

CANYON AREA PRESERVATION

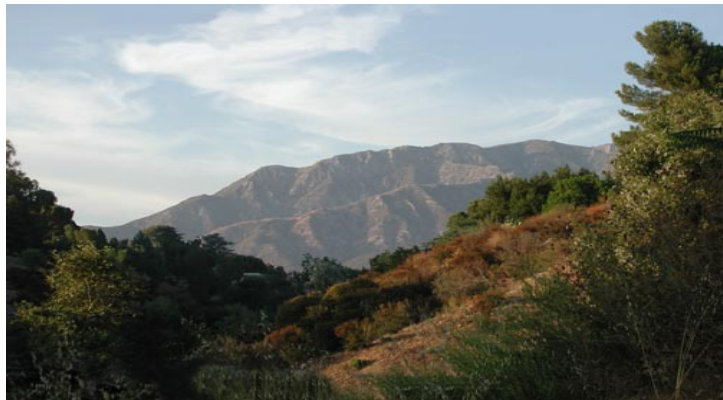
Information about preserving our canyons, hillsides, and the foothills.

Summer 2004

Volume 1, Issue 12

VIEWS

LOCAL INPUT / LOCAL CONTROL



People Everywhere Take Action!

There is a groundswell of concern about Whitebird's Canyon Hills project emerging in Sunland, Tujunga, Lake View Terrace, Shadow Hills, La Tuna Canyon, Glendale and the Crescenta Valley. It is inspiring to see so many people taking action in so many different ways.

The question for you, dear reader, is "What are you doing?" It is definitely a lot of work to attend meetings, inform your neighbors, write letters, build web sites – but if you don't do it, who will?

The question you should be asking is "What can I do?" This issue is all about what people are doing in

very tangible and helpful ways to express their concerns about what this precedent-setting land speculation deal will do to our community.

None of us will be heard if we just complain, whine, or wring our hands and say "it's inevitable". We need positive, public action by concerned citizens to tell the developer, the Planning Department, and the City Council that we want to preserve what is good about our community, that we welcome responsible growth that enhances our strengths but we reject development ideas that shred our Community Plan.

Your support for all this work will be appreciated.

Canyon Hills Update

The Whitebird Inc. Canyon Hills project is a proposal to build 280 homes on both sides of the 210 Freeway between La Tuna Canyon Road and Sunland Boulevard.

The Final Environmental Impact Report is way overdue. It was supposed to come out in May, then June, but we haven't seen it yet by mid-July.

When it comes out, there will be a 10-day period to respond to its conclusions (Wendy Greuel has been asked if she can get that extended to 30 days). Then the proposal will move rapidly through the Planning Department process of approval.

www.lacity.org/PLN - Click on "Environmental/Draft Environmental Impact Reports" or "Final EIR" when it's out.

www.verdugohills.net/canyonhills - Local activist site.

www.canyonhills.info - This is the developer's web site.

www.gcvoice.org - Glendale-Crescenta VOICE.

www.savetheverdugos.com - New site with a great song!

Say What You Feel

You can continue to provide input throughout the public Planning Department process. In fact, the more the better! Copy every Councilmember, the Mayor, and the Planning Department. Please be factual with your input:

Los Angeles City Council, 200 N. Spring St., LA, CA 90012

CD1: Ed Reyes, Rm 410, reyes@council.lacity.org

CD2: Wendy Greuel, Rm 475, greuel@council.lacity.org

CD3: Dennis Zine, Rm 450, zine@council.lacity.org

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CD5: Jack Weiss, Rm 440, weiss@council.lacity.org

CD6: Tony Cardenas, Rm 455, Cardenas@council.lacity.org

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the editor's)

Sunland-Tujunga Vision 2020

One of the most significant developments in the community is the formation of this group by the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council, led by Julianne Maurseth, a local professional woman.

What is "Sunland-Tujunga VISION 2020"?

- **A proactive approach** to looking 15 years ahead and planning a beautiful, well-designed, and economically-feasible future for our Community.
- **A road map** to help us bring our Community Plan to life in tangible ways, stage by stage, over time – including:
 - A "small town" feel and a "walking community".
 - Emphasis on our historical & cultural resources.
 - Protecting our open spaces and scenic beauty.

- More trees, flowers, parks, fountains and gathering places.
- Creating aesthetic design and color.
- Eliminating visual blight, trash and unsightliness.
- Charming restaurants and shops.
- Slow growth – so that we do not become a Valencia!
- And many other wonderful ideas from the Community.

- **A way to create greater collaboration** between all stakeholders – residents, business owners, conservationists, developers, and all members of the Community.

A tangible "Vision" and Plan make the difference!

- **Stay informed:** Attend meetings, see www.sunlandtujunga.org; ask questions!

Share your ideas – contact the STNC; call/write Project Liaison, Julianne Maurseth at 818/352-3651; jem@awakeatwork.com.

Volunteer to help!

SAVE THE VERDUGOS A BENEFIT CONCERT PARTY AND BAKE SALE

DATE: July 24, 2004
TIME: 12:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.
PLACE: Canyon Theatre
(behind 9407 Reverie Road, Tujunga, CA)
(818) 353-8688

THIS BENEFIT CONCERT AND BAKE SALE IS BEING ORGANIZED TO HELP RAISE NEEDED FUNDS TO PAY FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL LAWYER. This is your invitation to a "private party", however you are encouraged to invite your friends and family. We are nondenominational and will accept donations from anyone (in any denomination).

MANY GIFTED MUSICIANS HAVE AGREED TO DONATE THEIR TALENTS TO THIS BENEFIT CONCERT PARTY.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CANYON THEATRE

Take the 210 Freeway and get off at LOWELL off ramp, go North up hill. FOOTHILL Blvd. turn Left. Travel down FOOTHILL Blvd., past COMMERCE Blvd. to HILLHAVEN Street (there is a Travel Inn on the SW corner) and turn Left. Travel South on HILLHAVEN up the hill to first "Y" in the road-veer Right to remain on HILLHAVEN. At next "T" in the road-turn Left to remain on HILLHAVEN. At the next "Y" in the road-veer Right again and you will now be on REVERIE Road. Go down REVERIE Road and the Theatre will be behind house located at 9407 REVERIE Road, the 2nd Driveway after the "hairpin" curve in the road (cliffs on Left side and Gray 3-story stucco house with red piping trim on Right). Volunteers will help you park.

BAKERS AGAINST WHITEBIRD OR HELP SAVE THE VERDUGOS WITH PASTRIES

"ATTENTION ALL COOKS"

Do you have a favorite pastry recipe? Would you like to help fight Whitebird and the Canyon Hills Development? **If so, please contact Lucy Burger @ 818/352-9973, lucyann01@comcast.net or Lien Seese @ 818/352-1450, seese@earthlink.net.**

You can donate baked goods to be offered at the Benefit Concert Party to be held on July 24, 2004 (see Benefit Concert Flyer for place and time).

All baked goods must be divided into serving sizes and placed within sealed baggies or wrapped in plastic wrap (i.e. 2 to 3 cookies in a bag or slice of cake wrapped in plastic). All baked goods must be wrapped (if they are left open we attract the bees, plus they are easier to sell). **ALL BAKED GOODS WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE AT THE CONCERT BY DONATION ONLY.**

If you want to donate baked goods, please make sure to have them delivered to the Concert site no later than noon on July 24th. If you want to donate but cannot attend or will be coming to the event later in the day, contact Lucy Burger for alternate delivery time and place.

www.SaveTheVerdugos.com

Craig Durst has created a new web site with beautiful photos of our area, a sign-up list to register your concern, and he's written a wonderful anthem for our area! You can hear the song on the web site, and here are the beautiful words.

VERDUGO MOUNTAIN'S MAJESTY

Why can't you see
our Verdugo Mountain's Majesty?
Instead you want to cut her oak trees down
and send her wildlife running into town

And why can't you see
that most the people here just don't agree
with your plans, to break our rules,
to change our lives, forever more

Would you destroy the Garden of Eden?
Would you dam up Niagara Falls?
Would you bulldoze the Grand Canyon
or drain the Great Lakes and the Everglades too?

Then why can't you see
our Verdugo Mountain's Majesty?
Instead you want to rape and grade her bare,
while those who love her watch in shock and despair
So I want to know

(repeat chorus)

Then why can't you see
our Verdugo Mountain's Majesty?
Instead you want to send cement trucks in,
while you count your money and you toast to your
sins,

BUT
You still can see
our Verdugo Mountain's Majesty !

Call For Donations

Several groups and many individuals in our community are concerned about the impact of the Canyon Hills project.

Please make a tax-deductible donation to help us with the costs of responding to this project. The future of our community is at stake, and your donation could make the difference:

Glendale-Crescenta V.O.I.C.E.

PO Box 273

Montrose, CA 91021

818-249-0900

www.gcvoice.org

Glendale-Crescenta V.O.I.C.E.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE (in the next VOICE newsletter)

By Marc Stirdivant, Chairman

From time to time we are asked, "What is VOICE doing now that the fight to save Oakmont is over?" The answer is... Plenty!

Much of our recent work has been done quietly, some of it behind the scenes, and none of it with the public uproar that accompanied the Oakmont battle. But we have been hard at work - as our mission statement says - preserving and protecting open space in Glendale and the Crescenta Valley for the benefit of future generations.

The bulk of our efforts have been directed at what many have called "the next great battle for the Verdugos." This, of course, is the Canyon Hills project, a 280-home development on both sides of the 210 freeway just west of La Tuna Canyon Road.

In May and June we led the community in a successful fight against Glendale Water and Power's proposal to install above-ground power lines along the eastern crest of the Verdugo Mountains. You can read VOICE President, Richard Toyon's article on page three to learn how this battle was waged.

We also supported the City Council's efforts to purchase additional open space in Chevy Chase Canyon. With the purchase of the Poulsen and Murchison Tracts, the City added 228 acres of open space to its inventory.

On the horizon, another open space battle is looming. In April, upon learning that the beautiful Verdugo Hills Golf Course had been sold to a Calabasas-based developer, VOICE immediately took a position opposing any commercial or residential development of this historic recreational facility. We are ready to lead the fight to protect this wonderful community resource from destruction.

You will also note that something new has been added to our enclosed donation envelopes. For the first time, when you donate to VOICE, you can designate where you would like your contribution to go to.

If you select "Canyon Hills" your contribution will go to specifically to the fight to prevent development in the Sunland-Tujunga portion of the Verdugos.

If you choose "Other VOICE Activities" your donation will go toward such efforts as preserving the Verdugo Hills Golf Course, working with community members on open space issues, or taking on unplanned battles such as the Verdugo Power Lines project.

Whichever you designate, we ask that you give generously and, as always, we thank you.

(reprinted by permission from G-C V.O.I.C.E.)

www.verdugohills.net

Dean Wallraff's wonderful site, one of the first to put out information about Canyon Hills. He has background on who's behind Whitebird that you won't find anywhere else, certainly not in the mainstream media!

Please visit www.tjungawatershed.org and register your support for Deb Baumann's work!

Tujunga Watershed Council & Stakeholders



- News
- Hot Topics
- About Us
- Our Watershed
- Our Community
- Reference

Preserving the Upper Los Angeles River

- Mission
- Join Us
- Success Stories
- Press Archive
- Z

Our Vision

"Promoting ecologically sound watershed management and preserving open space wildlife habitat in balance with the adjacent urban environment."

Our Mission

To foster better understanding and stewardship of the Tujunga Watershed, ensure effective flood control, promote resource restoration, and to improve sustainable watershed health, functions, and uses.

Goals / Objectives

To preserve the Big and Little Tujunga washes as wildlife corridors to link Hansen Dam Basin with the Rim of the Valley Corridor Park.

To raise public awareness of the Tujunga Watershed and encourage participation in management and protection of our watershed resources.

To identify problems and issues of importance to local citizens, groups, and users of the watershed.

To diminish and eliminate further degradation of the watershed and its resources.

To promote, preserve, and protect appropriate uses of the watershed.

To increase the viability, diversity, and health of the watershed and its ecosystems through best management practices.

To implement monitoring methods for water quality and, via data collection, to set baseline for future environmental impact assessment of the watershed.

To promote an integrated approach to meeting water quality regulations for the watershed.

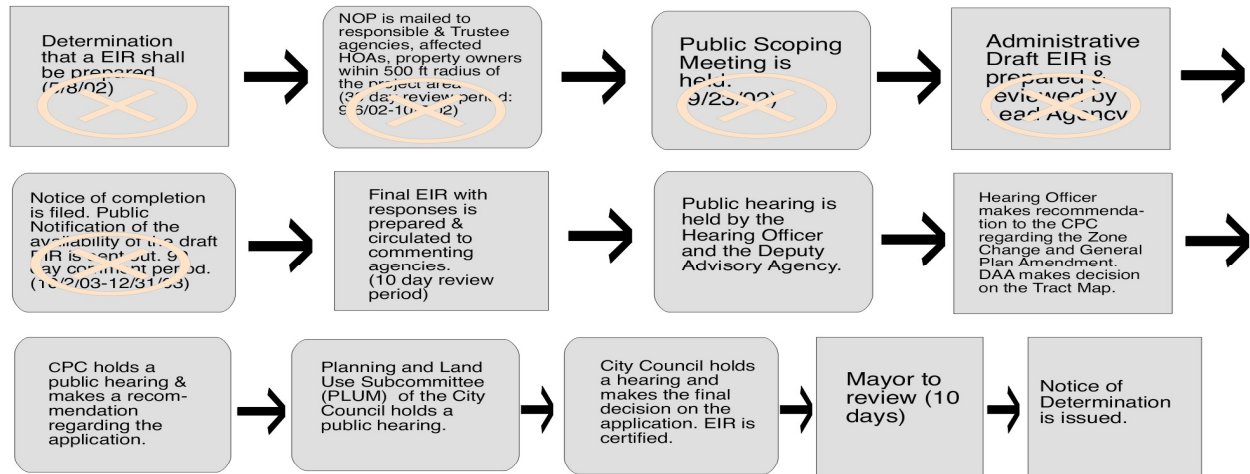
To create and support implementation of a comprehensive Watershed Management Master Plan (WMMP) which addresses current and potential problems, solutions, prioritization of projects, funding opportunities, restoration and enhancement measures, and monitoring programs within the Tujunga Watershed.

Z

There's is not much to be said about this!
6/4/02



Overview of Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Process Canyon Hills Project



EIR Environmental Impact Report
NOP Notice of Preparation
HOA Homeowners Association
CPC City Planning Commission
DAA Deputy Advisory Agency

☐ Means opportunity for public comment, written or hearing
⊗ Means this phase is done.

This flow chart prepared by Canyon Area Preservation based on LA Planning Department chart of 11/03. PLUM stage added to emphasize its importance.

Prepared on 7/11/04.
Updated as phases are completed.

Schiff, Feinstein Introduce Bill To Study Expanding Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area To Include 'Rim Of The Valley'

Washington, DC (February 11, 2003)– Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) and Congressman Adam B. Schiff (D-Calif.) today introduced legislation to explore the possibility of adding the Rim of the Valley Corridor in Southern California to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

Specifically, the legislation would direct the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to evaluate the feasibility of expanding the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor. The National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service would jointly study the suitability of more than doubling the size of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area by encompassing this corridor, which contains areas of rare Mediterranean ecosystems and encircles the mountains above the San Fernando, La Crescenta, Santa Clarita, Simi, and Conejo valleys, as well as the Arroyo Seco.

The Act requires the Secretaries to consult with state, county, and local governments, and to report their recommendations to Congress within three years. An Act of Congress would then be required to designate any new addition to the Park System. In the 107th Congress, this legislation was successfully reported out of the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee in November 2002, but did not reach the House floor.

A number of environmental organizations support this legislation, including the Altadena Foothills Conservancy, the California Wilderness Coalition, Scenic America, and the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, as well as the cities of La Canada Flintridge, Glendale, Pasadena, and South Pasadena.

In the House, the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act enjoys bipartisan support from original cosponsors Reps. Howard Berman, David Dreier, George Miller, Brad Sherman, and Hilda Solis.

Other Local Goings-

Charlie Marko is organizing a comedy fundraiser at **Giggles Night Club in Glendale** on Sunday September 19 at 7:30PM. Tickets will cost \$20 and go to support **Glendale-Crescenta V.O.I.C.E.**'s efforts to educate the community about Whitebird's Canyon Hills project. More later.

Mary Ann Geyer is holding meetings in La Tuna Canyon about Whitebird. Contact CAP Views for info.

Steve Crouch printed up bumper stickers that say, "**Save The Verdugos/Say No To Canyon Hills /www.verdugohills.net**". Cost is \$5 each, with all the money going to V.O.I.C.E. Contact CAP Views for availability.

Dozens of people involved with **FALCON** are passing out flyers in their neighborhoods. Please copy this newsletter and give it to your neighbors, too, or contact me for a flyer with basic information.

C.A.P.
PO Box 633
Tujunga, CA 91043



Save postage. See the newsletter in color! Register your e-mail address with us today. Many e-mail notices have been sent this past year that have not been mailed. Keep informed. Register your e-mail address with us today!

About Canvon Area Preservation...

Please contribute the names and addresses of people/organizations you think can be important to our cause. Contact the CAP Views editor at CAPViews@comcast.net

Canyon Area Preservation was formed in 1997 by a group of homeowners and citizens to fight a development near La Tuna Canyon Road and the 210 Freeway (Duke Development).

Since then, we have been actively involved with informing citizens, government agencies, and community organizations about threats to the environment and rural quality of life in the Crescenta Valley, San Gabriel Mountains, and Sunland/Tujunga area.

Please join us. We are all volunteers concerned about our environment.

Feel free to make copies of this newsletter to give to neighbors, send in more e-mail addresses of people who want to help or know more, and contact agencies that can provide assistance. Thank you.

.....Important Contact Information.....

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greuel@council.lacity.org

Dale Thrush, Chief Planning Deputy
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dthrush@council.lacity.org

Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
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Valley Horse Owners Association
Carol Locus President@vhoa.org

La Tuna Canyon Community Assn.
Mary Ann Geyer
marygeyer@aol.com

Lake View Terrace Homeowners Assn.
Nancy Snyder, President
818-503-2333 LVTHOA@aol.com

Tujunga Watershed
Deb Baumann
www.tujungawatershed.org

Shadow Hills Property Owners Assn.
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Foothill Trails Neighborhood Council
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