

Safe Traffic and Transportation Committee of STNC

Meeting of 5/24/2022

Held by Zoom

1. Call to Action: Chairperson Pat Kramer opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Attending were all of the STAT committee members: Pat Kramer, co-chair Jon von Gunten, George Arakel, Roger Swart, Leny Freeman, Barbara Rowe, Glenn Klatter (soon to be member) and Gerry Sherman. Also, Cindy Cleghorn, board member STNC.

2. Pat described the mission of the Safe Traffic & Transportation Committee and each person on the call introduced themselves.

3. Chairperson Announcements: Pat stated that she was given 21 NO SPEEDING signs that somehow made their way into the storage area. Mark Dutton promised to give us the stands for Elisa Avalos' campaign for the L.A. City Council after the primary vote. Roger also offered to ask Julie Ward of Sunland Printing for stands.

Pat talked with someone from the CA Department of Insurance who said that auto insurance rates take into consideration traffic stats for any given ZIP Code. However, that person could not give us exact info on whether rates have increased due to the increase in fatalities or accidents in our area. Jon made calls to Geico insurance and was able to get some specific information by providing a "pretend scenario" for our area as opposed to similar sized small towns. The agent rated his vehicle, a 4-door, 5-yr. old family sedan. It's currently \$583 for 6 months or \$1166/year. Compared to Aurora, NB, his insurance would be \$862. That's \$304 less or 26% lower. Compared to Ojai, CA, his insurance would also be lower: \$828 which is \$338 less or 29% lower.

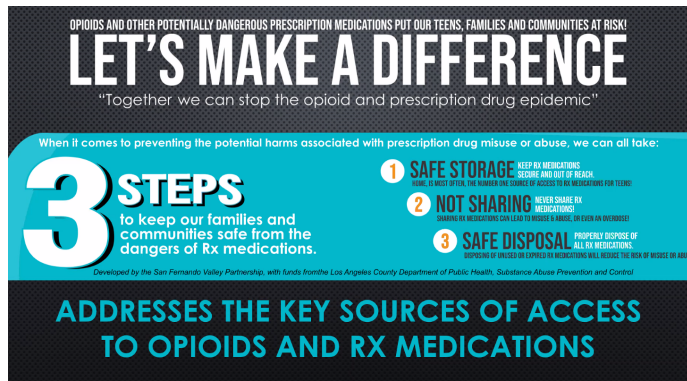
4. Reports from CD7, LADOT, LAPD:

Barbara asked about what the green zones were on Foothill Boulevard in S-T. Pat said they were markings for bus and bike lanes.

Leny was approached by a lady who was nearly hit near USPS on Sherman Grove, and asked our committee to help with getting a crosswalk there. Jon suggested making an agenda request to STNC for this.

George Arakel would like to pursue getting a stop sign at Carlina and Elmhurst intersection. He is already speaking to CD7 so he will pursue that request.

5. San Fernando Valley Partnership: Bart Trevino of San Fernando Valley Partnership (SFVP) gave a presentation on his projects with liquor stores in our area. He requested support letters for both campaigns which included: **Let's Make a Difference**, aimed at reducing dangers of prescription drugs. Fentanyl is now mixed into recreation drugs and cause thousands of deaths. Home drugs are often a starting point. Americans more likely to die of overdose than traffic accident. Already working with two local pharmacies. Includes a pledge and drop-off boxes for old prescriptions.



1) **Alcohol Delivery Initiative:** With home deliveries of alcohol, age verification of the customer can be overlooked, so a delivery person must also check IDs.



SFVP's main mission is to keep drugs alcohol away from young people.

Erring retailers pay a \$4K fine and 10-day liquor suspension. Las delivery person gets a \$250 fine.

(Pat/Roger) moved that the STAT committee support both of the SFVP's projects with a letter of recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of the April STAT Committee Minutes: Pat reviewed the minutes and the (Roger/Leny) moved to approve them the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Tree Care Event: Pat reviewed that she is working with the DIY Home Center for us to get free mulch for the Saturday, June 11, 2022 event. We will be meeting volunteers there at the Tujunga store. Pat said that DIY needs attendees to sign a liability waiver so if they get hurt on their property, they don't sue them. Pat has made 50 copies of the form. Pat talked about how she submitted a request for funding to CD7 for the upcoming Tree Care Event but Eve stated that they could not provide any funding for refreshments because it was "too late in the fiscal year." Eve did make a phone call to LA Sanitation to have mulch delivered to the back end of Finn Park behind CD7, which was to take place on Thursday, two days before our event.

Pat is working with STNC board members, Karen Purdue, Leny and Cheryl and also Gerardo of the Beautification Committee on getting Easy Ups and tables and chairs for the event. For this event, we will not only fertilize and mulch, but we will also water 60 trees. Leny will help Pat count trees. Barb offered to loan Pat a bike. Plans are to do it on Memorial Day. Nelly offered to pick up mulch in her

truck and as stated, Eve was to have mulch delivered to Finn Park. Pat is asking volunteers to bring their own water containers as DIY will be providing free water for the trees.

Pat talked about how, at the last Community Tree Care Day on Feb. 18, 2022, the ground was very hard and it was not easy to water the trees. Although Tree People handed out small tools to aerate, it wasn't very effective. Jon says only a pickaxe will penetrate, not a shovel. Glenn and Jon can go ahead as the Advance Cultivation Team followed by watering, followed by fertilizing and then mulching.

STNC's Outreach Committee has allocated \$350 for refreshments and or fertilizer. Pat was trying to find out exactly how much. This will be the first STNC-sponsored (with Sierra Club) tree event.

8. Committee Reports:

George spoke about his efforts, which have been ongoing for 2.5 years, to get a stop sign installed on Carlina and Elmhurst. After working with Delilah at CD7, he just found out that she is no longer there. So, he opened a new discussion with Mary MacAdam, who said she'd update the request and send it to LAPD SLO Gloria Caloca.

Jerry wanted to find out if any insurance companies are willing to pay for a traffic safety billboard in hopes of lowering local accident claims. We discussed that this would be best if commercial entities purchase the billboard space, as opposed to STNC or STAT as we are overseen by CD7 and using city funds requires all kinds of permits and processes.

Jerry said he would look into the cost of getting a billboard.

9. Meeting Adjourned: 7:32 p.m.

Minutes by Jon von Gunten