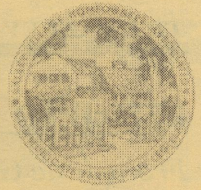


# THE VALLEY VILLAGER

VALLEY VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



VOL. 10 NUMBER 1

February 2000

P.O. BOX 916, VALLEY VILLAGE, CA 91617

## NO PLACE AT THE TABLE - YET

### *Burbank Airport, the FAA and Us*

In November 1999, Federal Aviation Administrator, Jane Garvey wrote a letter to the LA Times clearly urging the City of Burbank and the Airport Authority to involve all the affected parties in the airport discussions. Not only was the correspondence not made public until it was finally run on January 2, 2000, but the Los Angeles residents have yet to be invited to the negotiations.

On January 17, 2000, representatives of VVHA and several other community groups again met to discuss how to make our voices heard by the people who will decide the airport's impact on our communities. Since the City of Burbank is the primary decision-maker the group decided to embark on an "education campaign" aimed at the Burbank voters.

Public relations pieces about the airport, which have been distributed by the City of Burbank, will be challenged and rebutted through our own flyers and handouts. Furthermore, this group has pledged to contact our representatives at every level, urging them to find a way to get us "a place at the table." Our position is as follows:

1) The new terminal should be a true replacement terminal, one which does not exceed the present capacity, while being compliant with the law. Expansion cannot take place until specific growth controls have been adopted and the environmental impact of that growth assessed.

2) There should be a 10:00pm to 7:00am mandatory curfew.

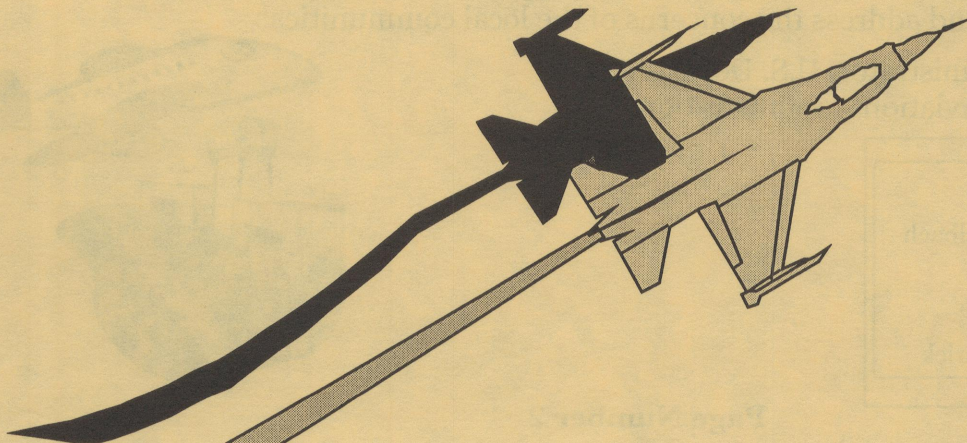
3) The Eastern runway should be opened and some departures routed over Glendale and Pasadena. This would be a true "share the noise" arrangement.

4) Adopt a permanent cap on flights and noise "budget" based on the State noise limits.

The Studio City Residents Association has printed postcards to be sent directly to Ms. Garvey, alerting her that, despite her admonitions, we have yet to be included in the Airport talks. Valley Village Homeowners joins them in this effort.

It is important that you sign and send the enclosed card as soon as you receive this mailing, as the Burbank City Council will very likely vote on the airport settlement in April.

The text of Ms. Garvey's letter is on page two.





## LETTER TO THE LA TIMES

*From Jane Garvey, Administrator of Federal Aviation Administration*

The issues surrounding the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport dispute are difficult local concerns, with national implications.

An editorial on the Federal Aviation Administration's role in discussions on those issues was insightful ("FAA Chief's Input Needed," Nov.7, 1999). The editorial suggests it is time for FAA to provide more guidance to the parties on elements of the framework for settlement agreement. I agree.

The real challenge is to provide that delicate balance between local needs and national interests. The key to any resolution is ensuring that all relevant parties are at the table and that each has a stake in a positive outcome. These parties are the cities, the airport authority, area residents, the airlines and the FAA. Unfortunately, not all the players were involved when the framework for settlement was produced.

**FAA has discussed the framework with the city and the airport authority because we believe several elements of the agreement violate federal law.**

FAA has discussed the framework with the city and the airport authority because we believe several elements of the agreement violate federal law. We continue to advise them as to how the agreement--or any subsequent redevelopment plan--can conform to applicable federal law.

Resolution of these issues must be reached locally and must comply with federal law. The FAA will continue to strongly encourage all the interested parties to involve themselves in the process.

**Everyone with a significant interest in the outcome must be at the table.**

Everyone with a significant interest in the outcome must be at the table. Issues that affect parties who were not included in the discussion--such as the proposed ban on eastbound takeoffs--should be removed voluntarily from the framework. Until this happens, the agreement between the city of Burbank and the airport authority remains a first, although essential step in achieving the delicate balance that will provide the most modern, safe terminal for the airport and address the concerns of the local communities.

JANE F. GARVEY, Administrator, U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration □

### EDITORIAL STAFF

Publisher - Annalisa Engelbach  
Editor - Breice Reiner  
Contributors- Lori Dinkin  
Stuart Simen  
Paula Hummerick





## BREAKING NEWS

### *City of Burbank Suspends Work on Deal for Airport*

In a Feb. 3 letter to Carl Meseck, president of the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority, Mayor Stacey Murphy, said that the city would suspend work on a development agreement for a new terminal at Burbank Airport.

Mayor Murphy said federal officials must help iron out legal issues before negotiations can resume. The Burbank City Council has already passed a measure calling for an advisory vote on the draft agreement, however, no date for the vote has been set. Some residents have been collecting signatures for a hard-line city ballot initiative requiring a mandatory curfew and limiting the size of the new terminal. □



## THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

Gelson's Market has turned their parking lot into an urban park. Planters filled with roses, are a treat to see as one heads for the store. They are well maintained and enhance the area. VVHA congratulates the management for being responsible community merchants.

After numerous meetings and endless letters from VVHA, the decaying building on Magnolia Boulevard and Whitsett Avenue is finally being razed. Our best hope is that while the owners search for a tenant the property will be fenced and some landscaping installed. We will need to be vigilant about what type of business goes into the space and to be sure whatever is built conforms to the Valley Village Specific Plan.

Colfax Elementary School has completed replacement and replanting of the fenced areas of the schoolyard. The City responded to neighbors concerns and the result is quite satisfactory.

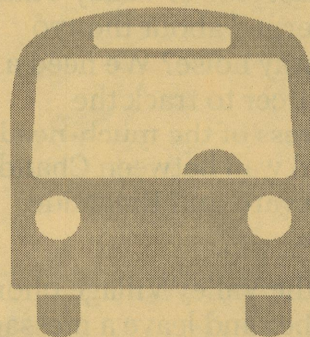
Negotiations continue with both Rite Aid Drug Store and the 7-11 Convenience Store to improve the appearance of their properties. Reassurances from the companies are numerous but no action is forthcoming. VVHA will continue the effort; members who patronize these businesses might help by expressing their displeasure to the store managers.

Local realtor, Ed Koenig has volunteered to head a committee that will contact merchants and encourage storefront upkeep. Get on board and help Ed reach as many businesses as possible. To volunteer call at 818.755.8088. □

## PROJECT RAPID BUS

Metropolitan Transportation Authority has been holding meetings to introduce the public to the plans for a so-called Rapid Bus on Ventura Boulevard to run from Woodland Hills to Studio City in the Valley and then downtown. It will be a special commuters' bus with stops a mile apart and technology on board which will turn traffic signals to green as it approaches.

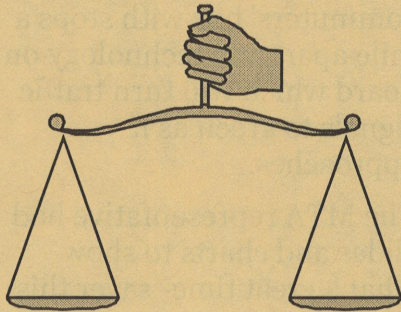
The MTA representative had slides and charts to show what a great time-saver this would be. However, answers to questions from citizens attending tell a rather different story. For instance, there will be no parking facilities along the route for users who live too far from Ventura Boulevard to walk to the bus stop. Ventura Boulevard merchants who suffer from inadequate parking already and residents near the boulevard who suffer from commercial parking on their streets were all skeptical of the plan. □





## IS LIQUOR ALL RITE?

VVHA will be monitoring the progress of liquor license applications by Rite Aid Drug Store at Magnolia Boulevard and Whitsett Avenue and the 7-11 Convenience Store on Laurel Canyon Boulevard and Chandler Boulevard. □



## BY-LAWS

Thanks to VVHA board members Stuart Simen and Steve Ajalat for bringing our organization by-laws into the 21st Century. (Yes, we know it is next year, but close enough). □



## FREEWAY NOISE

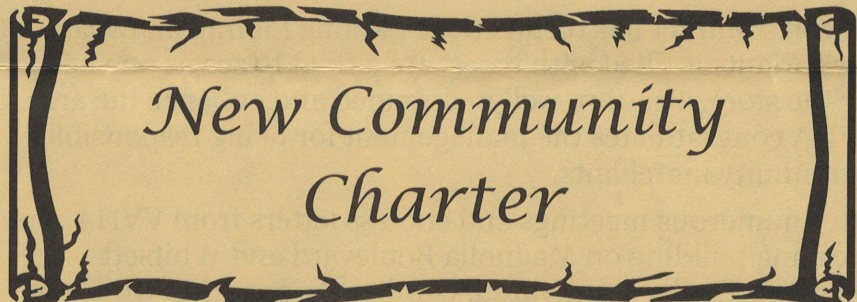
Is there some resident along the east side of Valley Village concerned about the 170 Freeway noise? We need a volunteer to track the progress of the much-needed sound wall between Chandler Boulevard and Riverside Drive.

Call the Valley Village phone number and leave a message if you can help. □

## IT'S YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

If there is one clear message throughout the city, it is that people want to be heard. They want a chance to participate. They want a chance to make a difference and to make things better. Our new city charter, approved by voters on June 8, 1999, will make this a reality and will enable community members to have a say, finally, in what is happening (or not happening) in their neighborhoods. However, it requires involvement and commitment and a firm belief that government should be more responsive to local needs. Envision Los Angeles being turned into a family of Neighborhoods, a family in which everyone participates and everyone takes pride.

The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) had its first meeting on December 20, 1999. Subsequent approved regional workshops will be scheduled for specific city areas, starting March 9, 2000. For Valley Village and surrounding Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Toluca Lake and North Hollywood, the meeting will be on June 28, 2000 at 6:30pm. Call the DONE office at 213.485.4608 for location and further information.



Valley Village Homeowners Association members Lori Dinkin, Breice Reiner and Rosemarie White have attended meetings at City Hall, a conference at California State University, Northridge and a public hearing held by the City Planning Commission regarding the formation of area planning commissions. Lori Dinkin, VVHA President, has been working hard to see that Valley Village interests are appropriately recognized with the correct demographic area of the Valley. However, there is much work to be done.

Councilman Joel Wachs' office has prepared a booklet, "Grass Roots Guide to Forming Neighborhood Councils". To receive a copy, call 213.485.3391 or Fax a request to 213.680.7895.

Please telephone the Valley Village Homeowners Association to express interest in getting involved with the process. We do have the power now to make a difference. We all have opinions regarding how we, the community, are most comfortable. So...don't be shy or reluctant, be involved! □



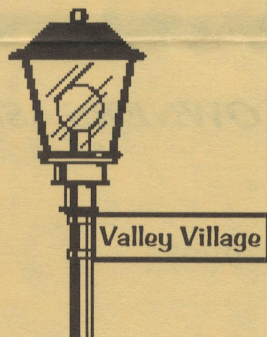
## POLICE PHONE NUMBERS

Phone numbers for the new North Hollywood Police Station at 11640 Burbank Blvd. are as follows:

Area Captain  
623-4006  
Front desk  
623-4016  
Detective desk  
623-4045  
Detective FAX  
623-4121  
Robbery Detectives  
623-4061  
M.A.C. Detectives  
623-4065  
Homicide Detective  
623-4075  
Burglary Detectives  
623-4081  
Auto Detectives  
623-4085  
Gang Detectives  
623-4071  
Juvenile Detectives  
623-4058  
Records  
623-4034  
Records FAX  
623-4118  
Vice  
623-4100  
Narcotics  
623-4104  
Senior Lead Officer  
623-4001  
FAX 623-4116  
Community Relations  
623-4001

## WE'RE ON THE MAP

There have been several articles about Valley Village in the Los Angeles Times and the Daily News recently. Both papers have also printed letters sent to the Editors about community concerns. It enhances our ability to influence City, State and Federal officials to be recognized and validated. If there are issues in your neighborhood you would like to see aired come to the Association meetings and talk about it (see page 6 for details). Everyone gets a chance to be heard. o

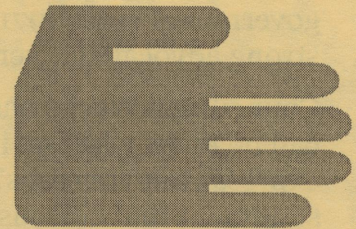


## POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT

After so many experiences with developers who seem to love Big and Ugly it is pleasant to report the condominiums nearing completion on the south side of Riverside at Morella Street are in proper scale, attractively designed and nicely landscaped. Congratulations to Barazoni Development for a fine addition to Valley Village. □

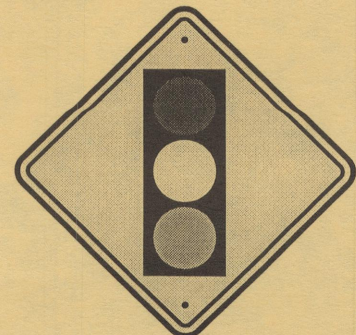
## THE HELPING HAND

VVHA has made an effort to support community institutions this year with contributions to Colfax Elementary School, the Amelia Erhart Regional Branch Library and the East Valley PAL Holiday Basket campaign. □



## TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPDATE

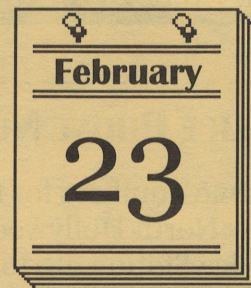
Department of Transportation continues to resist putting a left turn arrow signal at the corner of Riverside Drive and Laurel Canyon Boulevard. Their contention is that every car on Riverside turning south is headed for the Freeway and cannot be delayed in any way. If they did a proper survey and observed the number of drivers who jump the light after it turns red, it would be obvious an arrow signal is a safety issue. At this moment, we haven't given up and they haven't given in. □





## PROGRAM NOTES

*Homeowners Association Meeting  
Wednesday, February 23, 2000 7:30pm  
Colfax Elementary School, 11724 Addison Street,  
Valley Village, CA 91607*



Councilman Joel Wachs will be the featured speaker at the meeting. He will talk about the state of the City and respond to your questions and concerns.

Councilman Wachs needs little introduction to our community. He has been in City government since 1971; leading efforts to eliminate waste and overblown projects, a strong advocate for senior programs and support for the arts.

Councilman Wachs has an admirable record of listening to his constituents...but how can he know what we in Valley Village want if you do not come to the meeting and express your concerns? Even if you choose not to speak, your very presence makes the statement that citizens in our community care what City government is doing.

The saying is that all politics is local. This is as local as it gets. Be there!

The new head of the North Hollywood Division of Los Angeles Police Department, Captain Bruce E. Crosley, will also address the meeting.

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## **VALLEY VILLAGE HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION**



P.O. BOX 4916  
VALLEY VILLAGE, CA 91617  
818.506.5158