oak tree, which they plan to preserve. There will be riverfront access with some setback but no setback on Ventura Blvd. Many called in objections including attorneys. This project goes to the City Planning Commission on Dec. 15 at 8:30 a.m.

Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) 12-1-'22 Zoom

Question about City Plants and our City planting partners not functioning, and the City Forest Officer revealed there has been a lag in the memorandum of understanding and funding from DWP, but that this process is very close to being completed.

I reported to the LADBS representative, Carolyn Juacalla, that despite our request, LADBS management has refused to stop using "clear lot" wording for demolitions, which is still getting misinterpreted to include the clearing of all the trees and vegetation, when they just mean to clear the structures.

The President of the Encino NC took issue that proposed tree removal notifications do not indicate which are the trees in question, and that site maps with trees for removal indicated need to be provided sooner than the 72 hours notice before a BPW tree removal hearing. CFAC has been requesting LADBS require site plans with trees for by right projects, but no results.

CFAC voted to support the same letter that NCSA supported regarding the Sepulveda Basin proposal of the LA River Project. This project has the endorsement of close to 50 organizational logos on the letter.

There is a draft EIR from Bureau of Engineering to allow DWP to remove park trees near Silver Lake, many to accommodate parking, and comments are due by 5 pm on Dec 16. Link to the DEIR https://www.scenic.org/chapters-affiliates/losangeles/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=72d7810b-dd23-4200-8cdf-3ba90cbdcdf7