

MARCH/APRIL
2017



GLASSELL PARK
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
NEWS



**Civil
Disobedience
is a lever
which can
move the
world by using
peace as a
fulcrum.**

-Mehmet Murat Ildan

The GPIA General Membership meeting is Thursday, March 9th at 7:00pm

Students from local schools will show their skills:

Robotics
Irving Middle School

Drill team
SOHDA

Singing
GP Preschool

Artwork
Los Feliz School for the Arts

The GPIA will host the National Lawyers Guild of Los Angeles for a training on protocols for Civil Disobedience. Seating is limited and pre-registration is required. Please go to the GPIA website—www.gpia.org—to complete registration. See page 10 for more.



GPIA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 3/9/17

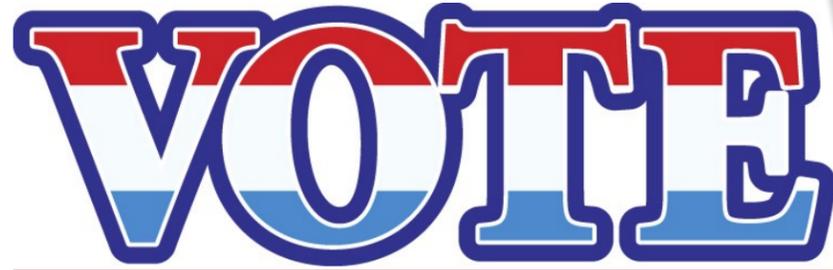


The next GPIA General Membership meeting will be held **Thursday, March 9th, at 7pm** at the Glassell Park Community & Senior Center
3750 N. Verdugo Road, L.A. 90065



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?



Elections are March 7th & April 4th!

- ✓ **GPNC approves Neighborhood Purpose Grant to GPIA**
The Glassell Park Neighborhood Council approved a Neighborhood Purpose Grant request filed by the GPIA. The grant awards the GPIA with \$3,700 to use for purchasing tools for our Flash Cleanup events, increasing outreach and printing of the GPIA News throughout 2017. The GPIA is grateful for the GPNC's support.
- ✓ **Kinney Street study report due by mid-March**
The Bureau of Engineering will conduct a land/property survey of Kinney Street between Crestmoore Place & Barryknoll. CD1 will work with the city's Chief Legislative Analyst to secure funding once the BoE's report has been reviewed.
- ✓ **Decision on 7-Eleven's application to open on Cazador**
The planning department approved 7-Eleven's application to open a 24-hour store at the site of the laundromat on Cazador Street that closed last year. The GPIA and GPNC opposed the store at that location mostly due to concerns about traffic in and out of the parking lot onto Cypress Avenue and San Fernando Road.
- ✓ **GPIA asks for pet items to help local shelter**
March is pet month in Glassell Park (see GPNC's plans on page 8) and the GPIA is participating by collecting donations of blankets, towels, newspapers and pet food. Bring your donations to the March meeting on the 9th, or come by any Saturday from 10am-12noon during Rummage Sale drop off hours.
- ✓ **GPNC looking to commission mural for GP post office**
The Glassell Park Neighborhood Council is working to bring a mural to the exterior of the Glassell Station post office on Eagle Rock Blvd. Information is available on their website: glassellparknc.org
- ✓ **GPNC presented library books to local schools**
The Glassell Park Neighborhood Council asked for wish lists of reading materials from schools in Glassell Park, and delivered those books—170 of them—shortly after the holidays.
- ✓ **Congressional District 34 Special Primary Election**
Because of former Congressman Xavier Becerra's new post as California's Attorney General, a special primary election will be held on April 4th to elect District 34's next Congressperson. If no candidate receives a majority of the primary vote, a runoff election between the top two vote getters will be held on June 6th.
- ✓ **Dog waste pickup stations installed at recreation area**
Council District 1, along with the Dept. of Recreation & Parks and the GPNC, installed much-needed dog waste pickup dispensers at the GP recreation center fields that are currently an ersatz dog park.
- ✓ **Did you know you can get your sample ballots via email?**
Sample ballots for future elections are available via email. Save a tree! Subscribe at: www.LAVote.net (click "Voting & Elections", then "voting options", then "sample ballot").



LETTER FROM GPIA PRESIDENT ERIC TALLMAN

About two weeks ago, on February 16th, I found myself in an unusual situation. I was standing in front of a room of 500+ people, with a microphone in my hand. The crowd was packed into the auditorium at the Sotomayor Learning Academies in Glassell Park for the Council District 1 Candidates Forum, sponsored by the GPIA.

I've never been much of a public speaker and at that moment I understood the depth of my discomfort. My heart was pounding and my shoulders were tense. I wondered if I had made a huge mistake by agreeing to open the evening with an introduction.

Somehow I managed to plod ahead and finish my 3 minute speech. Then the main event began. The audience was primed for this forum, and they got what they came for. There was dissent and there were outbursts, there was contention and disagreement. And that didn't even include the candidates.

The audience comments peaked and dropped in noisy waves throughout the evening. The candidates engaged in discourse that was periodically combative. The moderator kept an admirable control over everyone by reminding the entire room, sometimes in a steady voice, sometimes in a louder, firmer tone, to minimize interruptions and allow the evening to progress civilly.

When the evening was over, I felt mixed emotions. I was thrilled to see so many people showing such avid interest in the future of their communities. And I was discouraged by the recurring commotion that had defined the evening. I realized I had experienced a bout of politics in its rawest form.

The political process is a messy one. We may find it frustrating or angering, we may find it inspiring and uplifting, but for better or worse, we can't ignore it. Which gives us all the more reason to engage in one of the most personal political acts available to all of us: the opportunity to vote, quietly, in the serenity of a poll booth or the comfort of our homes, for the things we most strongly believe in. Get out and vote this March 7th!

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

Hace unas dos semanas, el 16 de Febrero, me encontré en una situación inusual. Yo estaba de pie frente a una habitación de más de 500 personas, con un micrófono en la mano en el auditorio en las academias de aprendizaje de Sotomayor en Glassell Park para el foro de los candidatos del distrito 1, patrocinado por GPIA.

Nunca he sido un orador público y en ese momento comprendí la profundidad de mi incomodidad. Mi corazón palpitaba y mis hombros estaban tensos. Me preguntaba si había cometido un error enorme al acordar abrir la noche con una introducción.

De alguna manera me las arreglé para seguir adelante y terminar mi discurso de 3 minutos. Entonces comenzó el evento principal. La audiencia fue preparada para este foro, y obtuvieron a lo que vinieron. Hubo disensión y hubo estallidos, hubo contención y desacuerdo y eso ni siquiera incluyó a los candidatos.

Los comentarios del público alcanzaron su punto máximo y cayeron en olas ruidosas durante toda la noche. Los candidatos se involucraron en un discurso periódicamente combativo. La moderadora mantuvo un admirable control sobre todos recordando a toda la sala, a veces con voz firme y fuerte, para minimizar las interrupciones y permitir que la noche progresara civilmente.

Cuando terminó, sentí emociones mezcladas. Me emocionó ver tanta gente mostrando un gran interés en el futuro de sus comunidades. También estaba desanimado por la conmoción recurrente que había definido la noche. Me di cuenta de que había experimentado una pelea de política en su forma más rápida.

El proceso político es desordenado. Podemos encontrarlo frustrante, podemos encontrarlo inspirador y edificante, pero para bien o para mal, no podemos ignorarlo. Lo que nos da más razón para participar en uno de los actos políticos más personales disponibles para todos nosotros: la oportunidad de votar, en silencio, en la serenidad de una cabina, o de votar en la comodidad de nuestros hogares, por las cosas que más fuertemente cree uno. Salga y vote este 7 de Marzo!

Follow us on:



Council District 1 Candidates Forum

The GPIA hosted a forum for candidates on the March 7th ballot to represent City Council District 1. Joe Bray-Ali, Gil Cedillo (incumbent), Giovany Hernandez and Jesse Rosas answered questions that were submitted to the GPIA website and/or at the event that took place on February 16th at Sotomayor Learning Academies in Glassell Park.



Moderator Gabriela Teissier, news anchor at Univision's Channel 34, handled the sometimes boisterous crowd with a professional's aplomb, and Ann Ruston from the League of Women Voters worked with organizers to make sure everything was in compliance with protocols for such events.

Numerous co-sponsors and supporters including the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council, Mt. Washington Homeowners Alliance, Arroyo Art Collective, Uptown Gay & Lesbian Alliance, Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council, Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council and Echo Park Neighborhood Council helped the GPIA comfortably accommodate more than 600 people. Dr. Ref Rodriguez and Field Deputy Ray Lopez Chang of LAUSD District 5 expedited use of the school and provided translation services.

The GPIA thanks everyone for their support and help.



Candidates (L-R) Giovany Hernandez, Gil Cedillo, Jesse Rosas & Joe Bray-Ali with moderator Gabriela Teissier
photo by Martha Benedict



A crowd estimated at over 600 people packed Sotomayor Learning Academies to hear candidates answer their questions.
photo by Brian Frohiser

Residents appeal Barryknoll Drive findings

Neighbors have been frustrated over the piece-mealing of multiple new homes planned for Barryknoll Drive without the appropriate Environmental Impact Report. They wrote letters to Gregory Shoop, City Planner, detailing the inadequacy of the Mitigated Negative Declaration in "mitigating" to a level of insignificance air quality, biological resources, geology & soils, hazards & hazardous materials, hydrology & water quality, land use, population & housing, noise, public services, transportation/traffic and public utilities. Every concern was dismissed by the City.

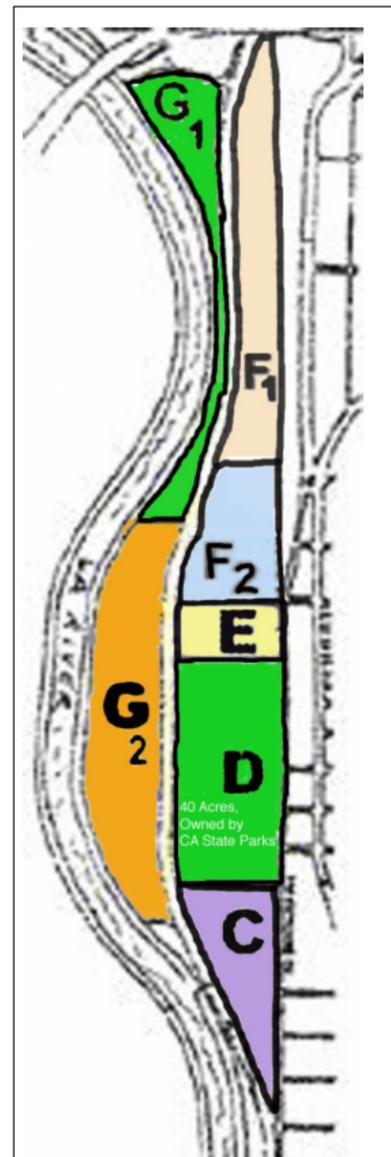
When CD1 declined to get involved, the community had no recourse but to file an appeal. That appeal is now moving through the city's process and a hearing date will be announced soon.

The GPIA has fought for the preservation of open space for nearly 50 years, and will send out a notice to ask our members to attend the hearing and show their support. If you have not already signed up for GPIA emails, please go to www.gpia.org and do so today.



Printing paid through a grant from the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council

City purchases G2 parcel connecting GP with LA River



- Rio de Los Angeles State Park
- Sonia Sotomayor Learning Academies
- LA Media Tech Center office park
- Slated for mixed use development
- Slated for addition to Rio de Los Angeles State Park

The Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously to approve the purchase of 42 acres of land at the center of plans to revitalize the Los Angeles River. The G2 parcel is the final remnant of Union Pacific Railroad's 250-acre Taylor Yard.

"This riverfront parcel is the crown jewel in our plan to enliven the Los Angeles River so that Angelenos can reclaim access to its natural wonder and rich history," said Mayor Garcetti. "I made the acquisition of this site a top priority, because it will create much-needed public open space in the middle of the city, provide extensive habitat restoration, and serve as a key access point for local communities to connect to the river. I'm grateful to the City Council for their visionary approach and spirit of collaboration in getting this done for the people of Los Angeles."

Taylor Yard is on the east bank of the L.A. River, north of Downtown in the communities of Glassell Park and Cypress Park. The surrounding parcels at Taylor Yard have already been developed into Rio de Los Angeles State Park (D), the Sonia Sotomayor Learning Academies (F2), and the Taylor Yard Transit Village (C). The G2 parcel will connect Rio de Los Angeles State Park with the Bowtie parcel (G1), another State Park site—opening up more than one mile of direct riverfront access. Mayor Garcetti worked closely with State Senate President *pro Tem* Kevin de León to secure \$25 million in state funding toward the City's purchase and development of the G2 parcel.

"My colleagues and I were relentless in making sure the City negotiated a fiscally responsible purchase and sales agreement to acquire the Taylor Yard G2 site," said Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell. "The Council action will enable the public to control the largest available piece of property along our Los Angeles River. Parcel G2 is a keystone for habitat restoration identified in our Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan."

Because of its size and location along a soft-bottomed stretch of the river, G2 can help restore riparian habitat, and is prioritized in both the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration project.

"It has been a process to secure the G2 site in Council District 1, but we are finally at the finish line," said Councilmember Gil Cedillo. "Acquiring the G2 parcel is the most integral part of the L.A. River Revitalization Master Plan, for it is the only direct access point to the river from the communities I represent. This a huge win for NELA and the beginning of the future for the L.A. River as we imagine it."

The project is expected to take several years and the cost, including buying the land, cleaning the toxic soil, restoring habitat and adding public improvements could reach \$252 million. When complete, the mostly empty site will be a place for residents to hike, bicycle, view wildlife and connect with the river.



**CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICT 1
SAFE STREETS
STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS**

**VOTE
MARCH 7
JOE BRAY-ALI**

AD PAID FOR BY M. PIANE

Developments could add thousands of new residents to Glassell Park

by Helene Schpak, Land Use Liaison



Glassell Park is in the middle of a housing boom. Along Eagle Rock Boulevard we've had homes and small businesses give way to apartment buildings, and one- and two-story commercial buildings replaced with four-story buildings. These new units have brought hundreds of new residents to our community and our streets.

But now we're faced with the greatest increase in density where former industrial and manufacturing zoned areas will be replaced with housing. Two such projects, both located in Council District One, are currently being planned.

The Bow Tie Lofts has an enviable location with the L.A. River to the west and the G1 Bow Tie lot, an undeveloped State Park, to the south. This project consists of 419 residential units and 64,000 square feet of commercial space. There is a planned 7-story parking garage for the 720 on-site parking spaces. In addition to the residents of this development, their visitors, diners at a proposed restaurant on the premises and people going to the Bow Tie State Park will also travel to and from the site.

The Bow Tie Lofts will be on Casitas Avenue, a small residential street that dead-ends at the location. The only approach to this development winds through the small residential neighborhood south of Fletcher Drive.

The Nutsite will be replacing the structure that is the current home of Western Mixers Produce & Nuts on San Fernando Road, located just south of the Glendale Freeway. 370 units of housing are being

planned for this development. The only entrance to the site will be just south of the freeway off-ramp on San Fernando Road, across from Ribet Academy.

It's difficult now to imagine what was behind the decision when CalTrans offset the on-ramp to the Glendale freeway north at San Fernando Road. Instead of aligning the on-ramp to the off-ramp across from it, as is most commonly done, CalTrans awkwardly placed the on-ramp on a curve and directly beside Ribet's exit. This project will add hundreds of vehicles to this area and exacerbate the traffic problems already plaguing this location.

These two projects, along with recent and planned construction along Eagle Rock Boulevard in Glassell Park and along San Fernando Road in Cypress Park, will add more than 1,000 new units to our community and thousands more trips on our inadequate infrastructure.

We're still early in the process of Nutsite and Bow Tie Lofts. But if we care about increased traffic, dangerous use of our roadways, and the community's ability to access the L.A. River and Bow Tie State Park (which belong to all us), we need to act now!

Public comments for Bow Tie Lofts must be sent by March 17. Send comments to Jonathan.Chang@lacity.org. Reference is Bow Tie Lofts / 2750 Casitas Ave. / ENV-2016-2852-EAF. Nutsite comments should be sent to Nuri.Cho@lacity.org. Reference is Nutsite / 2910 N. San Fernando Road / CPC-2016-4393-VZC-DB-CDO-SPR



On the March 7th ballot in Glassell Park:

Mayor
City Attorney
Controller
Councilmembers
Districts 1 & 13
LA Community
College Board
seats 2, 4 & 6

Measure H
Measure M
Measure N
Measure P
Measure S

and don't forget to vote again on April 4th!

Reports from the CA Senate & Mayor

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

When introducing SB 54, the California Values Act, Senate President *pro Tempore* Kevin de León said, "To the millions of undocumented residents pursuing and contributing to the California Dream, the State of California will be your wall of justice should the incoming Federal Administration adopt an inhumane and over-reaching mass-deportation policy." He added, "We will not stand by and let the federal government use our state and local agencies to separate mothers from their children."

SB 54 will ban state and local law enforcement officials from performing the functions of a federal immigration officer. San Francisco District Attorney George Gascón, formerly San Francisco's Police Chief and Deputy Police Chief in Los Angeles, noted that public safety suffers when local police enforce immigration laws. "When victims of crime don't come forward for fear of immigration consequences, the impact on public safety reaches far beyond immigrant communities," he said. (The California Values Act does not prevent state and local departments or agencies from complying with a judicial warrant to transfer violent offenders into federal custody for immigration enforcement purposes.)

SB 54 will also create "safe zones" throughout the state by prohibiting immigration enforcement on public school, hospital, and courthouse premises. To ensure eligible immigrants are not deterred from seeking services and engaging with state agencies, the bill also requires state agencies to review and update confidentiality policies.

Field Deputy Ben Pak
1808 W. Sunset Blvd., LA 90026
213-483-9300
ben.pak@sen.ca.gov

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

MAYOR GARCETTI ANNOUNCES FREE TAX PREP LOS ANGELES TO SUPPORT LOW-INCOME WORKING FAMILIES

Mayor Garcetti joined Jerome Horton of the California State Board of Equalization and Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin to launch Free Tax Prep Los Angeles. All 16 of the City's FamilySource Center (FSC) will be open throughout the tax season to assist families with claiming their refunds.

Find the nearest FSC, visit <https://www.freetaxprepla.com/appointments>.

MAYOR GARCETTI BRING THOUSANDS OF NEW TRASH BINS TO SIDEWALKS AND STREET CORNERS ACROSS LOS ANGELES

Mayor Eric Garcetti's Clean Streets program is ahead of schedule on the way to meeting his goal of placing 5,000 new trash bins along L.A. streets by 2019. The bins will be deployed to help make streets and sidewalks cleaner from the Valley to South L.A., East L.A. to Venice. The bins are specifically designed for fast easy pick-up, so the City can continue using resources as efficiently as possible.

For more information about the Clean Streets program, visit www.cleanstreetsla.com.

SUMMER NIGHT LIGHTS 2017 PROGRAM EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a summer job? Our local city parks are waiting for you!

Mayor Eric Garcetti's Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) is currently accepting applications for the Summer Night Lights (SNL) 2017 program.

Apply here, <http://grydfoundation.org/programs/summer-night-lights/snl-hiring/>.

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

Council Districts Reports

Council District 1 report from **Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo**

Dear Friends,

Escrow will be closing this week, for the G2 Parcel—the 42 acre piece of land owned by Union Pacific that is nestled near the LA Media Center, the Sonia Sotomayor Learning Academy, and Rio de Los Angeles State Park. This crown jewel will be the gateway Northeast LA to the LA River. We look forward to working with the Mayor and community on the vision for this land.

On January 30, we celebrated the opening of the new Riverside Dr. Bridge. It was good to be surrounded by so many members of the Glassell Park and Northeast community as we cut ribbon on this new bridge that includes a barrier protected auxiliary lane for pedestrians and bicyclists and multi-lane roundabout, which includes landscaping and a public art feature.

Team Cedillo participated in the GPIA Flash Clean Up around Glassell Park Elementary School. Partnering with the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council, the Department of Recreation and Parks installed 3 new doggie waste dispensers across the park. Team Cedillo plans to install more dispensers in the next 6 months and co-sponsoring a Neighborhood Dog and Walk Resource Fair with the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council in March.

We survived the storms these past months and although some hillsides saw small rock/ mud slides, thanks to the Bureau of Street Services, roads were re-opened the same day in Glassell Park. The collection of bulky items near storm drains was prioritized by the Sanitation Department to prevent storm drain blockage and street flooding. We can expect heavy storms through the end of March. For more emergency preparedness tips visit: www.readyla.org.

Please contact my office at (323)341-5671 for assistance to keep our district moving forward, making it #1.

Sincerely,
Gilbert Cedillo
Councilmember, 1st District

Dep. District Dir. Jose Rodriguez
5577 N. Figueroa St., LA 90042
323-550-1538
jose.a.rodriguez@lacity.org

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

Friends:

Last week, I joined my Glassell Park neighbors, Board of Public Works Commissioner Heather Repenning, the Bureau of Street Services, the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), as well as local bike advocates, to dedicate the Fletcher Drive Streetscape Project.

The scope of the work, which stretches from San Fernando Road to Eagle Rock Boulevard, included: rehabilitating 2,100 square feet of sidewalk, installing 19 access ramps, repairing 1,200 linear feet of new curb, and creating approximately 1,100 linear feet of landscaped medians and an automated irrigation system. The project also called for 70 new street trees, four trash receptacles and a new bike lane in each direction of travel. As the last remaining improvements to the streetscape, we will install four benches and a left turn signal at Fletcher Drive and Estara Avenue.

This stretch of Fletcher Drive, home to two schools, is heavily traveled and notorious for speeding. These improvements make for a safer walking, biking, and driving experience while beautifying the neighborhood and helping to clean the air. I want to thank the community, and the City departments, for their collaboration on this neighborhood improvement.

If you would like any additional information about this project, or if you have additional concerns in the neighborhood, please feel free to reach out to Hector Vega in my office at 213-207-3015.

Warm Regards,
Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell

Field Deputy Hector Vega
1722 Sunset Blvd., LA 90028
213-207-3015
hector.vega@lacity.org

Council District 14 report from **Councilmember José Huizar**

Hello Glassell Park,

I want to share that in February the City Council unanimously voted to decriminalize street vending. Los Angeles is the only big City in America that does not allow street vending and criminalizing otherwise honest, hardworking people trying to feed their families is not the answer, especially given the overreaching federal anti-immigrant environment we find ourselves in. I co-authored a motion 3 years ago calling for a sensible street-vending ordinance that is fair to all parties, protects the public by requiring County health and food regulations, and allows street vendors who want to follow the rules the opportunity to come out of the shadows. A **Street-Vending Ordinance** framework by Councilmembers Price, Buscaino, and myself was approved by the City Council and is now being worked on by City staff. Decriminalizing street vending represents a critical first step forward.

Locally 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 assist in cleaning up problem locations removing bulky items, picking up trash and debris, maintaining parkways and sidewalks, and upkeep of the medians. If you have a location which can benefit from these services please report it to our office. We also encourage residents to utilize the Monthly Bulky Item Bin placed in the parking lot at Eagle Rock City Hall every 4th 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

Sincerely,
José Huizar
Councilmember, 14th District

Field Deputy Lucy Aparicio
2035 Colorado Blvd., LA 90041
323-254-5295
lucy.aparicio@lacity.org

The GPIA's 2nd Annual Spring Clean
Rummage Sale
March 18th & 19th
9am to 3pm

DONATE! your Spring Cleaning discarded items to the GPIA
Donations for our sale will be accepted every Saturday from 10am-12noon
and by appointment until the sale. Contact: gp90065@gmail.com

All donations are tax-deductible (ask for a receipt) and all proceeds from the sale will benefit
Glassell Park through the GPIA's work in our community

Glassell Park Community & Senior Center / 3750 Verdugo Road

With the greenery and sunshine returning to Glassell Park, the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council is happy to announce a new Spring Fair community event. On **March 25th** we will be closing down a mile of Verdugo Road to host our first ever **NEIGHBORHOOD DOG WALK!**

We have food, music, and even a doggie costume contest planned. It'll be a great family-friendly event for the whole community to enjoy.

Tree People & City Plants will be on hand to give away 50 free shade trees, first come first served.

The event will run from 10am until 1pm. Street closure along Verdugo Road, from Eagle Rock Blvd to Ave 33, will run from 8am until 2pm.

Don't have a pet? The GPNC is hosting a **Super Pet Adoption** in the Glassell Park Community & Senior Center parking lot on **March 11th**. Best Friends Animal Society and the ASPCA will provide free adoptions of dogs and cats. The Amanda Foundation will be there to provide free spay/neuter services to all who qualify. And Glassell Park's new Affordable Animal Hospital will introduce themselves to the community.



March Flash Cleanup!



The Flash Cleanup on March 25th will take place where Verdugo meets Eagle Rock Blvd. in front of the Public Storage building. Volunteers will meet at 8am, and fan out to clean the heavily trafficked area. The group will spend no more than 45 minutes sprucing up the intersection and CDs 1 & 13 will handle pickup of filled trash bags. CD1 will have a roll-off bin for bulky items at Av 33 & Verdugo.

Contact: jekiehl@earthlink.net

GPIA hosts LA River Cleanup on April 22nd



The LA River Cleanup—La Gran Limpieza—is an amazing event that takes place IN the river each year, and the GPIA will, once again, host the Glendale Narrows site directly under the 2 Freeway in Glassell Park. This year, the community will clean this section of the river on April 22nd.

The event is organized by Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR), and participants are encouraged to get details, register and complete a waiver at: <https://folar.org/cleanup/#Register>

FoLAR will provide refreshments, gloves and trash bags, plus a free t-shirt for all volunteers. Directions to free parking can be found on the FoLAR website, or at www.gpia.org.

Monthly Flash Cleanups make a difference in Glassell Park

The ground was wet and it was a little chilly when we gathered, but January 21st was a beautiful day. We met in front of Glassell Park Elementary School, 18 of us in total. A great turnout considering we were competing with the huge Women's March in Downtown LA that same morning. Some families split up sending the men to our cleanup while the women went to the march.

CD 1 Field Deputy Jose Rodriguez was there with the CD1 Clean Team. We picked up trash and pulled weeds around the trees we planted last year. They are really responding well to the rain. The clean team filled their truck with trash and bulky items, and called 311 to get everything that would not fit picked up. A good effort for only 45 minutes! A lot of good things happened in our neighborhood and city that day.



Only two weeks later, on February 4th, we started off meeting with Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, CD13, over coffee. Someone asked about a left turn arrow on San Fernando Road at Fletcher Drive, and we found out LADOT agreed that an arrow is warranted at the intersection. CD 13 is looking for funding—over \$100,000—and will keep us updated.

We started the clean-up about 9:45am with a crew of about 25 people. CD13 supplied a roll-off bin their Clean Team arrived with their truck. Later CD13's anti-graffiti crew came to help also. By about 10:30 the bin had gone from empty to full. A great effort for 45 minutes of work. Thanks to all the volunteers who came out. Special thanks to CD13 staff Sylvan De La Cruz and Hector Vega for working with the GPIA and community to coordinate this event.



by Jim Kiehl

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E-mail linda@hainesre.com

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Gallery Real Estate

GPIA gets "Clean Streets" special award

GPIA Improvement Chair Molly Lynn Taylor accepted the 2016 Clean Streets award from President of the Board of Public Works Commission Kevin James at a reception at City Hall.

The GPIA was given the "Marketing Master" award and \$2,500 for its Parkémon concept and event.



GPIA will sponsor civil disobedience teach-in on March 29th



There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest. - Elie Wiesel

I had no idea that history was being made. I was just tired of giving up. - Rosa Parks

The GPIA will sponsor an educational evening on the topic of civil disobedience lead by the National Lawyers Guild/Los Angeles.

Civil disobedience has a long and honorable history in this country, most notably the civil rights movement and free speech movement along with thousands of individual acts of deliberative non-compliance.

Seating is limited, and a second teach-in may be scheduled if enough are interested. Pre-registration at www.GPIA.org is required and doesn't guarantee admission.

Signs banning bulky items installed on Bushwick Street



Council District 1 worked with the Bureau of Sanitation and LA Conservation Corps to install new "no dumping" signs on Bushwick Street, between Avenue 36 and Moss Avenue.

GPIA Area Representative Robert Campagna, along with community residents, identified this street as a problem area requiring numerous calls for illegal dumping collection.

Target will open on Eagle Rock Boulevard

At the GPIA's January meeting, Target representative John Dewes presented plans for a new store at the former Fresh & Easy site. The standing-room-only crowd learned that Target had already signed a lease, and were moving forward with a plan to open as early as July.



Many residents asked for the Target store to carry as large a grocery selection as possible. Mr. Dewes said that Target is very responsive to each community's needs and that they adjust their offerings accordingly. Nearby residents expressed concern about increased traffic on York & Avenue 42 and at the Eagle Rock Blvd. driveway.



CD14's Kevin Ocuillo agreed to ask LADOT to look into mitigating measures. Mr. Dewes gave his email address for further comments: john.dewes@target.com.

Riverside Drive Viaduct, bike/ped bridge & roundabout open

The new Riverside Drive viaduct is open. A curved bridge over railroad tracks and the LA River, it includes parallel barrier-protected lanes for pedestrians and cyclists. At the Cypress Park end of the bridge is a new multi-lane roundabout. The new design is the first modern roundabout in the city, and LADOT recommends patience and cooperation as drivers learn to navigate the circle.

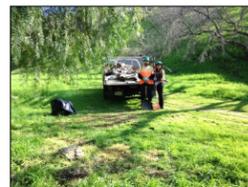


GPIA's call gets Moss Canyon cleanup



Before

After GPIA Area Rep Michelle Alvarez notified Council District 1 about illegal dumping in Moss Canyon, District Deputy Jose Rodriguez worked quickly with the LA Conservation Corps to remove bulky items and debris.



After



Do you shop at amazon.com

?????

If you go to

www.smile.amazon.com

and choose GPIA, a percentage of the amount you spend will be donated to us! It's the same Amazon site and account, but it benefits the community every time you shop! The GPIA received \$29.53 from Amazon in the last quarter—it adds up!

Glassell Park's Law Enforcers:

**Neighborhood Prosecutor
Tamar Galatzan**

213-978-7878 or email tamar.galatzan@lacity.org

Senior Lead Officer

Louie Reyes

213-793-0758 (cell)
or email 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 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

Contact the GPIANews at: 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 to join online OR bring the form and a check or credit card to our next meeting!



Neighborhood information at hand:

<p>City Council Field Offices</p> <p>Council District 1 Gil Cedillo 3750 Verdugo Road L.A., CA 90065 323-341-5671</p> <p>Council District 13 Mitch O'Farrell 1722 Sunset Blvd L.A., CA 90026 213-207-3015</p> <p>Council District 14 José Huizar 2035 Colorado Blvd L.A., CA 90041 323-254-5295</p>	<p>2017 GPIA Board Members</p> <p>President Eric Tallman</p> <p>Vice President Fatima Guzman</p> <p>Treasurer Nancy Cortes</p> <p>Secretary Marcie Rose</p> <p>Improvement Chair Molly Lynn Taylor</p> <p>Area Representatives Robert Campagna Michelle Alvarez Patrick Cleary</p> <p>Land Use Liaison Helene Schpak</p> <p>Newsletter Editor Marge Piane</p>	<p>Upcoming Events</p> <p>March 4, 11 & 17 Drop off donations for the Spring Clean Rummage Sale from 10a-12noon, see pg 8</p> <p>March 7 Primary Election Day, see page 6, polling places vary</p> <p>March 9 GPIA General Meeting, 7pm, see cover</p> <p>March 11 Super Pet Adoption event, see pg 8</p> <p>March 18 & 19 Spring Clean Rummage Sale, 9a-3p, both days, see pg 8</p> <p>March 21 & April 18 GPNC Board meeting, 7pm</p> <p>March 25 Flash Cleanup!, Eagle Rock Blvd. at Verdugo, see pg 9</p> <p>GPNC's Spring Fair & Dog Walk, see page 8</p> <p>March 29 Civil Disobedience teaching session, 7pm, see pg 10</p> <p>April 4 Congressional District 34 Special Primary Election, see page 2</p> <p>GPNC Town Hall Workshop on Sustainability, 7:30pm</p> <p>April 22 (Earth Day) LA River Cleanup, see pg 9</p> <p>Earth Day events at Rio de Los Angeles State Park</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All meetings and events are at the Glassell Park Community & Senior Center 3750 N. Verdugo Road, unless otherwise noted.</p>
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Glassell Park Improvement Association
P.O. Box 65881
Los Angeles, CA 90065

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Taking pride in our community since 1968! Join today!