

THE VALLEY VILLAGER

VALLEY VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



VOL. 17 NUMBER 2

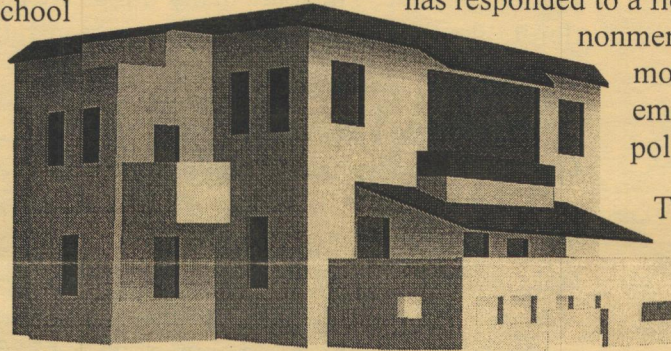
June 2007

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

NCVV's Dividing Motion

The April 25th meeting of the Neighborhood Council Valley Village passed a controversial motion recommending that Valley Village be divided into two zones for determining allowable single-family home size and setbacks. The parcels generally west of Laurel Canyon/Laurel Grove would have far less limitations than those to the east. The heart of the issue is what many Los Angeles residents refer to as mansionization. The Colfax School auditorium was filled to capacity. The exchanges between the stakeholders and the sponsors of the motion were heated in many cases. Each Board member had an opportunity to weigh in on the motion before the public comments. The common complaint against the motion was on two levels: that it should not have been brought to a vote before taking a survey of the community and the undesirability of large scale homes on small lots designed for traditional smaller homes. After lengthy debate, the motion passed 7-5, with two abstentions.

Despite its passage, it is almost certain that the debate will go on regardless of the proposed citywide size regulations, the Neighborhood Character Ordinance, that will most likely be passed this year. Public comment has been overwhelmingly in favor of limitations, as many people are frustrated with the proliferation of "big box" homes.



Polling Valley Village

The current epidemic of huge houses being built on average size lots has created a widespread storm of protest. In addition, Neighborhood Council Valley Village (NCVV) passed a motion requesting two zones with different rules for construction dividing Valley Village.

Valley Village Homeowners Association (VVHA) has responded to a flood of calls from members and nonmembers opposed to the NCVV motion. The VVHA board held an emergency meeting and voted to poll the community on this issue.

The VVHA mailed to over 2300 households requesting a response. Over seven hundred responded, 782 favor a united Valley Village with controlled development. Only one response favored dividing Valley Village and uncontrolled development, and one was undecided. The VVHA urges residents to stay involved in this highly charged issue.

Poll Results: As of (6/10/07)

Poll Mailed:	2300
Returned Total:	784
Return %	34%
Returned from west of division:	392
West %	50%
Returned from east of division:	392
East %	50%

Numbers Matter, Become A Member Now!

Valley Village Homeowners Association

Neighbors Working Together To Preserve Quality Of Life.

See page 5 for how to join or renew your membership.

July 4th Parade

Are you ready to strut your stuff? July 4th is just around the corner. Now is the time to gather your family and friends to show off your red, white and blue creativity.



Join the fun and create a homemade float. There will be awards for various categories: for floats, for fun costumes, for best-dressed dogs and others. Entries will be judged as they line up on Addison Street at Colfax Elementary School. Judging will take place between 9:15am and 9:45am.

Joanie Freckman, Principal of Colfax Elementary School will be honored as Grand Marshal.

If you are not going to march in the parade come and cheer the marchers on as they pass by and then join us at the park for refreshments. The Association will provide free corn dogs as well as watermelon, cupcakes and bottled water.

For the parade route go to:
www.ValleyVillageHA.com

EDITORIAL STAFF

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From The President

On June 2, The Valley Village Homeowners Association had a booth at the Colfax World's Fair. This is the annual fundraiser put on by the Parents Association of Colfax Elementary (PACE). They raised over \$100,000 gross, and VVHA signed up 14 new members. A successful day for all.

While manning the booth at the fair, a Valley Village resident asked me how I felt now about the Neighborhood Council Valley Village (NCVV) given the "divide Valley Village" motion they recently passed (see page one). The resident knew that I was on the formation committee of NCVV and I was the president of NCVV for its first three years.

My answer - I support the Neighborhood Council Valley Village and the neighborhood council concept overall. Valley Village Homeowners Association and Neighborhood Council Valley Village have had a strong alliance and working relationship over the last three years and I expect that to continue. There are many things we agree on and ...some... we don't, like the recent motion and mansionization.

Yes, we are two very different organizations. NCVV is part of our City government and was certified in 2003. They are mandated to exist by the City Charter. The board members of NCVV are elected and are volunteers. Their role is advisory to the City and to officials like Wendy Greuel and Jack Weiss. Their advice is supposed to reflect the stakeholder's desires. Everyone who lives, works or owns property in Valley Village is a stakeholder in the neighborhood council. The City supports the neighborhood council with a \$50,000 per year budget.

Valley Village Homeowners Association is a membership organization and received its Articles of Incorporation from the State in 1993. The members pay dues to belong. The board members of VVHA are elected and are volunteers. Our role is to advocate for the desires of the membership to the City including Wendy Greuel and Jack Weiss, the State, businesses and other organizations that affect Valley Village. To provide residents the opportunity to meet and interact with each other VVHA also sponsors the July 4th Parade. VVHA is supported by the membership dues.

There is room for both organizations. The Valley Village Homeowners Association has been tremendously successful in preserving the quality of life in Valley Village. I hope the Neighborhood Council Valley Village will do the same. I believe that VVHA and NCVV working together on common goals can make those goals more easily attainable.

Of course, as the new president of Valley Village Homeowners Association my first priority is to our membership. We will continue to work together, but not on everything.

Peter

170 Soundwall Contradictions Uncovered

For decades, Valley Village has been promised a soundwall along the 170 Freeway abutting Valley Village Park. At the Neighborhood Council Valley Village April 25th meeting representatives of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and CalTrans were invited to update and clarify what is happening with the soundwall.

At the meeting it was said that the stretch of the 170 Freeway from Oxnard Avenue to the 134 Freeway that encompasses Valley Village has been designated by CalTrans to be next in line on the MTA funding cycle for 2008-2009. The funding, approximately \$4-5 million for the design study, is the first phase of the project. This takes about 18 months to complete. Once the design is complete, construction usually runs about two years if funding is available.

A Valley Village Homeowners Association volunteer wrote to Zev Yaroslavsky's office requesting information. She received a response from Vivian Rescalvo, Supervisor Yaroslavsky's Transportation Deputy. The Valley Village sound wall is part of phase I, priority 2, package 11. Ms. Rescalvo wrote, "Package 11 will move forward to the final design stage when funding is available. Based on current soundwall projects under design and construction, additional funding will not be available until FY 2013. Assuming the Metro Board approves the funding of Package 11, final design could begin in 2013 and construction is estimated to be completed by 2017. Preliminary cost estimates for design and construction of Package 11 is approximately \$39,454,000."

In the last two months we've been given contradictory information about the funding and completion dates for our soundwall. The voice of Valley Village needs to be heard by City, County and State elected officials. Volunteers are needed who will track the project and who will keep Valley Village residents informed and active in contacting the elected officials.

Burbank Airport

Every few years the Burbank Airport Authority must apply for a renewal of the variance under which the Airport is allowed to operate. Each time this comes up, the door is open for the airport to reduce or ignore the concessions that have been put in place over the years. These are rules and regulations that protect our community from some of the noise and pollution generated by the overhead flights. Residents of Valley Village must have a presence at these hearings to voice their concerns or we may lose the protections that have been in place for several years.

Do not be complacent and assume the "airport battle" has been won. The airport authority and the airlines lie in wait for residents to let down their guard. We could wake up at 3:00am some morning to the roar of all night flights from Burbank. Vigilance in the past has kept us from being overwhelmed.

Volunteers are needed who will commit to monitoring what is happening at Burbank Airport and who will report to the community when action is necessary. If you are concerned please respond, do your part.

To volunteer call the Association at 818-506-5158

Other Developments

Oakwood School at 11600 Magnolia Boulevard has announced a plan to remove two small apartment buildings on Magnolia Boulevard near the 170 Freeway during the summer. Modular units will be put in place to be used as classrooms and office space. This is part of the approved building entitlements received several years ago.



Safety

A safe neighborhood is the first necessity for a viable community. Valley Village has an enviable reputation as a safe place to live. But quality of life does not happen without resident participation. Support a strong system of communication and pro-active involvement to keep Valley Village safe. Volunteer for Neighborhood Watch.

Valley Village July 4th

PARADE



Meet at 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, July 4th,
Addison Street parking lot
Colfax Avenue
Elementary School

Put on your Red, White & Blue.
Decorate you bike, trike, wagon
stroller, or skates.

The parade will travel west on
Addison to Ben, north to
Otsego, across Colfax to Irvine,
south on Irvine to Hesby, then
east to Valley Village Park.



Refreshments
and Fun!
All ages welcome!

If you don't join the
parade, cheer on
your neighbors as
they pass by.

Sponsored by:
Valley Village Homeowners Association
818-506-5158

Valley Village July 4th

PARADE

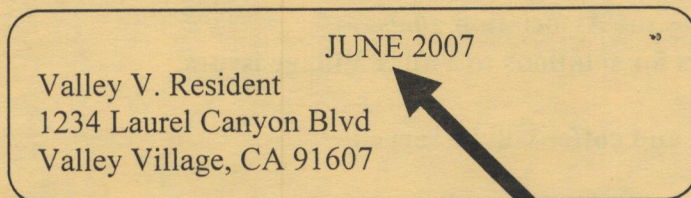


Time To Pay Membership Dues

The Valley Village Homeowners Association is a membership organization. Your membership is vital to our success. Your dues support the operation and activities of The Association. The fiscal year runs July 1 to June 30. This is the time to pay dues and renew your membership. It is essential that we present a united, active and determined membership.

Encourage your neighbors to join also. Our elected officials listen to united voices, more members mean more influence. Visit our website www.ValleyVillageHA.com or call 818-506-5158 for membership information.

Check your mailing label to see if it's your time to pay:



➤ If you see JUNE 2007 at the top of your label it's time to pay your dues.

Membership is open to residents living in the area bounded by the Ventura Freeway on the South, the Tujunga Wash on the West, the Hollywood Freeway on the East and Burbank Boulevard on the North.

Members are kept up-to-date and in the loop with the quarterly newspaper, *The Valley Villager*.

VVHA boardmembers are volunteers and are elected every two years by the membership.

Neighbors Working Together to Preserve Quality of Life

Cut out and return with your check made payable to Valley Village Homeowners Association P.O. Box 4916 Valley Village CA 91617

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual dues per household: Basic Dues **\$18.00** Donor Dues: **\$25.00** Patron Dues: **\$50.00**

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

The Association needs opinions and volunteers.
Include the information with your payment and
you will be contacted.

OR USE PAYPAL AT OUR WEBSITE:

www.ValleyVillageHA.com

v176n2

Homeowners Association Meeting

Thursday, June 21, - 7:30pm
Colfax Elementary School, 11724 Addison Street
Valley Village, CA 91607

We are doing something a little different at this meeting – there will be no guest speaker, it will be an open discussion between the board and the membership in attendance.

You will have an opportunity to:
Meet and speak to the new board.
Discuss the Association goals.
Give input and ideas for solutions to Valley Village issues.

Dessert and coffee will be served.

It's going to be great, and different than anything we have ever done before!

All nonmembers who responded to the poll received a complimentary copy of *The Valley Villager*!

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