



Granada Hills North  
Neighborhood Council

ghnnc.org

# Summer Newsletter And Stakeholder Survey

## Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

### Welcome To Our Summer 2014 Newsletter And Stakeholder Survey

In this issue we ask some pointed questions about our community in our 2014 Stakeholder Survey. Your honest responses will help us determine the community's needs and interests. This is another way to make your voice heard by the elected volunteer leadership of your Neighborhood Council. To express your opinions in areas important to you that may not have been covered by the survey questions, use the back of the survey page to expand your answer, or feel free to add pages. Please mail it back as soon as possible, drop it off at our office on Woodley Avenue anytime (use the door mail slot), bring it to a Board meeting, or complete it on the Internet at [ghnnc.org/2014survey](http://ghnnc.org/2014survey).

A Neighborhood Council relies upon the support and input of its stakeholders. For your views and concerns to be properly represented in local and L.A. City Hall decisions, we strongly urge you to get involved with your Neighborhood Council. We need to hear your views and opinions at an early stage to help us prepare responses to City Hall that are representative of our community. Issues are usually dissected and discussed at committee meetings, then presented to the Board for further discussion and voting by the Board. Those are but two of many opportunities for your views to be heard. Take advantage of both. You can also write a letter, phone, or send an email to a committee member or the entire Board on a concern you may have. Also, sign up for our regular email notices by visiting our website, [ghnnc.org](http://ghnnc.org).

All Neighborhood Councils are currently allotted \$37,000 annually of taxpayer money to be used for the betterment of the community each represents. The GHNNC Board, as your community representatives, allocates these funds based on community input, which is one reason your participation in our

meetings is so very important. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) oversee the entire Neighborhood Council process. For more information on how this all works, please visit [EmpowerLA.org](http://EmpowerLA.org).

We realize that for many of you, with work, kids, pets, other groups and organizations, and life itself all vying for your attention, it can be a real challenge finding the time and energy to attend our various meetings. This Summer 2014 GHNNC Stakeholder Survey is vital. Please fill it out and get your ideas and opinions to us right away.

The primary responsibility of the **Outreach and Publicity Committee** is to solicit, aggregate, and share stakeholder input with our Board, which in turn presents it to our Los Angeles City government decision-makers. It's even in the City's Charter "*to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs.*" Newsletters, Board and Committee meetings, special meetings, our website, Twitter, Facebook, email, and other avenues are used to communicate vital information to you, and to receive your comments and concerns. We participate in and help sponsor many community events, such as Citrus Sunday, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, Granada Hills Holiday Parade, the annual Disaster Preparedness Fair, and the Granada Hills Street Faire, to name but a few.

If you would like to help plan, organize, produce, or publicize GHNNC events focused on improving stakeholder input, contact our Outreach and Publicity Committee Chair, Jim Summers, [jsummers@ghnnc.org](mailto:jsummers@ghnnc.org).

### Board Member Contact Information

Michael Greenwald, President: [mgreenwald@ghnnc.org](mailto:mgreenwald@ghnnc.org)

Ray Pollok, Vice President and Public Safety Chair:  
[rpollok@ghnnc.org](mailto:rpollok@ghnnc.org)

Mike Chibidakis, Financial Officer: [mchibidakis@ghnnc.org](mailto:mchibidakis@ghnnc.org)

Vanessa Silver, Treasurer: [vsilver@ghnnc.org](mailto:vsilver@ghnnc.org)

Donna Zero, Secretary: [dzero@ghnnc.org](mailto:dzero@ghnnc.org)

Bill Cotter, Parks Rep.: [bcotter@ghnnc.org](mailto:bcotter@ghnnc.org)

Darian Fontes, Students Rep.: [dfontes@ghnnc.org](mailto:dfontes@ghnnc.org)

Sid Gold, Citywide Issues Chair: [sgold@ghnnc.org](mailto:sgold@ghnnc.org)

Edward Headington, Small Business Rep.:  
[ehheadington@ghnnc.org](mailto:ehheadington@ghnnc.org)

Bill Hopkins, Emergency Preparedness Chair and Public  
Safety Vice Chair: [bhopkins@ghnnc.org](mailto:bhopkins@ghnnc.org)

Ralph Kroy, Faith-Based Rep.: [rkroy@ghnnc.org](mailto:rkroy@ghnnc.org)

Zak Lara, Educational Rep.: [zlara@ghnnc.org](mailto:zlara@ghnnc.org)

Jan Subar, Neighborhood Organizations Rep. and PLUM Co-  
Chair: [jsubar@ghnnc.org](mailto:jsubar@ghnnc.org)

Jim Summers, Outreach and Publicity Chair:  
[jsummers@ghnnc.org](mailto:jsummers@ghnnc.org)

Rahim Kazi, District 3 Rep.: [rkazi@ghnnc.org](mailto:rkazi@ghnnc.org)

Bill Lillenberg, District 3 Rep.: [wllillenberg@ghnnc.org](mailto:wllillenberg@ghnnc.org)

Scott Manatt, District 3 Rep.: [smanatt@ghnnc.org](mailto:smanatt@ghnnc.org)

Robert Ryder, District 3 Rep.: [rryder@ghnnc.org](mailto:rryder@ghnnc.org)

Karen Savitt, District 3 Rep.: [ksavitt@ghnnc.org](mailto:ksavitt@ghnnc.org)

## Will You Serve On Our Board?

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council has the following unfilled Board seats:

**District 2 Representative**—a Stakeholder employed by a business within District 2, such as MWD, LADWP, LAPD Davis Training Center, and the Odyssey restaurant.

**District 3 Representative** (2 positions)—a Stakeholder who lives, owns, or rents residential property within our boundaries.

**Environmental Representative**—a Stakeholder who is an actively involved member of an environmental organization that meets regularly (at least four times annually) within our boundaries.

**Youth Groups Representative**—a Stakeholder who is an actively involved member of any youth organization or youth group that meets or has activities regularly (at least four times annually) within our boundaries.

**Stakeholder**—A GHNNC Stakeholder is defined in our bylaws as anyone who lives, works, owns real property, or is a Community Interest Stakeholder defined as a person who affirms a substantial and ongoing participation within our boundaries (see [ghnnc.org](http://ghnnc.org) for a map).

We sure could use your help! Per our bylaws, vacancies may be filled by a vote of the Board. You do not have to be a member of the Board to serve in any capacity on any committee. If you are interested in serving your community with us, contact the Nominating Committee Chair, Jan Subar, [jsubar@ghnnc.org](mailto:jsubar@ghnnc.org).

Qualifications for these positions may be viewed at [ghnnc.org/bylaws.pdf](http://ghnnc.org/bylaws.pdf) and [ghnnc.org/standingrules.pdf](http://ghnnc.org/standingrules.pdf). To serve on our Board or any of our committees, you must be a Stakeholder.

## Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee

PLUM reviews requests by developers, homeowners, and businesses that may affect the Granada Hills North area. Sometimes this involves developers subdividing land and asking for zone changes. Sometimes it's about individual homeowners who have a problem with a lot variance. Sometimes it's about getting Conditional Use Permits (CUP) to run a business from a house, or sell liquor at a gas station, or run a day-care center. Sometimes it's a request to add a cellular tower—we all need them, but we also all need them to be inconspicuous. Sometimes, as now, it's about a request to add a new use, such as an Elder Care facility proposed for the northwest corner of Rinaldi St. and Shoshone Ave.

The City has the decision-making power (usually City Planning or the Department of Building and Safety), and they often rely on the local knowledge of Neighborhood Councils for recommendations.

Our area has some unusual situations. There is land available

for development, an Equestrian-zoned area in our northwest, and Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZ) that preserve historically significant structures such as Eichler homes. The committee strives to represent the interests of the neighborhood and preserve our quality of life.

Every ten years or so there is a major revision of City plans for development. It's called the Granada Hills/Knollwood Community Plan. The Committee reviews these plans and submits recommendations for what will be allowed over the next decade. When there are major revisions to other areas, such as the current City effort to change and simplify the zoning code (re:code LA), the committee reviews and submits recommendations.

Are you interested in affecting and guiding the future of your neighborhood? Join the PLUM Committee! Contact Agnes Lewis, [ajlewis7@gmail.com](mailto:ajlewis7@gmail.com), or Jan Subar, [jsubar@ghnnc.org](mailto:jsubar@ghnnc.org), PLUM co-chairs.

## Citywide Issues Committee

GHNNC interacts with other Neighborhood Councils and alliances (including the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils—VANC, the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition—LANCC, and others) to have a united voice and

speaking for the greater community at City Hall. Stakeholders interested in being a part of or learning more about the Committee should contact the Citywide Issues Committee Chair, Sid Gold, [sgold@ghnnc.org](mailto:sgold@ghnnc.org).

## An Update on the 2014-2015 City Budget from Councilmember Mitchell Englander



The City Council approved the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget. As Vice Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, I see the City's budget process not only as a way to fund critical city services, but also as a way to deliver on the priorities that are so essential to Council District 12 communities.

While we will see some modest growth in revenues in the coming year, it is critical to hold the line on expenditures so we can begin to rebuild our service delivery functions while maintaining fiscally conservative and sound spending. I have long advocated for using performance metrics as a tool to achieve the greatest efficiencies in our city services, so that each tax dollar goes further and provides more benefit for our residents. I was very pleased to see that Mayor Garcetti referenced my motion on Performance Based Budgeting in his first Executive Directive,

declaring that his first budget would utilize performance metrics to measure success toward his priority outcomes.

While this was not a perfect budget, it did set some initial metrics for City departments, which will be honed in the coming months by the chairs of the various policy committees. I anticipate that next year's will be an even more robust process and that we will be able to make more informed decisions when allocating our financial resources to align with our priorities.

These are huge gains in a year of moderate growth, and I am very pleased with the process this year. My thanks go out to the Mayor and his Budget Team, Budget and Finance Committee Chair Paul Krekorian, my colleagues on the committee, and everyone that communicated their priorities with me and my staff over the course of the Budget hearings.

Subscribe to our weekly newsletter at [CD12.org](http://CD12.org). You can reach me directly at [Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org](mailto:Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org).

## Emergency Preparedness Meetings in Granada Hills

**New Day:** Third Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 pm

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Northridge earthquake. How long were you without running water? Sewer services? Electricity? Could you stay in your home? Where did you go? Were you prepared? Remember, we're all in this together, and we will need each other's help during and after the next big disaster or terrorist attack. Recent L.A. earthquakes remind us of where we live, and the possibilities of widespread damage. To help in your preparedness planning, download our EP checklists at [tinyurl.com/GHNNC-EPinfo](http://tinyurl.com/GHNNC-EPinfo). The public is encouraged to attend our Emergency Preparedness meetings on the third Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at our Neighborhood Council office, 11139 Woodley Ave., Granada Hills. Get to know your fellow stakeholders, your neighbors, share ideas on preparedness, discuss topics of interest relating

to being prepared, express your concerns, and learn from guest speakers on a myriad of topics. We've heard how the physically challenged can be better prepared, how to protect yourself and family after a release of nuclear radiation, pet preparedness, how to stock your EP kit cheaply, what the L.A. Emergency Management Department (LA EMD) does, how to shelter in place, and so much more. In partnership with the Patriot Oil Community Benefit Trust Fund, administered by the North Valley Coalition, GHNNC will again sponsor a free **CERT** (Community Emergency Response Team) class in Granada Hills, starting Wednesday, September 10, from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm for seven weeks. Email [CERT@ghnnc.org](mailto:CERT@ghnnc.org) to register. To receive meeting notices, updates, and other valuable preparedness information, send an email to the Emergency Preparedness Chair, Bill Hopkins, [bhopkins@ghnnc.org](mailto:bhopkins@ghnnc.org).

## Public Safety Committee

Has there been recent crime in your neighborhood? First, take the time to file a Police Report. This is the first step to protect not only you, but also your neighbors, and insurance companies will want it. Second, if you are still concerned, contact us. We can help put you in contact with the LAPD Senior Lead Officer (SLO) for your area (we have two that cover Granada Hills). We can also put you in contact with your Neighborhood Watch group or guide you on getting one started in your area.

Is your street dangerous because there are critical intersection lines or left-turn lane lines missing after repaving or

resurfacing? Is the intersection not properly designed and causing accidents or numerous close calls? A missing street or stop sign? Are tree limbs hanging so low that vehicles have to drive on the wrong side of the street to avoid a collision with the tree? Any other serious safety issues? We are here to help and get your information to the right people at City Hall.

Watch our website and come to our meetings to learn how you can help to effectively develop long-term safe solutions for our community. For more information, or if you are interested in joining our Public Safety Committee, contact the Public Safety Committee Chair, Ray Pollok, [rpollok@ghnnc.org](mailto:rpollok@ghnnc.org).



**Still Out There Working For You** is the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens Inc. (NVC). Over the years, and continuing to this day, the NVC works in holding the various operators of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (BFI, Allied Waste, Republic Industries) accountable for their expansions and daily operations which have a great impact on the quality of life for their neighbors to the south (dust, methane, fine particulates, etc.).

While the days of protest marches and chaining ourselves to oak trees in order to prevent the destruction of a closed canopy oak forest which existed in the canyon are over, we now repre-

sent our community by reviewing and responding to permit applications and environmental documents, and by sitting as the North Valley Coalition on a number of City and County agencies and organizations.

We are also the **Patriot Oil Community Benefit Trust Fund** of 2002 as it is the NVC Board Members that administer this fund. We have funded many local school projects, parks, and organizations within our fund's boundaries. Indeed, this year alone we donated almost \$150,000. For further information, contact Wayne Hunter, [WHunter01@aol.com](mailto:WHunter01@aol.com), President of North Valley Coalition and Patriot Oil Community Benefit Trust Fund.



**Granada Hills Street Faire Returns!** On Saturday, October 11, 2014, the Street Faire returns to Granada Hills for its 10<sup>th</sup> engagement along Chatsworth Street between Encino and Zelzah Avenues. This year's theme is *Celebrating Community*. It is open to the public from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, and admission is free.

This year's Faire is made possible by significant endorsements and support from the offices of Los Angeles County Supervisor

Mike Antonovich and City Councilmember Mitchell Englander. It is hosted, promoted, and coordinated by the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce as a fundraising activity with the proceeds used to promote the sustainability of programs, activities, and services provided by the Chamber for the benefit of the Community. Information on sponsorship can be found at [granadahillstreetfair.com](http://granadahillstreetfair.com), by contacting the Chamber office at 818-368-3235, or [email@granadachamber.com](mailto:email@granadachamber.com).



**Old Granada Hills Residents' Group** was formed in 2001 to be an advocate organization for the historical area of Granada Hills. With its monthly newsletter and meetings, the group is a state- and city-recognized voice for all issues affecting not only Old Granada Hills and the surrounding community but also the larger city-wide issues that impact our way of life. The Residents' Group reaches out to all other local

organizations, including the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, for constructive partnerships and sharing of information. They meet every third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm, at Granada Hills Charter High School, 10535 Zelzah Ave. In the first four meetings of 2014, guest speakers have been City Attorney Mike Feuer, City Controller Ron Galperin, and City Councilmember Mitchell Englander. Visit OGHRC on the web at [oghrg.org](http://oghrg.org).



**Granada Hills North  
Neighborhood Council**  
11139 Woodley Ave.  
Granada Hills, CA 91344

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
MMP DIRECT

- 1-818-923-5592** – to leave message for GHNNC, or visit us online at [ghnnc.org](http://ghnnc.org).
- 1-800-CUT-SMOG (388-7664)** – to report odors or other nuisances emanating from Sunshine Canyon Landfill. SCAQMD tracks complaints.
- 1-877-ASK-LAPD (275-5273)** – for any NON-EMERGENCY question or to report a crime after the fact. **Report crimes in progress by calling 9-1-1.**
- 1-818-832-0633** – LAPD Devonshire Desk (local police information).
- 1-818-885-8885** – report graffiti to this 24-hour number for removal in less than a week. Can also report to **3-1-1**.
- 1-818-882-1212** – Council District 12's Chatsworth Field Office.
- 1-818-501-9200** – Congressman Brad Sherman's Sherman Oaks office.
- 1-800-560-0010** – for Van Nuys Airport noise complaints.
- 1-818-530-4125** – Food Forward. Volunteer harvesting teams pick your fruit and donate 100% to local food pantries.

***2014 Stakeholder Survey Inside***

**Regular GHNNC Meeting Locations and Times**

*Check for updates of Board and Committee meetings at [ghnnc.org](http://ghnnc.org)*

**Board Meetings** – First Tuesday at 6:30 pm, Saint Euphrasia School Hall, 11766 Shoshone Ave., Granada Hills. Check website to confirm meeting location. Please bring a can of food for our food drive. Free Emergency Preparedness item at each meeting.

**Outreach and Publicity** – Second Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Plans and implements outreach events throughout the year and solicits stakeholder input to the City decision-making process. Contact Jim Summers [jsummers@ghnnc.org](mailto:jsummers@ghnnc.org).

**PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management)** – Third Monday at 2:00 pm. Deals with issues such as cell tower applications, subdivision requests, Conditional Use Permits (CUPs), and land-use and building code issues. Contact Jan Subar [jsubar@ghnnc.org](mailto:jsubar@ghnnc.org) or Agnes Lewis [ajlewis7@gmail.com](mailto:ajlewis7@gmail.com).

**Public Safety** – Second Tuesday at 2:00 pm. Works on local issues concerning traffic and safety (vehicular, bicycle, equestrian, and pedestrian), crime, and Neighborhood Watch. Contact Ray Pollok [rpollok@ghnnc.org](mailto:rpollok@ghnnc.org).

**Emergency Preparedness** – Third Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Learn and share how to prepare for disasters, big and small. Free Emergency Preparedness item at each meeting. Contact Bill Hopkins [bhopkins@ghnnc.org](mailto:bhopkins@ghnnc.org).

**Citywide Issues** – Fourth Monday at 7:00 pm. Deals with issues involving LADWP, Sanitation, Gas Company, etc. Contact Sid Gold [sgold@ghnnc.org](mailto:sgold@ghnnc.org).

**Executive** – Consists of Board officers (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, financial). Considers procedural and financial issues, Board agenda items, and tracks PLUM matters. Chaired by the Board president.

**Agendas** for all meetings are posted at our office, and may be posted at other locations within our boundaries, at least 72 hours before the start of the meeting, on our website ([ghnnc.org](http://ghnnc.org)), and in our weekly calendar emails with links to the referenced meeting agenda.

**Committee meetings** are held at the GHNNC office, 11139 Woodley Ave., Granada Hills. Message phone: **1-818-923-5592**.

To email the Board: [info@ghnnc.org](mailto:info@ghnnc.org).

- Community Care Facilities Ordinance (CCFO)
- Clean Water, Clean Beaches measure
- Marijuana dispensary ordinance
- Knollwood Plaza traffic signal installation
- Cellular tower placement and stealthing
- Sunshine Canyon Landfill and odor complaints
- UV treatment plants at the Los Angeles Reservoir (Woodley Ave. and 405 freeway)
- 76,000,000 black balls being placed on the L.A. Reservoir
- Bull Creek Realignment project
- Granada Hills-Knollwood Community Plan Update
- Recycled Water Advisory Group
- Zone code revamp (re:code LA)
- Community disaster preparedness
- O'Melveny and Bee Canyon Park
- Rim of the Valley Trail
- \$4.5+ billion Street Repair Bond
- Wetlands preservation

# 2014 Stakeholder Survey

Please be as frank and complete in your answers as possible. You may also respond online at [ghnnc.org/2014survey](http://ghnnc.org/2014survey). Please use the back of this page for additional comments and concerns. Our Council boundaries are the 118 freeway on the south, the 405 freeway on the east, Aliso Canyon on the west, and the County line on the north. See important info on back. Thank you.

1. What is your connection to **Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council (GHNNC)** area? Check all that apply:  
I own a home \_\_\_ I rent a home/apartment/condo \_\_\_ I own/operate/work in a business \_\_\_ I own commercial property \_\_\_  
I own residential property \_\_\_ I am a student \_\_\_ My/our child(ren) are involved in youth activities here \_\_\_ I belong to a  
religious/fraternal/community organization \_\_\_ I am an educator \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_ (please clarify below):
2. Did you know about Neighborhood Councils before receiving this survey? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
3. The City Charter says Neighborhood Councils are *to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs*. Did you know they were formed largely in response to the San Fernando Valley's independence (secession) movement? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
4. For the past three years we have held a summer social as a Granada Hills North community get-together. How likely would you be to attend a similar event? Please rate 1 to 5, with 1 being Very Unlikely and 5 being Very Likely. \_\_\_
5. Some of our Board and Committee meetings can be lengthy (2-3 hours). If video recordings of the meetings were available on the Internet, would you view them? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_
6. Do you agree with GHNNC's concern for our neighborhood's quality-of-life issues and its ongoing efforts to mitigate the negative impacts to our community from the operation of Sunshine Canyon Landfill? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_
7. Have you recently visited our website, [ghnnc.org](http://ghnnc.org)? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
8. Have you visited us at our office (11139 Woodley Avenue)? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
9. Should a major disaster or large earthquake strike right now, are you and your family prepared to be without vehicular transportation, utility-supplied water, electricity, natural gas, and sewer services for at least 3 days using only the resources you currently have right now? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ I don't know \_\_\_
10. How likely would you be to attend a monthly meeting of the Board in person? Please rate 1 to 5, with 1 being Very Unlikely and 5 being Very Likely. \_\_\_  
  
If your answer is 3 or lower, what would interest you in attending? Check all that apply: A particular speaker \_\_\_ A particular government agency \_\_\_ Discuss issues/items of local concern \_\_\_ Debate among candidates at election time \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_ (please describe below):
11. If you could change one thing about your neighborhood, what would it be?
12. Have you recently participated in a GHNNC activity? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_. If Yes, please list below. If No, why not?
13. Our City Councilmember Mitchell Englander sends a deputy to our Board meetings. Is there anything that you would like us to relate to the Councilmember? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_. If Yes, please describe below:
14. Are there any issues that you would like us to look into? Please describe below:

So that we may stay in touch with you, please provide your contact information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Place First Class stamp here if mailing, bring to a Board meeting, or drop off at our office: 11139 Woodley Ave. G.H. 91344

**Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council**  
Attn: Outreach Committee  
11139 Woodley Ave.  
Granada Hills, CA 91344-3801

Fold in half and tape closed so our address shows on the outside. Use this space for additional comments. If expanding on any question, please include the number of the question.

This survey will be used only for GHNNC outreach efforts and to give guidance about community needs. This survey is subject to the Public Records Act; the Council will protect confidential information, such as home addresses, to the extent of the law. Aggregated results of the survey will be posted on the GHNNC website. We appreciate your taking the time to complete this survey. Your feedback will help guide the direction of your Neighborhood Council and to improve the quality of life in Granada Hills. Thank you!

Please list questions that you would like to see on a future Stakeholder Survey.

[Lined area for writing questions]

**We all have our unique strengths and weaknesses. When we combine our strengths, our weaknesses disappear.**