

SEPTEMBER/  
OCTOBER 2016

GLASSELL PARK

IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

# NEWS



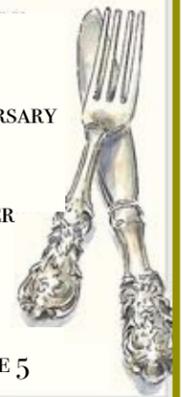
Photo by Jane McElroy

The GPNC's National Night Out was a huge success drawing nearly 2000 people and all three of our Councilmembers to Glassell Park, see page 4 for more.

GPIA's  
48TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
DINNER

OCTOBER  
22ND

SEE PAGE 5



At our September 8th meeting:

Mary Nemick answers questions about the Dept. of Public Works and what's on tap for Glassell Park

Verdugo Village residents present their ideas for improved safety on Verdugo Road

What's the giant hole in the ground on Eagle Rock Blvd. & Avenue 43 going to be?

And...there will be food!



## GPIA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 9/8/16



The next GPIA General Membership meeting will be held

**Thursday, Sept. 8th, at 7pm**  
at the Glassell Park Community & Senior Center

3750 N. Verdugo Road, L.A. 90065



The Community Center is located behind the Public Storage building. The parking lot entrance is on Verdugo Road between the Public Storage building and the Glassell Park Recreation Center.

## What's going on in Glassell Park?

- ✓ **GPIA News welcomes County Supervisor Hilda Solis**  
The GPIA News is happy to include a new column from Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis. Please see page 6 for our first report from our representative on the Board of Supervisors.
- ✓ **CalEPA streamlines environmental complaint process**  
The California Environmental Protection Agency launched an online tool for filing complaints about air pollution, water contamination and toxic substances. Through the new system—offered in English and Spanish—CalEPA will connect users with state and local authorities and provide followup information. If you have a concern about environmental issues (e.g., idling trucks, tainted water), go to [calepa.ca.gov](http://calepa.ca.gov)
- ✓ **Warning issued about LA River water quality**  
Heal the Bay issued a report stating that popular recreation areas along the LA River suffer from poor water quality. The group tested water samples for bacteria at sites including Rattlesnake Park and Steelhead Park in Elysian Valley over a 3-month period last summer. The group warns against swimming in the river, and suggests washing with soap and water after contact with river water.
- ✓ **City Council unanimously for LA River restoration**  
The LA City Council unanimously adopted the ARBOR Study Environmental Impact Report and Alternative 20—the most ambitious and encompassing plan—for restoration of 11 miles along the Los Angeles River including the section bordering Glassell Park. Each of the projects comprising Alternative 20 will now be individually designed and budgeted, and each will require further approvals to move forward to implementation. Go to [www.folar.org](http://www.folar.org) for more information
- ✓ **GPNC establishes monthly “Town Hall” meetings**  
The Glassell Park Neighborhood Council voted to begin holding monthly Town Hall style meetings focussing on single topics of interest to our community. The meetings will take place on the first Tuesday of each month beginning in October. Go to [www.GlassellParkNC.org](http://www.GlassellParkNC.org) for upcoming topics.
- ✓ **Recycling leftover paint**  
Go to [www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org) or call 855-724-6809 to find Paint Care drop-off locations where you can recycle extra paint.
- ✓ **Two new large developments seeking permits in GP**  
Developers are planning to build two multi-unit housing/retail/office buildings along the 2 Freeway on opposite sides of the railroad tracks. One on Casitas Street, close to the LA River next to Bowtie Park, where the plan is to build 419 apartments; and another where the northbound 2 offramp meets San Fernando Road.
- ✓ **GPIA on record to keep 2nd Dwelling Unit Ordinance**  
The GPIA sent a letter to Councilmember Gil Cedillo urging him to oppose the City Council's motion to cede local control of Second Dwelling Units to the State.
- ✓ **Another 7-Eleven in Glassell Park**  
The same 7-Eleven owner who operates the new store on San Fernando Road at Fletcher Drive is seeking a permit to open another 7-Eleven with alcohol sales at the site of a former laundromat on Cazador Street between San Fernando Road and Cypress Avenue. Representatives say they will attend our September 8th meeting.
- ✓ **Drive in movies in Glassell Park**  
The parking lot at Van de Kamps will be the site of drive-in movies on Saturday nights through September. Go to [www.electricduskdrivein.com](http://www.electricduskdrivein.com) for information.
- ✓ **Verdugo Village coffee shop delays opening**  
Little Ripper Coffee is postponing its planned September opening until November in order to complete repairs and modifications required to meet City permit requirements.



**LETTER FROM GPIA PRESIDENT MOLLY LYNN TAYLOR**

There are moments when our Glassell Park feels like a small town in a large city, those are my favorite moments. When Fresh and Easy was open, it was a regular place to go shopping and meet neighbors -- I miss that. But, we have other meeting places now. Our monthly Flash Cleanup events, our annual events, meetings, town halls, workshops—these events are all occasions to connect and reconnect.

Speaking of events, our family is still buzzing from the Glassell Park National Night Out. With more than 2000 people in attendance, 40 interactive tables, 22 trucks and all three Councilmembers in attendance, this year was incredible! It was truly an honor to be a part of the event. A special thank you to Marge Piane who designed our event activities, and thank you to all our members who helped at the GPIA table.

This year the GPIA has focused on outreach, events, partnerships, and interesting meeting topics because they all provide a way to connect and work together to benefit our community. Good ideas are nothing without the individuals who make them happen and because of that, the GPIA commissioned recognition certificates by artist Tom Lamb to present to those in our community who embody the best of Glassell Park. We look forward to recognizing our neighbors with our new certificates at the September meeting. If you'd like to nominate someone, please visit our website: [www.gpia.org](http://www.gpia.org).

At our September meeting, we will hear from Verdugo Village residents who want to present their ideas for improving Verdugo Road. We will also hear updates from our Area Representatives and Liaisons, including land use and green space updates.

Finally, I hope you will all join us in October at our 48th Anniversary dinner! It's going to be a lot of fun, and it will be even better if you are there to celebrate the best of Glassell Park with us.

## ¡Favor de leer la carta de la Presidente de GPIA abajo!

Hay momentos en cual nuestra comunidad de Glassell Park se siente como una pequeña ciudad dentro de una gran ciudad, esos son mis momentos favoritos. Cuando Fresh and Easy estaba abierta, era una lugar habitual para ir de compras y conocer a los vecinos - Extraño esos momentos. Sin embargo, tenemos otros lugares de encuentro ahora: Nuestros eventos de limpieza de Flash mensuales, nuestros eventos anuales, reuniones, ayuntamientos, estos eventos nos dan las ocasiones para reconectar entre nosotros.

Hablando de eventos, nuestra familia está aún muy animada desde el 2 de Agosto cuando tomo acabo el Glassell Park National Night Out, la Noche Nacional de Salir afuera. Más de 2000 personas asistieron, uvo 40 mesas interactivas, 22 camiones y los tres Concejales estuvieron presentes. ¡Este año fue increíble! Realmente fue un honor ser parte del evento. Un agradecimiento especial a Marge Piane que diseñó nuestras actividades del evento, y gracias a todos los miembros que ayudaron en la mesa GPIA.

Este año, el GPIA se ha enfocado en la divulgación, eventos, asociaciones y temas interesantes. Todos esto proporciona una manera de conectar y trabajar juntos en beneficio de nuestra comunidad. Las buenas ideas no son nada sin los individuos que hacen que sucedan y debido a eso, GPIA ha encargado certificados de reconocimiento por el artista Tom Lamb para presentar a los de nuestra comunidad que encarnan lo mejor de Glassell Park. El reconocimiento de nuestros vecinos con los nuevos certificados se tomara acabo en la reunión de Septiembre. Si desea nominar a alguien, por favor visite nuestro sitio web: [www.gpia.org](http://www.gpia.org). También en nuestra reunión de Septiembre, vamos a escuchar a los residentes del area de Verdugo Village, queremos dar a conocer sus ideas para mejorar Verdugo Road. De la misma manera, escucharemos actualizaciones de nuestros Representantes de Área y Coordinadores, incluyendo el uso de la tierra y actualizaciones del espacio verde.

Por último, espero que todos se unan a GPIA en octubre para nuestra cena Aniversaria #48. Va a ser muy divertido, y será aún mejor si estás allí para celebrar lo mejor de Glassell Park con nosotros.

**Follow us on:**



## GPIA forming Elections Committee to find Candidates

The GPIA is looking for candidates to serve on our Board for 2017! All members are eligible, and we hope to see some new faces with new energy. We will form an Elections Committee at the September meeting. The committee consists of three volunteers who seek out community members who want to work to improve our neighborhoods. If you would like to be part of the committee, please attend our September 8th meeting. If you would like to serve on the 2017 Board, please attend the meeting and/or contact the GPIA via Facebook or email: [gp@gpia.org](mailto:gp@gpia.org). The election will take place at our November meeting.

**Confused about what's being built in your community (and what isn't)?**  
Learn about how City Planning works:  
**Land Use 101**  
Saturday, October 1st, 10am-1pm  
GP Community & Senior Ctr 3750 Verdugo Road

## Transit Pavilion groundbreaking

A large group of City officials, community members and transit supporters came out to witness the beginning of work on the Glassell Park Transit Pavilion.

Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo, whose CD1 staff kept the project alive and worked diligently to see it through, singled out GPIA Land Use liaison and community leader Helene Schpak for her unrelenting effort to get this shelter built. In speaking of Helene, Mr. Cedillo rightly said, "We could not have done this without you".

The project, partly funded with FTA monies from Congressman Xavier Becerra, will provide lighting, a multi-canopied shade shelter, seating and continental crosswalks.

Speaking of Helene, Mr. Cedillo said, "This particular project began with the advocacy of one community resident, who convinced others to take up the cause and brought the idea to our office. Twelve years later, here we are, breaking ground on a project that will be a natural connector to the... LA River, and give our constituents a renewed sense of pride in their community."



South monument that is part of Transit Pavilion design



GPIA's Helene Schpak being interviewed by KABC



Councilmember Cedillo talks of our community's years long push to see this project through



Shovels at the ready



Helene gives some history



The groundbreaking at last

Photos by Brian Frobisher and Marge Piane

**The GPIA's community potluck drew neighbors together**



The GPIA doesn't meet in July, but this year we held a "not-a-meeting" potluck event instead. On July 14th, we took over the GP Community & Senior Center parking lot, brought out tables & chairs, hooked up our PA system for music, and waited for guests to arrive.

Soon, about 40 neighbors from all areas of Glassell Park were sharing and enjoying great food together. Longtime GPIA members were especially happy to meet so many new friends, families and future members.

GPIA President Molly Lynn Taylor and GPIA Vice President Eric Tallman organized the evening, and all our Board members came out to help and join in the fun.

It's likely we've started a July "not-a-meeting" tradition!



**National Night out draws a crowd in Glassell Park**



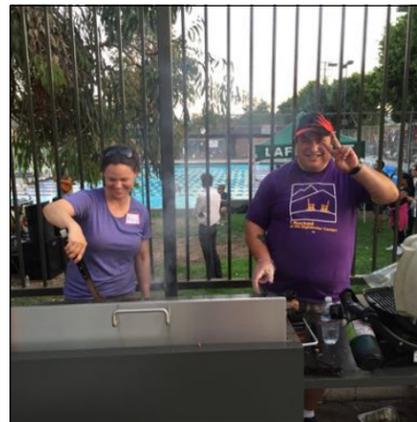
On August 2nd, for National Night Out, the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council hosted a community block party on Verdugo Road.

Nearly 2000 community members and guests enjoyed free food, bouncy houses, face-painting and—the big draw—a "touch a truck" event that included fire trucks, a paving truck, an LAPD wagon, a dump truck, a steamroller, a moving truck and a crane.

Our 3 City Councilmembers milled about in the crowd, and information tables lined the curbs.

New GPNC Chair Benjamin Disinger, along with the NNO committee, did an outstanding job and the entire GPNC Board was there to help.

The GPIA table offered GLASSELLAND crowns to color and cut—they were gone in the first hour!



**GLASSELL PARK  
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION'S  
48TH ANNIVERSARY  
DINNER**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22ND**

**7-10:00PM**

**THE COFFEE TABLE**

**1958 COLORADO BLVD.**

**NO HOST BAR AT 6:30PM  
DINNER AT 7:00PM**

**\$35 PER PERSON ALL INCLUSIVE:  
SOUP, SALAD, ENTREE, GLASS OF WINE,  
DESSERT, COFFEE, TAX & TIP**

**PLEASE REPLY BY OCTOBER 19TH**

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER PREFERRING VEGAN MEAL: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER PREFERRING RIBEYE STEAK: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER PREFERRING VEGETARIAN MEAL: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER PREFERRING MOROCCAN CHICKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED AT \$35 PER PERSON: (PAYABLE TO GPIA): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND THIS PART OF INVITATION WITH YOUR CHECK TO:  
GPIA/PO Box 65881/Los Angeles, CA 90065

OR RESERVE ONLINE AT: [HTTPS://SQUAREUP.COM/STORE/GPIA](https://squareup.com/store/gpia)

OR COME TO THE SEPTEMBER 8TH MEETING AND MAKE YOUR RESERVATION THERE!



**Volunteer for your community!  
Opportunities in  
September & October**

**FLASH CLEANUP!**  
Saturday, September 24, 8am  
The Glassell Park Improvement Association invites you to help clean up Verdugo Road around the on & off-ramps to the Glendale Freeway.  
The "Flash Cleanup" idea is to give a short time—45 minutes—that won't get in the way of our busy weekdays. We come together, care for our community, trash and go. The more people who show up the more trash and weeds get cleaned up.  
Please join us at the corner of Verdugo & Rosemead. Bring your own sun protection, work gloves and water.  
Contact: Jim Katt (see below) to RSVP or to join our team for future clean ups.  
We are working with CD14 & CD14 to arrange for pickup of filled trash bags. Thank you to Councilmembers Mitch O'Farrell and Jose Huijar's offices for their help and support.

In September, we will meet on Saturday, the 24th, to clean up Verdugo Road from the southbound 2 Freeway on and off ramps to Eagle Rock Blvd.

Thanks to Lucy Aparicio for organizing CD14's help!

**FLASH CLEANUP!**  
Saturday, October 29, 8am  
The Glassell Park Improvement Association invites you to help clean up San Fernando Road near the Glendale Freeway off-ramp.  
The "Flash Cleanup" idea is to give a short time—45 minutes—that won't get in the way of our busy weekdays. We come together, care for our community, trash and go. The more people who show up the more trash and weeds get cleaned up.  
Please join us under the Jazmines tree closest to Ribet Academy's gate: 2911 N. San Fernando Road 90065. Bring your own sun protection, work gloves and water. Please arrive early with CD14 to arrange for pickup of the filled trash bags. Thank you to Councilmembers Gil Cedeno's office for their help and support.  
Contact: Jim Katt (see below) to RSVP or to join our team for future clean ups.  
We look forward to seeing you there. The GPiA Flash Cleanup Team.

The Flash Cleanup team will converge on San Fernando Road in October. On Saturday, the 29th, we'll meet in front of Ribet Academy to clean the area across from the 2 Freeway off-ramp and the medians.

Thank you to Jose Rodriguez and CD1 for LACC's help & pickup of bagged trash.

Info: [jekiehl@earthlink.net](mailto:jekiehl@earthlink.net)



See page 7!

**From the US Capitol**

California's 34th Congressional District report from **U.S. Congressman Xavier Becerra**

Dear Friends,  
**Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture**

As a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian, I'm honored to see the National Museum of African American History and Culture open its doors to the public in September. It is the only national museum devoted exclusively to the documentation of African American life, history, and culture. The museum has collected more than 36,000 artifacts including the freedom papers (c. 1852) carried by a former slave, Joseph Trammell. Admission to the museum is free so be sure to visit if you're in Washington, D.C.

**Federal dollars at work in Glassell Park**

Your federal tax dollars are at work building a new transit pavilion at the intersection of San Fernando Road and Verdugo Road. I secured \$190,000 from the U.S. Department of Transportation for the project which broke ground in August and is scheduled to be completed next year. Among the improvements are a shaded pavilion, benches, trash bins, landscaping and new continental crosswalks to provide additional pedestrian safety.

**2017 "We, the People" calendar**

Every year, my office receives a limited number of "We, the People" calendars published by the U.S. Capitol Historical Society. This calendar features photographs of the U.S. Capitol building and other Washington, D.C. landmarks. To request a 2017 calendar, please call my office at (213) 481-1425 between the hours of 9am and 5pm.

**How can I help you?**

Please keep my office in mind for help with navigating federal agencies such as Social Security, Medicare, Veterans Affairs or U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Sincerely,  
**XAVIER BECERRA**  
Member of Congress

**Sr. Field Deputy Gemma Jimenez**  
350 S. Bixel St., Suite 120, LA 90017  
213-481-1425  
[gemma.jimenez@mail.house.gov](mailto:gemma.jimenez@mail.house.gov)

**From LA County**

Los Angeles County's Board of Supervisors District 1 from **County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis**

Greetings Glassell Park!  
Here in Los Angeles County, we love fun in the sun and enjoy the beaches and parks our communities have to offer. Green spaces are community places, and it's important to maintain clean, healthy areas where our neighbors come together to spend time with family and friends. Our children need safe areas to play, run and exercise in order to maintain active lifestyles.

I know that as Glassell Park residents, you care for your community. I applaud you for being active participants in making your neighborhood a wonderful place to live. My office has worked hard to provide Glassell Park with its own community garden and park improvements for spaces like Juntos Family Park. I am proud to work towards bringing access to parks and recreation to your community.

Earlier this year, the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation completed a historic undertaking: the Countywide Parks Needs Assessment. Through the process, we found that many areas of the County need of parks. On July 5th, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted to place a parks funding measure on the November 8th general election ballot. The proposed Parks Measure would generate \$94 million annually for the maintenance and development of our local parks and open spaces. #WeAllNeed Parks and family friendly environments to learn, play, and laugh. Let's work together to continue to beautify & save our County spaces! Learn more about the Parks Funding Measure at: <http://hildalsolis.org/services/parks/>.

**Office of Supervisor Hilda L. Solis**  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 W. Temple St., LA 90012  
213-974-4111

**From the State Capitol and the Mayor**

California Senate District 24 report from **Senator Kevin de León**  
Senate President *pro Tempore*

The California Secure Retirement Saving Program, SB 1234, will offer a hand—not a handout—to 6.8 million working Californians whose employers do not offer a retirement plan.

These low and middle-income workers have played an important role in making California the sixth largest economy in the world, and with the Assembly's approval, they are one step closer to achieving retirement security.

Without a secure plan, retirement for millions of working Californians will remain a mirage, always on the horizon but never materializing. And their Golden Years—a time to enjoy the fruits of lifelong toil—will be fraught with financial uncertainty, poverty, and government dependency.

I want to thank Assemblymember Mike Gatto (D-Glendale) and his colleagues in the Assembly for their action and look forward to putting SB 1234 on the Governor's desk. I also want to thank President Obama and Labor Secretary Tom Perez for finalizing federal guidelines that will now allow states to pursue their own retirement savings plans.

Earlier this month, Governor Brown signed AB857, the "Ghost Gun" bill that requires individuals who assemble homemade hand guns to seek a serial number for the weapon and pass a background check. I want to congratulate Assemblymember Jim Cooper (D-Elk Grove) on his bill being signed into law. I also want to thank Governor Brown for recognizing the importance of this measure. When guns can be assembled at home as a way to avoid regulations they become particularly useful in the commission of a crime and very difficult for law enforcement to track. This measure closes a loophole, making all of us safer.

**Field Deputy Ben Pak**  
1808 W. Sunset Blvd., LA 90026  
213-483-9300  
[ben.pak@sen.ca.gov](mailto:ben.pak@sen.ca.gov)

City of Los Angeles report from **Amanda Mejia**, East Area Representative for **Mayor Eric Garcetti**

**Mayor Garcetti launches campaign to protect Angelenos living in rent-stabilized housing**

Mayor Garcetti and the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID) have launched a new outreach campaign to help protect renters by arming them with information about their rights under the City's Rent Stabilization Ordinance (RSO). The new campaign, "Home for Renters," aims to close information gaps by reaching out to L.A.'s most vulnerable neighborhoods with advertisements, informational pamphlets, and online resources that make detailed information about the RSO accessible to tenants and landlords.

For more information about Home for Renters, visit [www.HomeForLARenters.org](http://www.HomeForLARenters.org)

**Join the Mayor's Youth Council**

Passionate about your community? Want to get involved and meet like-minded people? Join the Mayor's Youth Council and make your voice heard!

For more information and to access the application, visit: [www.lamayor.org/myc](http://www.lamayor.org/myc)

Applications will be accepted until September 12, 2016.

**Upcoming Events:**

- **September 12:** Mayor's Youth Council application deadline
- **September 24:** Los Angeles Mayor's Youth Council College Fair | 10:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Rio State Park, 1900 N. San Fernando Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90065

Stay connected with Mayor Garcetti on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. For assistance with city services, call 311 or download the MyLA311 app.

**Amanda Mejia, East Area Rep.**  
200 N. Spring Street, LA 90012  
213-304-5869  
[amanda.mejia@lacity.org](mailto:amanda.mejia@lacity.org)

THE GPiA WILL JOIN THE **CLEAN STREETS LA CHALLENGE**

OUR EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE ON NOV. 5th & WILL INCORPORATE FUN, EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY IN AN EFFORT TO PINPOINT:

- WHERE TRASH CANS ARE NEEDED
- WHERE BULKY ITEMS ARE DUMPED
- WHERE WEEDS ARE OVERGROWN
- WHERE GRAFFITI NEEDS TO BE REMOVED

WE WILL COLLABORATE WITH THE GPNC, LOCAL SCHOOLS, BUSINESSES, CHURCH GROUPS & OTHERS AND WILL MAKE THIS EVENT DISTINCTIVE & EMPOWERING TO ENCOURAGE ONGOING INVOLVEMENT & DIALOGUE AMONG OUR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND OUR NEIGHBORS!

FIND US ON FACEBOOK & OUR WEBSITE, OR EMAIL [GP@GPiA.ORG](mailto:GP@GPiA.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION!

## Council Districts Reports

### Council District 1 report from Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo

Dear Friends,

I hope you enjoyed your summer spending time at the Glassell Park pool or kayaking the LA River.

Again this year, we co-sponsored National Night Out in Glassell Park. Over 2000 people were entertained by 20 city and private trucks that kids touched and learned about. Over 40 booths provided resource information from city departments, schools and nonprofits. We were happy to partner with the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council and LAPD Northeast Division for an amazing evening.

With LAPD Northeast Division we hosted a Movie in the Park showing Zootopia at Glassell Park Recreation Center. Over 60 people enjoyed a free movie, snacks, and refreshments.

We had the ground breaking ceremony for the Glassell Park Transit Pavilion to improve pedestrian and transit safety in Glassell Park. The project started as a community vision spearheaded by Glassell Park resident Helene Schpak. With support from Congressman Xavier Becerra, the City received an earmark appropriation from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the City provided additional funding. The project will provide lighting, a multi-canopied shade shelter with seating, ADA curb ramps, and continental crosswalks for pedestrians as they travel to and from school, home, work and other destinations. Project completion expected July 2017.

The median trees on Eagle Rock Blvd. and San Fernando Road will receive more mulch and continued manual watering, and we are adding the recently planted trees on Avenue 30 in front of Glassell Park Early Education Center and Elementary School to our maintenance program.

Please contact my office for assistance to keep our district moving forward, making it #1.

Sincerely,  
Gilbert Cedillo

Councilmember, 1<sup>st</sup> District

**Dep. District Dir. Jose Rodriguez**  
3750 Verdugo Road, LA 90065  
323-341-5671  
[jose.a.rodriguez@lacity.org](mailto:jose.a.rodriguez@lacity.org)

### Council District 13 report from Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell

Friends:

As many of you have already noticed, work is well underway on the Fletcher Streetscape Project in Glassell Park. The project will not only beautify the area; it will make for a safer environment for children walking to school and for the increasing number of bicyclists who ride through this corridor. Commuters traveling through the area will experience some temporary inconveniences due to the improvements we are making, however this is an exciting time for the community watching our street transform and reach its full potential.

In case you were not able to attend the five community meetings regarding the streetscape, the current striping and parking restrictions are temporary. A landscaped center median will be installed and a buffer zone is required so crews can work safely. Once completed, the project will include two lanes of traffic (one in each direction), two bike lanes (one in each direction), two landscaped medians, and keep the majority of parking on both sides of Fletcher Drive. Crews will finish work on the hardscape in November 2016, and start landscaping by the end of the year.

I would like to thank you in advance for your patience during the construction process. I promise the end result will be a wonderful improvement to the neighborhood by enhancing the experience for all modes of transportation, while at the same time beautifying the area. A complete description of the project can be found at [cd13.com](http://cd13.com). In addition, please feel free to reach out to my Field Deputy, Hector Vega, at 213-207-3019 or [hector.vega@lacity.org](mailto:hector.vega@lacity.org) with any questions or concerns.

Best Regards,  
**MITCH O'FARRELL**

**Field Deputy Hector Vega**  
1722 Sunset Blvd., LA 90028  
213-207-3015  
[hector.vega@lacity.org](mailto:hector.vega@lacity.org)

### Council District 14 report from Councilmember José Huizar

Hello Glassell Park,

I want to invite you to join me in celebrating the Annual **El Grito!** - Mexican Independence Day Celebration and the September Independence Days of Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua on Friday, September 16th from 5:30-11:30 pm at LA City Hall steps and Grand Park in downtown LA. It will be a free celebration with Arts, Food, Kids' Activities and Live Performances by Los Tigres Del Norte and more.

Save the Date, the **11th Annual Northeast Veterans Day Parade** is scheduled for November 6, 2016. Join us as we continue the tradition of honoring America's veterans for their loyal and dedicated service. A Solemn Ceremony will be held at Eagle Rock City Hall at 11:00 am followed by the parade on Eagle Rock Blvd. from York Blvd. to Merton Ave.

As part of our **Clean Communities Initiative** we have been working hard to keep our streets clean by utilizing our Fuego Tech Cleanup Crew to help clean up problem locations by removing bulky items, picking up debris, and clearing overgrown parkways and weeds on sidewalks. If you have a location that can benefit from these services please report it to our office and we will schedule the service. We also encourage residents to utilize the Bulky Item Bin placed in the parking lot at Eagle Rock City Hall every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month. You can also access any of Los Angeles' non-emergency City services by dialing 3-1-1, using the MyLA311 mobile app, or by visiting [MyLA311.LACity.org](http://MyLA311.LACity.org)

Sincerely,  
José Huizar  
Councilmember 14th District

**Field Deputy Lucy Aparicio**  
2035 Colorado Blvd., LA 90041  
323-254-5295  
[lucy.aparicio@lacity.org](mailto:lucy.aparicio@lacity.org)

### "The River Swallows" [A Tribute to Gustavo and Carlos]

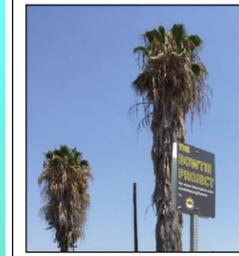
*don't be fooled  
it looks shallow  
"let me go for a quick swim" they said  
don't get fooled  
they will be swallowed.  
quicker than they think.  
breathing suddenly becomes hard.  
the suffering commences.  
no bars.  
no fences.  
safety is being lacked.  
contaminated water.  
government's errors are being hacked.  
no progress into development.  
thus, the community becomes self destruction.  
"we need safety, and renovations"  
the water becomes thicker.  
the water is deeper.  
it's cold.  
they continue to struggle.  
they cannot swim.  
"gulp, gulp, gulp" the water goes into their throats.  
they weep  
suffocation.  
desperation.  
don't be fooled.  
it looks shallow.  
you will be swallowed.  
it has its own mind games.  
manipulation.  
splash, splash. went the water.  
it is silenced. the water finally calmed.  
their bodies never made it back out to see day.  
they didn't do wrong.  
it could've swallowed anyone.  
victimization again.  
three. two. one.  
their souls are resting upon heaven.*

-Yanci Aguilar, Glassell Park



photo by Jasmine N. Alvarez

### Current: LA artwork at Bowtie Parcel in Glassell Park



Even though the new LA River bike/pedestrian path is on the "other" side, our river borders Glassell Park along an accessible stretch of land known as the Bowtie Parcel.

Recently, a City project "Current: LA" included an installation by artist Mel Chin that consisted of installations of native plants along a path above the river. The plans for each plot were made available for installation by homeowners as "mirror gardens". The project ended in mid-August, but the gardens live on along our own less-travelled river path.

### Flash Cleanups make a difference! by Jim Kieh



In 2005, the GPIA restored the Crestmoore steps, and it was great to come back and give the area needed TLC. We had a great turn out for this event—21 volunteers, a new high for the Flash Clean-up series. Thanks to CD 1, the LA Conservation Corps and all who came out to help.

### I See My River Too Festival by Marian Olivas

There has been too little true community engagement about the section of the Los Angeles River that passes through our NELA neighborhoods. After two classmates drowned last May, students from SoHDA (School of History and Dramatic Arts) started a conversation about the river, which in the area remains relatively inaccessible, isolated, and dangerous.

On July 31st with support from these groups, families gathered at the Sotomayor campus for the "I See My River Too" Festival: SoHDA students, GPIA, GPNC, FOLAR, P.S.ARTS, CD 1, artist Justin Stadel, EcoSet, Dept. of Sanitation, US Army Corps, Elysian Valley Arts Collective and LA River Expeditions. Daurden Performing Arts Collective, SoHDA students and alumni provided music and poetry. Other support came from Super A, Super King, La Esquina, and the Eagle Rock Bakery.

We hope you will help the students keep this conversation going! Organizers: Myrian Magana, Alisa Smith, Marian Olivas and the Friends of SoHDA.

photos by Jasmine N. Alvarez



**Uptown Gay & Lesbian Alliance**  
 "In Northeast Los Angeles for Good"  
  
 UGLA.org  
 Founded 1983

**Michelle Alvarez, Area 2 Representative**

The GPIA will host our first Halloween event on October 28th from 6-9pm at the Glassell Park Community & Senior Center. Festivities will include arts & crafts, pumpkin decorating, Trick or Treat-ing, music and more for all ages.

Early Headstart is opening this Fall at 2415 West Avenue 30 for ages 0-3. Part of Pacific Clinics, will offer a structured program that includes reading and lunch. Plus they will offer classes for pregnant women and new parents. For information or to apply, call 818-949-0019.

The Glassell Park recreation complex is now enrolling preschool children ages 3-5. Enroll at 2727 Crestmoore Place during office hours (Monday-Friday 9am-6pm) or call 323-341-5681.



**LADoT presents ideas for a DASH bus route in Glassell Park**

Representatives of LADoT came to Glassell Park's Community & Senior Center on August 23rd as part of the public hearings process for changing—or creating—bus routes. There was a substantial turnout of interested community members who were able to view existing and future DASH, CityRide and Commuter Express routes on maps arranged around the room.

Almost immediately, it became apparent that the DASH route for Glassell Park has been relegated to "Phase 2", the phase for which there is no funding. After more than 30 pages of statistics and suggestions, the last sentence on the last page of LADoT's presentation packet stated: "New DASH routes recommended in Phase 2 will require additional funding". The plan for Glassell Park, while fully mapped and open for comments, has no start date and no next steps for identifying funding. Go to: [ladottransit.com](http://ladottransit.com) for more information, or call 213-412-8921, or email: [hearingofficer@store.ladottransit.com](mailto:hearingofficer@store.ladottransit.com), or send a letter to: Philip M. Aker, Hearing Officer/LADoT Transit/201 N. Los Angeles St., #16/L.A., CA 90012.



**Do you shop at amazon.com?**  
 ?  
 If you go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and choose GPIA, a percentage of the amount you spend can be donated to us! It's the same Amazon site and account, but it benefits the community every time you shop!

**SERVE ON THE 2017 GPIA BOARD**  
 The GPIA is forming an Elections Committee to recommend community members who are willing to serve on our next Board of Directors. If you are interested in joining the committee, or in serving on the Board, please attend the September 8th meeting or find us on Facebook or email: [gp@gpnc.org](mailto:gp@gpnc.org)

**LINDA HAINES**  
 Your Neighbor - Your Realtor®  
 Direct 818 720-8890  
 Fax 323 372-2219  
 E-mail [linda@hainesre.com](mailto:linda@hainesre.com)  
 CalBRE #01823412  


**HAL'S Eagle Rock Pet Shop**  
  
 4374 Eagle Rock Blvd  
 Los Angeles, CA 90041  
 Tel: (323) 255-5714

**Glassell Park's Law Enforcers:**  
**Neighborhood Prosecutor**  
**Tamar Galatzan**  
 213-978-7878 or email: [tamar.galatzan@lacity.org](mailto:tamar.galatzan@lacity.org)  
**Senior Lead Officer**  
**Louie Reyes**  
 213-793-0758 (cell)  
 or email [33184@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:33184@lapd.lacity.org)

**ADVERTISE in the GPIA NEWS**  
 Advertise your business to target households in Glassell Park! Your ad in the "Glassell Park Improvement Association News" will be viewed by consumers who care about their community and want to patronize and support our local businesses. Many sizes & rates are available--single issue or six consecutive issues, full color or black & white. For example, your black & white, business card-sized ad will run in six consecutive issues for \$125.00. A new business membership gets one free 2x3.5" black & white ad!  
 Email [gpiaNews90065@gmail.com](mailto:gpiaNews90065@gmail.com) for a rate sheet.

The GPIA Newsletter is published on the 1st of January, March, May, July, September and November. Designed and edited by Marge Piane. Submissions welcome.  
 Contact the GPIA at: [gpia90065@gmail.com](mailto:gpia90065@gmail.com)  
 Contact the GPIANews at: [gpiaNews90065@gmail.com](mailto:gpiaNews90065@gmail.com)

 The easiest & fastest way to request City services is via the MyLA311 app for phones. Download is free. You can also access MyLA311 on the web at: <https://myLA311.lacity.org>

**A Few Handy Phone Numbers:**

Abandoned Vehicles	800-222-6366
Abandoned Shopping Carts	800-252-4613
Animal Services	888-452-7381
Blocked Driveways	213-485-4184 x2
Fire Dept (non-emergency)	213-485-6185
Gas Leaks	800-427-2200
Graffiti removal	800-675-4357
LAPD (non-emergency)	877-ASK-LAPD
Poison Control	800-876-4766
Rape Hotline	310-392-8381
Restraining Order	213-974-5587
Sanitation/Trash/Recycling	800-773-2489
Street Resurfacing/Potholes	800-996-2489
Tree Trimming	800-996-2489
Water & Power	800-342-5397

**As always, in an emergency call 9-1-1**  
 For all city services, call 3-1-1, or use MyLA311 app

**JOIN the GPIA!**

Become engaged in our community! For your annual dues, you will receive six issues of our newsletter. Plus your tax deductible donation supports the GPIA's work to make Glassell Park better for everyone!

The GPIA meets on the second Thursday of January, March, May, September and November at 7pm at the Glassell Park Community and Senior Center (3750 Verdugo Road, behind the Public Storage building & next to the Glassell Park Recreation Center).

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (home / work / cell) (circle one)

Please check all that apply:

- Individual membership (\$15)
- Household membership (\$25)
- Business membership (\$25)  
(includes one free 2x3.5" black & white ad)
- Senior (60+) (\$12)
- New membership
- Renewal membership
- Please email my newsletter

Please send this form, along with your check, to: GPIA / P.O. Box 65881 / Los Angeles, CA 90065  
 OR go to: [www.gpia.org](http://www.gpia.org) to join online OR bring the form and a check or credit card to our next meeting!



**Neighborhood information at hand:**

<p><b>City Council Field Offices</b></p> <p><b>Council District 1</b>                  Gil Cedillo                  3750 Verdugo Road                  L.A., CA 90065                  323-341-5671</p> <p><b>Council District 13</b>                  Mitch O'Farrell                  1722 Sunset Blvd                  L.A., CA 90026                  213-207-3015</p> <p><b>Council District 14</b>                  José Huizar                  2035 Colorado Blvd                  L.A., CA 90041                  323-254-5295</p>	<p><b>2016 GPIA Board Members</b></p> <p><b>President</b>                  Molly Lynn Taylor</p> <p><b>Vice President</b>                  Eric Tallman</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b>                  Nancy Cortes</p> <p><b>Secretary</b>                  Marcie Rose</p> <p><b>Improvement Chair</b>                  Jim Kiehl</p> <p><b>Area rep #1</b>                  Robert Campagna</p> <p><b>Area rep #2</b>                  Michelle Alvarez</p> <p><b>Area rep #3</b>                  Patrick Cleary</p>	<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p> <p><b>Every Saturday</b>                  GP Farmers Market, 10a-3p, Goodwill parking lot, 3150 N. San Fernando Road</p> <p><b>September 3</b>                  Off tha' Hook Fish Derby, 8:30a-12:30p, Bowtie Parcel, 2780 Casitas Av, kids 6-17 free, info at: <a href="http://www.folar.org/offthahook">www.folar.org/offthahook</a></p> <p><b>September 8</b>                  GPIA General Meeting, 7pm, GP Community &amp; Senior Center, 3750 N. Verdugo Rd., see cover</p> <p><b>September 10</b>                  Summer BBQ, 2-6p, LA Reformed Presbyterian Church, 3557 Fletcher Dr, free, info: 323-255-8757</p> <p><b>September 20/October 18</b>                  GPNC Board meeting, 7pm, GP Community &amp; Senior Center, 3750 N. Verdugo Rd.</p> <p><b>September 24/October 29</b>                  Flash Cleanup! see page 6</p> <p><b>October 1</b>                  GPIA presents "Land Use 101", 10a-1p, GP Community &amp; Senior Center, 3750 N. Verdugo Rd., see page 3</p> <p><b>October 22</b>                  GPIA 48th Anniversary Dinner, see page 5</p> <p><b>October 28</b>                  Hallowe'en Party, 6-9pm, GP Community &amp; Senior Center, free, see page 10</p> <p><b>November 5</b>                  Clean Streets "Parkemon Go!" event, see page 7</p>
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Glassell Park Improvement Association  
 P.O. Box 65881  
 Los Angeles, CA 90065

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**



*If your label appears in blue, your membership has expired, please renew today! (see page 11)*

**Taking pride in our community since 1968! Join today!**