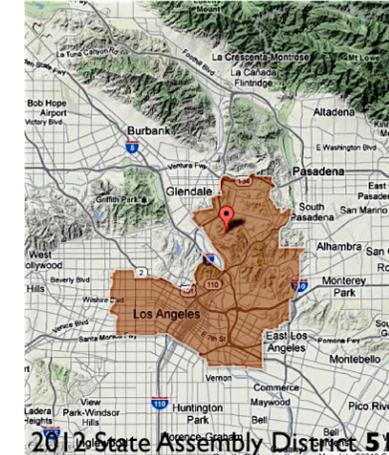


New State Assembly Districts for Glassell Park



The voter-appointed California Citizens Commission has redrawn state legislative districts with the twin goals of reflecting California's communities and diversity, and eliminating much of the partisan-based gridlock that has bound Sacramento for decades.

As a result of the new maps, Glassell Park will no longer be in District 44, represented by Anthony Portantino; but will be mostly within District 51, with a small area in District 43.



The June 2012 election will determine our representation from each of these districts. Every ten years, as a result of the census, redistricting occurs on many levels of government. In addition to State Assembly, a new map for State Senate has recently been approved for the June election.

Redrawn maps for LAUSD and Los Angeles City Council, among others, are not yet final, see page 3 for more.

Candidates forum...

For the **March 15** general membership meeting (see info below) President Alisa Smith has invited candidates for **California State Assembly District 51** (representing much of Glassell Park) to meet in a public forum.

We are pleased to welcome special guest **Assembly Member Anthony Portantino**.

Confirmed candidates include **Arturo Chavez, Jimmy Gomez, Oscar Gutierrez and Luis Lopez**.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet the candidates, hear their platforms and question them about what is important to each of us and our community.



★GPIA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING★

The next GPIA General Membership meeting will be held on

Thursday, March 15, 2012, 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 pool.

What's going on in Glassell Park?

✓ Parcel G2

Developer Trammell Crow extended its option to purchase parcel G2, adjacent to El Rio de Los Angeles State Park, until June 30th. Owned by Union Pacific RR, the parcel, crucial to the plans for LA River revitalization, could double the size of El Rio park extending its boundaries to the river's edge.

✓ Verizon Wireless Tower

The GPIA opposes any artistic modification (including the faux tree that Verizon supports) of the planned Wireless Telecommunication Facilities tower next to the 2 Freeway off San Fernando Road. (See the GPIA's position on WTFs on page 5.) The East LA Area Planning Commission appeal hearing scheduled for Feb. 22, was postponed to March 14 at Ramona Hall. Contact Andy Montealegre at 323-317-2966 for more info.

✓ Air & Noise Pollution hearings

Neighborhood organizations and the AQMD are meeting with representatives of Metrolink with an eye toward mitigating potentially harmful emissions from trains idling at their maintenance facility along San Fernando Road. Watch for future meetings, they are open to the public.

✓ Bus shelters

Funds are in place to proceed with construction of the long-awaited Glassell Park Transit Pavilion. The pavilion will be located next to our south monument at the junction of San Fernando Road, Eagle Rock Blvd. and Verdugo Road.

✓ Farmers Market

SEE-LA, the group that runs the Atwater Village Farmers Market among many others, plans to open a Farmers Market in Glassell Park. Surveys are being developed for community input on potential locations, days & times and vendor offerings. For more information, contact Alejandra Marroquin (CD13) or Joyce Chan (joyce@see-la.org).

✓ Peace in the Northeast

Local students are encouraged to participate in a poster design contest for the 5th Annual Peace in the Northeast Unity Day. Deadline is March 16. For more information, contact Christine Kim at 323-361-7511 or chkim@chla.usc.edu



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear GPIA Members,

Welcome to our new Newsletter!! The 2012 GPIA board is working on improving our communication skills, and we have Marge Piane as publisher/editor to thank for this exciting edition. You'll find plenty of links for more information and ways to contact public officials, we urge you to take advantage of all the resources you need and want. The GPIA as a whole, is empowered by your engagement individually.

This last month has been very busy in North East LA, and I have been proud to represent you. The most heartwarming event was the opening ceremony for the new affordable housing development co-located on the site of our new Early Education Center, across the street from GP Elementary. The ceremony was well attended and Jackie Goldberg spoke honoring community support and especially the role that Joan Lundy played in

having the site developed as one of the first joint-use projects with LAUSD. Eric Garcetti, who was instrumental in realizing the project, spoke as well. Some of the families spoke about how meaningful it was for them to be able to afford to live in such a nice place. Even the bank/funders were pleased to be able to work on this groundbreaking project.

If you are receiving our email alerts you may know the GPIA is participating in meetings that have shown the tremendous power of the various community organizations of North East LA when we gather together--among them was a meeting regarding the future of Parcel G2, the open space known as Taylor Yards alongside the LA River and the State Park. Please see the article here: <http://www.kcet.org/socal/departures/landofsunshine/la-river/the-los-angeles-river-is-for-sale-but-at-what-cost.html>

Communication is a two way street--please email us at gpia90065@gmail.com, or call me at 213-910-3491.

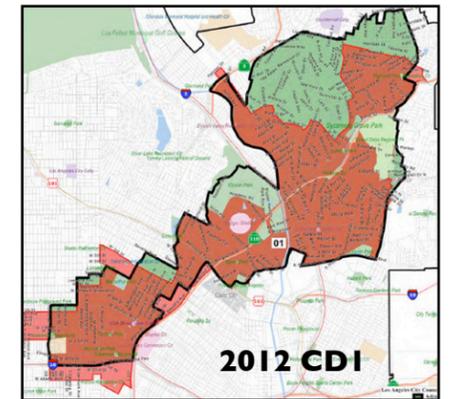
Your suggestions for improvements are always appreciated!

Thank you!

Alisa

Commission's final Council Districts map sent to City Council for approval

The Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission approved, by a 16-5 vote, their final map for new City Council District boundaries that will be sent to the L.A. City Council for adoption or alteration. The council has until July to approve a final map.



In this new map, Glassell Park would be divided between CD1 and CD14 with most of the area in CD1; and CD13 would lose its offices at the GP Community & Senior Center facility that it helped bring to the neighborhood, since it would no longer represent any of Glassell Park.

There is still opportunity for comment. Various commissioners who voted against the map can submit a minority report to the council; and all commissioners can make specific recommendations for changes.

For more information, call the LACCRC office at 213-922-7740. Comments from the public, emailed in letter form, should be sent to the Los Angeles City Council Rules & Elections Committee: councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councilmember.english@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org and the LACCRC at: myriam.lopez@lacity.org

LAUSD considers new Plan for Northeast LA

Northeast Los Angeles will be represented on the LA Board of Education by Board President Monica Garcia, and Board Member Bennett Kayser will be moved out of the area if two organizations--the Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund and the National Association of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials--get their way. The two organizations presented proposed maps at the meeting of the LAUSD Redistricting Commission on February 10 where only about 25 constituents were in attendance. Notice of the meeting went out mid-afternoon the day before. A final mapping proposal is to be sent by March 1, and the City Council will have until July 1 to adopt a final set of school district maps. More information at www.redistricting2011.lacity.org

From a detailed article by Margaret Arnold that appeared in The Arroyo Seco Journal (<http://thearroyosecojournal.com>) on 2/12/12.

Council Districts Deputy Reports

Council District 1 report from **Sonia Jimenez**
Field Deputy for
Councilmember Ed Reyes

Councilmember Reyes recently announced an additional \$450,000 to complete the all-important LA River Ecosystem Feasibility Study. What is most critical, says Reyes, is \$100,000 came from President Obama's administration.

For the past year, Reyes has been increasingly vocal about engaging Washington D.C. into renewing the city's river way. Indeed, Reyes has lobbied the nation's capitol for funding while making the case that a renewed Los Angeles River could be duplicated across the country.

"Here in Northeast Los Angeles, we have made great strides in bringing the river back to life and it's heartening to know that our President is recognizing that effort," said Reyes.

The study, conducted by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, is analyzing an 8-mile river segment to identify areas most suitable to, among other things, create more open space. The study is slated to be complete in June of 2013.

Contact Sonia Jimenez:
Field office: 213-485-0763
sonia.g.jimenez@lacity.org

Council District 13 report from **Sally Martinez**
Senior Caseworker for
Councilmember Eric Garcetti

Kathryn Cerra Associates completed a design for different options we can pursue to enhance pedestrian access and beautify two major corridors in Glassell Park-- Fletcher Drive between Avenue 36 & the Metrolink track near Van de Kamps, and Eagle Rock Boulevard between Cypress & Avenue 40. Currently CD13 has been submitting proposals for funding to begin work on the streetscape project.

Our office partnered with the DWP, GPIA and GPNC to trim trees and bring new lighting to Verdugo Road. Through DWP's assistance, we now have 27 newly installed or upgraded lights. With the GPIA and GPNC's help, we raised \$6000, and were able to trim critically overgrown trees on Verdugo Rd. between Eagle Rock Blvd. & Carlyle St. We are exploring ways to maintain tree clearance in this area.

The Glassell Park Early Education Center is to be completed in April, the housing component held its ribbon cutting on Jan. 31.

Contact Sally Martinez:
Field office: 323-478-9002
sally.martinez@lacity.org

Council District 14 report from **Nate Hayward**
Field Deputy for
Councilmember Jose Huizar

With the help of the LAPD and our office, Kinney Place and Kinney Circle community members established the Kinney Neighborhood Watch. Our office worked with the DWP to install new lights around the Circle and the vigilance and improvements have been extremely helpful in fighting crime in the area.

In December, CD 14 partnered with the GPIA and the GPNC to celebrate the holidays by hosting the 4th Annual Glassell Park Tree Lighting. A great time was had by all!

After a massive December windstorm, Councilmember Huizar was concerned about the City's response and pressured DWP and other city departments to restore power and clean up debris quickly. He also issued a motion asking for a full report. Working with community members, CD 14 staff organized cleanups and cleared sizable amounts of debris in Glassell Park and other communities. Councilmember Huizar thanks all the volunteers for displaying true holiday spirit!

Contact Nate Hayward:
Field office: 323-254-5295
nate.hayward@lacity.org

Maggie Daret-Quiroz, Beautification Chair



For the mayor's day of service this year, the focus is on Good Food in LA. The **Mayor's Good Food Day LA** will be March 31st from 9a-1p, with a volunteer celebration at 1p, the location is still being determined.

The Glassell Park Community Garden is participating that day from 9-noon. Afterwards several folks will go to the volunteer celebration in a bus.

Some events at the GP Community Garden:

- Chefs from the Good Food Network out of LA Trade Tech providing samples of recipes & interactive workshops on how to prepare traditional meals with alternative healthy items.
- A workshop on how to grow herbs & other food in apartments & small containers. We will provide containers, seeds, seedlings and potting soil.
- A cook-off with several chefs making recipes from items in the garden (this is still pending).

There will be enough samples for 200 people and a variety of spa water (water with fruit, cucumber, etc.)

We are also planning on having a community clean up in the Drew Street area.

Glassell Park Community Garden is at 3304 Drew St.

Paul McDermott, History Chair

Among the colorful characters Glassell Park has had as residents over the years is **Richard Ferraro**, a former teacher at Franklin High School. His 14-year tenure on the LAUSD board of education was stormy. He was censored twice by his colleagues for his name calling and "abrasive, unstudied style." He was strongly opposed to mandatory busing in the public schools and favored a return to corporal punishment, such as paddling, as a discipline measure. "Some children are literally thumbing their noses at their teachers," he claimed, "and corporal punishment would be a powerful deterrent against misbehavior." He was joined by other school officials in calling for a return to the old system of punishment, which he referred to as "applied psychology to the behind." In 1993 the controversial Ferraro lost his bid for reelection to the District 5 seat, and corporal punishment in the schools was again abolished by a new school board that included progressive, Jackie Goldberg.



Myrian Magana, Education Chair

Glassell Park's Washington Irving Middle School is hosting a series of **Parents Workshops** to correspond with the ongoing and highly successful Aztecs Rising program that promotes peace, self-sufficiency and quality of life for youth, adults and families through gang intervention, violence prevention, case management and job readiness services. Aztecs Rising seeks to break the cycle of violence in the community.

The workshops are held every Thursday at the middle school from 9am to 11am in Room 107, and are open to all parents in the community.

Please call the Parent Center for more information: 323-259-3735.



Helene Schpak, Land Use Liaison

The GPIA had a recent opportunity to reassert our position on **Wireless Telecommunication Facilities** (WTF) when Verizon proposed placing an 70' monopine next to the Glendale Freeway off San Fernando Road. Our longstanding position is that WTF companies:

- Be required to supply a book of their creative designs that would make the towers more adaptive to their environment if a design is warranted.
- Provide maps of their current and proposed WTF locations within a one-mile radius of the specific proposed WTF, and those grid maps to be made easily available to the community.
- Prove their inability to co-locate on a pre-existing WTF structure.
- Be refused to locate atop or directly alongside a residential building.

We further suggest that the Dept. of Planning create a master plan to coordinate WTF locations to minimize their visual impact per the Northeast Community Plan; and that WTF placement be considered in a revenue enhancing relationship with locations on city, county and state properties to be evaluated in a standardized contract.

2011 GPIA BOARD IS THANKED BY COUNCIL OFFICES AND COMMUNITY

On Thursday, January 19th, the Glassell Park Improvement Association's outgoing board members were honored by Field Deputies of Council Districts 13 and 14 with certificates thanking them for their service to our community.

Representing Councilmember Jose Huizar, CD14, was Nate Hayward; and representing Councilmember Eric Garcetti, CD13, was Alejandra Marroquin.



Back row (L-R): Nate Hayward (CD14), Marshall Blanchard, Janis McCarthy, John Geary, Bob McCarthy, Alisa Smith, Jim Kiehl, Alejandra Marroquin (CD 13); Front row (L-R): Joan Potter, Maggie Daret-Quiroz, George Brauckman (photo by Mitch O'Farrell)

2012 GPIA BOARD SWORN IN

The new board of the Glassell Park Improvement Association was sworn in on Thursday, January 19th.

Alejandra Marroquin from Councilmember Eric Garcetti's office and Nate Hayward from Councilmember Jose Huizar's office administered their oaths.

Outgoing GPIA president, George Brauckman, handed the gavel to incoming president, Alisa Smith.

The new board is listed on the back page of the "Newsletter".

In addition, Maggie Daret-Quiroz was appointed Beautification Chair, Paul McDermott was appointed History Chair, Myrian Magana was appointed Education Representative and Helene Schpak was appointed Land-Use Liaison.

In Memory
of
LUIGI DAL PONTE
founding member and past president of the
GLASSELL PARK IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION



Longtime friend of our neighborhood,
rest in peace.

323/254-9138
1833 Colorado Blvd., Eagle Rock 90041
Open Daily From 8 am To Closing
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Specials • Full Service Bar
Live Music Nightly • Family Owned & Operated Since 1954

SAVE 15% ON YOUR DINING EXPERIENCE
Offer good Sunday - Thursday.
Not valid on Holidays or with other offers.
Colombo's Italian Steakhouse and Jazz Club
GPN Offer expires 3/31/12

www.colombosrestaurant.com



ADVERTISE in the GPIA NEWS
Advertise your business to over 250 households in Glassell Park! Your ad will be targeted to consumers who care about their community and want to patronize and support our local businesses. Your business-card sized ad will run in six consecutive issues of our newsletter, the "Glassell Park Improvement Association News", for \$125.00. A quarter-page ad, for more impact and visibility, is \$300.00 for six issues. Other sizes & monthly rates are available. Email us at gpia90065@gmail.com to place an ad or request more information.

The GPIA Newsletter is published on the 1st of January, March, May, July, September and November. Designed and edited by Marge Piante. Submissions welcome. Contact GPIA at: gpia90065@gmail.com

JOIN the GPIA!

Become engaged in our community! For your annual dues, you will receive our newsletter, invitations to our meetings & special events, and the opportunity to participate in our improvement projects.

The GPIA meets on the third 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)
- Senior (60+) (\$12)
- Household membership (\$25)
- Business membership (\$25)
- 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 bring the completed form and your check to our next meeting!

Neighborhood information at hand:

Council Field Offices

Council District I
Ed Reyes
163 S.Avenue 24, Room 202
L.A., CA 90031
213-485-0763

Council District 13
Eric Garcetti
3750 Verdugo Road
L.A., CA 90065
323-478-9002

Council District 14
Jose Huizar
2035 Colorado Blvd
L.A., CA 90041
323-254-5295

Upcoming Events

March 10
Community Job Fair at Dodger Stadium. Info: 323-224-1466 or LACommunityJobFair.com

March 15
GPIA general membership meeting with Assembly Member Anthony Portantino and candidates forum

March 31
Mayor's Day of Service (see pg. 5)

May 19
5th Annual Peace in the Northeast Unity Day

June 8
Glassell Park Elementary School's 100th Anniversary celebration

GPIA Board Members

President
Alisa Smith

Vice President
Janis McCarthy

Treasurer
Jim Kiehl

Secretary
Bob McCarthy

Improvement Chair
Joan Potter

Area rep #1
Toni Livingston

Area rep #2
John Geary

Area rep #3
Scott Piotrowski

Glassell Park Improvement Association
P.O. Box 65881
Los Angeles, CA 90065

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Taking pride in our community since 1968