### DENNIS P. ZINE COUNCILMAN, THIRD DISTRICT

HE ZINE LINE Volume 3: Issue 11 May 2004 Editor & Publisher: Yvette Whitaker

> THE METRO ORANGE LINE IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION



As your Elected Representative, it is my duty to keep you informed about issues that may impact you and your community. My office has received calls of concern regarding the Metro Orange Line, which is currently under construction along the old Oxnard/Topham railroad right-of-way. I appreciate these calls so that I am kept up to date as to the conditions and concerns of my constituents.

My staff is in constant communication with Metro who is working closely with the community to ensure that the impacts of this project are minimal to your quality of life. Although night work is planned at each intersection, this night work is minimal and is mandatory to minimize the traffic congestion around your neighborhood. This work would create gridlock if completed during the day. Should you have any questions or concerns about the construction, please contact Devon Brown, Senior Community Relations Officer, with Metro at (213) 922-4444. Should noise from the project be a concern after hours, please feel free to report possible Noise Ordinance violations to the Los Angeles Police Department at (877) ASK-LAPD or (877) 275-5273.

The Metro Orange Line is one of the largest infrastructure improvement projects in the Western San Fernando Valley, which will connect us with the Red Line subway in North Hollywood. A bike and pedestrian path is also being built in conjunction with the busway. This will provide an additional recreational opportunity for you and your family connecting Warner Center, Balboa Recreation Center and Lake. and it will continue East to North Hollywood.

Specific project information can be found on the Metro website at www.mta.net.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact my District Director, Michael Besem, who is my representative on this project at (818) 756-8848.

Articles of Interest:	
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## ZINE & 450 FRIENDS TO HONOR CITY/STATE

WORKERS WITH 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL Z-AWARDS

### Valley Businesses & Residents Applaud Seven Honorees



LOS ANGELES --- The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Z-Awards for Ex-Zellence Luncheon honoring those who serve and work for the safety of citizens in the 3<sup>rd</sup> district, and in our greater community, took place Thursday, April 29th at the Woodland Hills Hilton hotel.

Los Angeles City Councilman Dennis P. Zine, Third District welcomed more than 450 people into the grand ballroom to honor seven Los Angeles City and State Public Safety Employees for their work on the job and in the community.

"The Z-Award is a personal honor, not just from me as a City Councilman, but from the entire community who chose seven individuals from personal knowledge of their accomplishments," stated Zine. "This event provides us a unique opportunity to demonstrate our appreciation and support for the dedication and commitment that these hardworking individuals provide to the residents of the Third Council District."

The celebrated honorees are: Officer Sam Davis (LAPD Valley Traffic Division); Timothy Freeman (LAFD Paramedic); Chief Mark Jones (LAFD Battalion #17); Officer Mark Mireles (LAPD West Valley Division); Officer Scott Parent (CHP West Valley) Michael Pizzuti (Deputy City Attorney, Neighborhood Prosecutor); Officer Brian Wright (LAUSD Police Department). Members of their respective department's joined each honoree in accepting their Z-Award. Congratulations to all for a job well done.

### **2ND ANNUAL Z-AWARD RECIPIENTS**



<u>1st Row</u>: Officer Mark Mireles -LAPD West Valley, Officer Scott Parent-CHP West Valley.

<u>2nd Row</u>: Officer Sam Davis-LAPD Valley Traffic Division, Councilman Dennis P. Zine, Mike Pizzuti - Deputy City Attorney, Neighborhood Prosecutor and Officer Brian Wright—LAUSD School Police.

<u>3rd Row</u>: Battalion Chief Mark Jones -LAFD and Timothy Freeman—LAFD Paramedic.

### COUNCILMAN DENNIS P. ZINE, PLACES CRASHED CAR AT DANGEROUS VALLEY INTERSECTION

### Los Angeles City Councilman Dennis P. Zine hopes that crashed vehicle will remind motorists that careless driving has deadly consequences.



LOS ANGELES — Responding to a recent Los Angeles Police Department Valley Traffic Division report indicating a 113% increase in major injury collisions in the West San Fernando Valley, Councilman Dennis P. Zine along with local Law Enforcement and community groups placed a crashed vehicle previously involved in a drunk driving accident at the South West corner of Vanowen and DeSoto in Canoga Park.

The vehicle, was on display from May 4th thru May 7<sup>th</sup>, was driven by a man who was driving in excess of 100 miles per hour, while under the influence of alcohol. At the time of the collision, the intoxicated motorist ran a stop sign, crashing into a small Ford sedan killing a young mother and her 6 year old daughter, as well as severely injuring his own passenger.

On the eve of Cinco de Mayo, Councilman Dennis P. Zine was joined by the family of Jose de Quezada, a 75 year-old man who was killed earlier this year in a hit-and-run crash, just one block west of this location.

"Today, I want the public to see the families who have lost loved ones, like the relatives of Mr. Quezada, and to look at this crashed vehicle which took the lives of a mother and her 6 year-old daughter, and I want them to realize that it isn't worth it" said Zine. "It simply isn't worth running a red light, or driving drunk, those few seconds of carelessness can do irreparable harm."

Lending their support were the Los Angeles Police Department, California Highway Patrol, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Cinco de Mayo Coalition, and other community groups, to ask that drivers obey all traffic laws and use good judgement when driving.





# By Tom Henry, Chief Planning Deputy & Marianne King, Associate Planning Deputy PLANNING UPDATES:



# IT'S OFFICIAL: AHMANSON RANCH NO LONGER EXISTS!



Councilman Zine presents a certificate to Joseph T. Edmiston of the Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy to commemorate the dedication of the new park.

April 10, 2004 heralded a special and historic day in the history of Southern California, and Councilman Zine played an important roll in it. The 2983 acre swath of land filled with unique flora and fauna and wonderful vistas that was formally known as Ahmanson Ranch was officially dedicated as the Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve.

"I knew we could stop development and preserve this land for future generations." Councilman Zine stated. "That is what I campaigned for, and now we have it. I am proud of my accomplishments to bring about this wonderful occasion, and all of the people of West Valley should be proud of there efforts as well."

Councilman Zine was able to garner support from the rest of the Los Angeles City Council, Mayor James Hahn, and City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo to pressure the former owners, Washington Mutual, to negotiate a deal with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to buy the land or face massive and long litigation. This is the largest ever parkland purchase in the Los Angeles **County and Ventura** County region.

The stunning parkland at the Los Angeles City and Ventura County border creates miles of trails, and preserves endangered plants and animals, including the California redlegged frog, and the thought to be extinct San Fernando Valley Spine Flower, both rediscovered on the property. Other significant plants that will be preserved include the Southwestern willow flycatcher and Plummer's Mariposa Lily. The new park encompasses the headwaters of Malibu Creek, which flows into the Santa Monica Bay, as well as the headwaters of the Los Angeles River.

The huge property is part of a critical ecological linkage and wild life corridor between the Santa Monica Mountains. Simi Hills. and the ranges to the north. Rolling hills studded with valley and coast live oaks, sycamore-lined streams, miles of trails, and vistas of unspoiled California landscapes are now part of a California parkland legacy. Who knows, perhaps the California Condor may show up one day.





### **By Marisol Espinoza, Field Deputy** Serving the Communities of Tarzana & Winnetka

# Updates and Happenings

Hello Everyone! Here is an update of some of the events in the areas of Winnetka and Tarzana. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Now is an exciting time to join the Winnetka Neighborhood Council as elections were recently held. All Winnetka stakeholders are invited to become involved in the neighborhood council. If you live, work, or go to school in Winnetka, you can participate. Everyone is encouraged to participate to voice your opinions about your community. The next meeting will be taking place on May 11, 2004 at 6:30 pm at 20830 Sherman Way, Winnetka.

The Winnetka Chamber of Commerce held a networking mixer, sponsored by the Community Redevelopment Agency. The event took place on Monday, May 3, 2004 at 20122 Vanowen Street, Winnetka. This was a great opportunity to meet business owners in the community.

The Winnetka Neighborhood Watch Meeting is normally held on the second Thursday of each month, at the AGBU Manoogian-Demerdjian School Auditorium, located at 6844 Oakdale Avenue, Winnetka, at 7:00 pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 13. Please join Officer Karen Widman-Rodriguez to receive an update on the police activity in your area. Awareness is the key to preventing crimes from happening. Please get involved to keep your communities safe!

The Tarzana Chamber of Commerce has hired a new Executive Director, Jesse Dizon, and he is working hard to keep the Chamber active in the community. The Chamber recently held a networking breakfast in March, which was a great success. We are looking forward to seeing more activity among the business community. If you are interested in participating in the Tarzana Chamber of Commerce, please call 818-343-3687.

The Tarzana Neighborhood Council is also working on some exciting things. Please join them the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at Tarzana Elementary School. This month's meeting will be taking place on May 25, 2004. The Tarzana Neighborhood Watch has been combined with the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Watch. Officer Tony Valadez is the Senior Lead Officer currently in charge of Tarzana. This group meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. This month's meeting will be taking place on May 11, 2004 at Woodland Hills Library. Everyone in the community should be involved in order to better our communities.

Please visit the newly improved Tarzana Community and Cultural Center on Ventura Blvd, at Vanalden Avenue. Take a drive along the Boulevard to see some of the improvements taking place at this very special corner including their new fence. For further information, please contact Community leader Patty McManus the new President of the Tarzana Community Center at 818-705-1286.

I sincerely hope to see you around the community! Please let me know if I can be of service.



The Cantilena homes in West Hills, located near Sale Avenue and Sherman Way, border Bell Creek. This is part of the Pacific flyaway for migratory birds. Every season waterfowl take the familiar route and stop along the way to visit. Flocks of Canadian geese make an annual visit and wander the now paved streets.

Early Tuesday morning the neighbors who are early risers in the development, delighted in the sight of a family of ducks. A brilliant green, proud Mallard, his prim matronly brown wife and fluffy tiny offspring made their way from one end of Sale to the other.



The smiles of joy from those witnessing this Spring rite during the first new rays of the sun turned to frowns at dusk. There was much activity that evening as one neighbor after the other peered down the dark drainage area on the corner of Sale and Asman at trapped baby ducks. Papa duck paced the street. Neighbors put their ears to the ground and shouted words of encouragement. The women on the block brought out food and offered Mother

Duck consolation. Our neighbor, who is on the LAPD Bomb Squad, tried unsuccessfully to unsecure the sewer grate. The operator at 311 dutifully forwarded our many calls for help to the to Department of Animal Services. An officer came out and although sympathetic to the ducks' plight, stated she would need another City department to come out with the proper wrench.

It was with a heavy heart the following morning that many of us on our way to work rode past Mother Duck frantically calling down to her babies.

But Sandi Bell knew just what to do. As soon as she got to work she called Councilman Zine's Office. Within ten minutes a truck from the Department of Sewers was on it's way. Nine little duckling, happily quacking away and unaware of the mini drama they created, were reunited with their grateful mother. They all waited patiently on the corner for Papa to return.

Written by Sandi Bell, West Hills Neighborhood Council's Board Member

Nine little ducklings. All in a line. Quacking in unison. Hooray for Dennis Zine!





### By JENNIFER FORKISH, Field Deputy Serving the Communities of CANOGA PARK & RESEDA

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# Council<u>man Zin</u>e Jo<u>ins Forces</u> to Combat Graffiți in Canosa Park.



Over the last few months, the number of graffiti vandalism reports taken by the Los Angeles Police Department and West Valley Alliance graffiti removal has risen significantly in the West Valley. For many Canoga Park property owners the weekly, or even daily, task of painting over graffiti was becoming a costly way of life. Late in February, as the vandalism appeared to hit an all time high, members of the Canoga Park Improvement Association (CPIA) came to Councilman Zine looking for solutions.

After a lengthy meeting with LAPD, the City Attorney, West Valley Alliance and members of the CPIA board, Councilman Zine called upon local business owners to participate in a stakeout operation. On March 13th business owners organized themselves in hopes of catching graffiti vandals by placing themselves on top of their businesses at 8 different locations along Sherman Way, stretching from Canoga Avenue west to Topanga Canyon. Each rooftop location provided a vantage point allowing individuals to view their business without being visible to vehicular or pedestrian traffic. Each participant was given a radio linking them directly to Councilman Zine and to LAPD Senior Lead Officer Henry Gutierrez, should any suspicious activity occur.

While no arrests were made that evening, Councilman Zine believes it is imperative community members get involved in protecting their neighborhoods by creating a visible presence through Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch programs. Events such as this stakeout send a message to potential criminals that someone is always watching.

If you would like more information on starting a Neighborhood Watch or Business Watch, program, please contact your LAPD Senior Lead office at (818) 756-9891. To report locations that have been vandalized by graffiti, please call the West Valley Alliance at (818) 227-9722. To become a member of Councilman Zine's POSSE, please call my District Director, Michael Besem at (818) 756-8848.





# LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: AGENDAS, RESOLUTIONS, MOTIONS\_

### **SLURRY SEAL MOTION**

It is anticipated that for the foreseeable future street maintenance programs in Los Angeles will focus primarily on slurry sealing eligible streets and roads throughout the City.

Under current policy, freshly slurried streets do not fall under the same one-year construction moratorium restriction and street damage restoration fee as do reconstructed or resurfaced streets. Under the Los Angeles Municipal Code, reconstructed and resurfaced streets are subject to a one-year excavation moratorium and a "Street Damage Restoration Fee." Prior to the commencing of street work, residents and business owners, as well as all public utilities are notified of the scheduled project and are reminded of City policy in writing, stating in part, "once a street is resurfaced, any excavations in a newly paved street within one year after the date of the paving will require the resurfacing of the entire block, or intersection, depending on the location of the excavation..." Code also established a special fund to receive payments of the Street Damage Restoration Fee.

Such a policy needs to be extended to freshly slurry sealed streets to help prevent unnecessary damage to new street surfaces and to provide a clear mechanism where by necessary construction conducted within the proscribed time is carried out in such a manner that the street surface is returned to the best condition possible.

**THEREFORE, I MOVE** that the City Attorney, in consultation with the Bureau of Street Services, the Bureau of Engineering and the office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, present an ordinance(s) to the Public Works Committee amending Sections 62.105, 62.02, 62.04. 62.06 and 64.17 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code and Section 5.121.6 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code to accomplish the following goals:

- •Extension of the one year street excavation moratorium currently in effect for resurfaced and reconstructed streets to streets receiving slurry seal.
- •Written notice of the policy shall be given in a timely manner to all residents and business owners on the effected street of the City policy.
- •Written notice of all City street projects including slurry seal projects shall be given to all public utilities in a timely manner.
- •Notice of the construction moratorium on all streets reconstructed, resurfaced or slurry sealed shall be included as part of all construction permits issued by the Bureau of Engineering.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that the Bureau of Street services report to the Public Works Committee on the advantages on increasing the current street construction moratorium from one year to eighteen months.

Presented by Councilman Dennis P. Zine, Third District on May 4, 2004.

### 'Zine Votes No on Department of Water and Power's 11% Water Rate Increase"

Councilman Dennis P. Zine, joined by three of his colleagues, voted NO to an 11% water rate increase for the Department of Water and Power. After debating the issue for more than an hour, during which managers and staff members from the Department of Water and Power were questioned in detail by Council members on the need for a water rate increase, the Council voted 10-4 to approve the increase. *"I see no reason for an increase at this time," Zine said after the vote. "The Department still has a long way to go to prove to me that they are using the money they have to the best advantage of the residents and rate-payers of Los Angeles."* During the discussion, The Department promised to improve and expand its community outreach and to meet with any and all neighborhood councils who wanted request a meeting. DWP officials cited the increasing need for security of our statewide water system including the massive aqueduct systems, treatment facilities and water storage facilities. Also cited by the Department were Federal and State mandates, along with several judicial rulings which have required the department to spend additional money. If you would like additional information regarding the increase, please contact the Department of Water and Power at 1-800-DIAL-DWP.

### Letters of Support to Councilman Zine's "NO Vote" on DWP'S 11% Increase

Yesterday's vote in the City Council to deny the DWP increase of 18% and limit an increase to 11% is a major accomplishment for Neighborhood Council's as indicated in today's Times. In addition future increases will be subject to greater scrutiny. The Tarzana Neighborhood Council was one of the first to go on record to oppose this increase and we should be proud of our accomplishment. *Dennis Zine should also be congratulated for standing with us in opposing this increase.* **Ray Bishop, Legislative & Outreach Committee** 

More power to honest and outspoken "Politicians" Like Mr. Zine, he is a shining example to the rest of them how a true "Son of the Soil" and a true servant of the people votes his conscience. How many members of this "August" Body Politic have the singular distinction of having tackled a thief in person (the Galpin Ford incident, for those with a short memory) like Mr. Zine? *Very proud of being your constituent, sir.* I live in reseda and sleep at peace at night knowing that I am represented by an upstanding and honest gentleman. Thanking you for the selfless service to the people. I remain, yours very sincerely, **Nick Bawa, Reseda**.



Contact Us! We love the emails we receive from you and would like to hear from more.

### City Hall Office:

Rayna Gabin, Chief of Staff - rgabin@council.lacity.org Maria Aguiniga, Council Aide - maguinig@council.lacity.org LeeAnn Braun, Council Aide- Ibraun@council.lacity.org Janice Freedman, Special Assistant - jfreeman@council.lacity.org Carleen Gonzalez, Council Aide - cgonzale@council.lacity.org Brian Perry, Legislative Deputy - bperry@council.lacity.org Jeremy Robison, Special Assistant-jrobison@council.lacity.org Cindy Varela, Executive Assistant - cvarela@council.lacity.org Bruce Whidden, Chief Legislative Deputy - bwhidden@council.lacity.org

### **District Office:**

Michael Besem, District Director - mbesem@council.lacity.org, Issues: Business Improvement Districts, Community Redevelopment Agency, Filming, Transportation, Economic Redevelopment Sheree Adams, Field Deputy - sadams@council.lacity.org - Woodland Hills & West Hills Marisol Espinoza, Field Deputy-mespinoz@council.lacity.org - Winnetka & Tarzana Jennifer Forkish, Field Deputy-jforkish@council.lacity.org - Canoga Park & Reseda Tom Henry, Planning Deputy - thenry@council.lacity.org Marianne King, Associate Planning Deputy – mking@council.lacity.org Yvette Whitaker, Editor of The Zine Line/Office Manager-ywhitake@council.lacity.org

### Our Website Has Been Updated! Check It Out at: www.lacity.org/council.cd3

### **CITY HALL OFFICE**

200 N. Spring Street, Room 450 Los Angeles, CA 90012 213-473-7003 (P) 213-485-8988 (F) 8:30 am-5:00 pm

zine@council.lacity.org

### **DISTRICT OFFICE**

19040 Vanowen Street Reseda, CA 91335 818-756-8848 (P) 818-756-9179 (F) 8:00 am-6:00 pm

### Committee Assignments:

Chair:	Personnel Committee
Vice-Chair:	Education & Neighborhoods
Member:	Public Safety
Member:	Rules & Elections & Intergovernmental Relations
EERC:	Executive Employee Relations Committee
NLC:	National League of Cities
ICA:	Independent City Association - Treasurer
LAPD:	Line Reserve Officer
LAUSD:	Reserve Motorcycle Sergeant





Councilman Zine, Lee Lacy of the LA Dodgers and Alfred Tutungi, Director of Recreation & Parks at opening day for the Reseda Baseball League.



Councilman Zine with Steve Yaeger and Cullen Haywood, Director of Shadow Ranch Park at opening Day for their Baseball League.



Councilman Zine and City Hall Staff say Good-bye to Kathryn Lillo, Legislative Aid.



Councilman Zine presents a certificate to Shahla Chamanara, Sr. Librarian at the Encino/Tarzana Library with Barbara Leff of Friends of the Encino/Tarzana Library.



Councilman Zine (L), Cardinal Roger Mahoney and Councilman Villaragosa at the Blessing of the Animals on Olvera Street.



Councilman Zine and LAPD Chief Bratton honor some of the LAPD Dispatchers during Recognition Week

DENNIS P. ZINE COUNCILMAN, THIRD DISTRICT





Councilman Zine at the Grand Opening of the LASD Transit Station with Deputy Chance (R) and Captain Finklestein.



Councilman Zine along with LAPD Chief Bratton, Mayor Hahn and Councilman LaBonge at a News Conference announcing



CHP Officer Leland Tang, Councilman Zine, Tim O'Connor, Director West Valley YMCA and LAFD Battalion Chief Mark Jones at the YMCA Pancake Breakfast.



Councilman Zine, LAPD Chief Bratton and Ted Hunt of the Police Protective League.



Councilman Zine and his sponsorees from Team Work LA.



Councilman Zine at the West Point Leadership Institute Graduation.