

**SCNC BOARD**

Lisa Cahan Davis  
Sam Eisner  
Bill Harmond  
Emily Hibard  
Alex Izbicki  
Lisa Karadjian  
Remy Kessler  
Rudy Melendez  
Richard Niederberg  
Lisa Sarkin  
Lana Shackelford  
Gail Steinberg  
Rita C. Villa  
John T. Walker  
Denise Welvang



**PRESIDENT**  
John T. Walker

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Lisa Sarkin

**TREASURER**  
Bill Harmond

**SECRETARY**  
Rita C. Villa

**BOARD MEETING  
APPROVED MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 16, 2015**

**Light Buffet 6:30pm**

**Meeting 7:00pm**

at

**CBS Studio Center, MPR-3**

**4024 Radford, Studio City CA, 91604**

[www.StudioCityNC.org](http://www.StudioCityNC.org)

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**  
Richard Niederberg

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(818) 655-5400

The public is requested to fill out a "Comment Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless directed otherwise by the presiding officer of the Board. The agenda is posted for public review at: Studio City Neighborhood Council website ([www.studiocitync.org](http://www.studiocitync.org)); as well as CBS Studio Center, Radford and Colfax gates. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three (3) business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Studio City Neighborhood Council Vice President, Lisa Sarkin (818) 655-5400 or by e-mail to [lsarkin@studiocitync.org](mailto:lsarkin@studiocitync.org). In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at our website by clicking on the following link: [www.studiocitync.org](http://www.studiocitync.org) or, at the scheduled meeting.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call. Lisa Cahan Davis – present, Sam Eisner – present, Bill Harmond – present, Emily Hibard – present, Alex Izbicki – present, Lisa Karadjian –present, Remy Kessler - expected to arrive late/excused, Rudy Melendez – present, Richard Niederberg - present, Lisa Sarkin - excused, Lana Shackelford – present, Gail Steinberg – present, Rita Villa – present, John Walker – present, Denise Welvang – excused. 11 voting members; 6 to pass a motion. 48 stakeholders present.
2. Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge was recited.
3. Approval of June 17, 2015 Board Minutes. **Rita Villa** requested that the board approve a revision to the motion passed at the last meeting to reflect the name being used to advertise the movie event at the library.

**Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports the FREE NBCUniversal Classic Monster Movie Screenings known as "Monster Palooza" at the Studio City Library during the month of October, 2015.**

The revision was approved and the minutes were then approved in the absence of objection.

4. Presentation and confirmation of new Board members **Jeff Carter** to fill the Business representative seat and Youth Representative **Sam Eisner**. **John Walker** presented Jeff Carter to the board and requested confirmation of his appointment. He gave a brief background as he had been on the board

previously. The appointment was unanimously confirmed. As Jeff has not completed his ethics and funding courses, he will not be eligible to vote tonight.

**John Walker** presented Sam Eisner to the board and requested confirmation of his appointment. He gave a brief background. The appointment was unanimously confirmed.

5. Comments by the President. **John Walker** publicly recognized Barry Johnson for his work on behalf of our council and his work on the tree motion that was just heard before a committee of council. **Barry Johnson** reported on the committee meeting. He then stated that one guest tonight is the president of public works and he will speak to infrastructure issues. **John Walker** indicated that one water main burst on Moorpark and Woodman recently. The SCNC sent out a letter suggesting a moratorium on development until the city's infrastructure is repaired. We also have a representative from the LA City Attorney's office. The Mobility Plan was put into effect to force and redirect people to use public transportation. The plan contemplates the removal of a lane from automobile use and dedicating it to busses and/or bikes. This will cause cut-through traffic on residential side streets. **John Walker** then showed the Monster Palooza card. This event will be held at the Studio City Library on: 10/5/15 thru 10 10/31/15 at 6:00PM. They will be showing classic horror films dating from 1931. The next SCNC event will be on 10/17/15, it will be the Sustainability Home and Garden Practices seminar.
6. Public Comments on non-agenda items within the Board's jurisdiction. **Eric Preven** stated that he is a resident. He thanked John Walker for putting together a nice meeting. He knows Jeff Carter and Sam Eisner. He is a fan of the NC. There was an item on the agenda today at City Council. It was a proposal to give NC's a seat at the table and extra time. He thinks everyone should have more time and wants the NC's to ask for everyone to get that extra time. **David Young** said that this week a cell site was installed by Sprint on his residential street on the fence line of his neighbor and next to his own house. He spoke to public utilities commission and talked to council office - CD2, both said it is not their jurisdiction. He also talked to joint pole committee. He said that the joint pole committee said you cannot get information from them unless you are a member of the committee. He said that this is the fox in the henhouse and we have insufficient representation on where these are being installed. **Andrew Reynew** said he lives on Gailwood Street. The new equipment being installed is more powerful and dangerous. One of the workmen told him it would only kill you if you are two feet away from it. Mr. Reynew said that there is an EMF Exposure Study by the Federal Government but that the State, Federal and local government cannot agree on the safe level of exposure. The Firemen fought this type of installation on property where the fire station is located and won. Cancer is the same in everyone's family. Only Sprint is installing these cell sites at low levels on the utility poles. All other carriers are putting them higher up the pole. **Joseph Salamuovich** said he lives on Carpenter Avenue. He said John touched on the cut through traffic issue and there should be a no cut through traffic street sign on

Carpenter Avenue. With “apps” like Waze we need to take the steps necessary to make sure there are residential streets that are clearly marked that they are for local traffic only. **Barry Johnson** said that the transportation committee is taking up a motion at the next meeting to prevent apps like Waze from diverting traffic to local residential streets. **Barry Johnson** also noted that he was only given one minute to speak at the committee meeting yesterday.

7. Responses to comments from the Board (2 min). **Courtney Hamilton** explained to Mr. Reynew that the fire station property situation is different because City can control what is on City property such as a fire station but on the public utility poles it is the pole Commission that has jurisdiction. The utility poles are not owned by the City. She said those complaints need to go to the joint pole authority and the utility commission. She suggested that we ask Mr. James if there is anything that can be done. **Lana Shackelford** said she is curious what the jurisdiction actually is. **Courtney Hamilton** responded that it is a public utility easement within the city. **Alex Izbicki** said if something is a potential health risk in the community it should be dealt with by our legislators. He suggests we find a way to get the word out about this. **Rita Villa** asked for David Young to send an email to her and GAC would take it up. **Bill Harmond** said there are two mega towers on Vineland and possibly they should be investigated as well. **Lana Shackelford** said if the poles are owned by the DWP the rights of way are leased and pressure may be place there.
8. Update from CD2 by **Courtney Hamilton**. **Courtney Hamilton** announced that there had been incidents of residents posting illegal no parking signs and also painting curbs red. This is illegal and CD2 will forward cases for prosecution. **Lisa Cahan Davis** asked with the rainfall expected to be heavy this winter what is the safety of Laurel Canyon with respect to rock falls. **Courtney Hamilton** responded that the City cannot do much if it is coming from a private property. She does report this to bureau of street services when she sees that a problem has occurred.
9. **Kevin James**, President of Public Works Commission. **John Walker** introduced Kevin James and gave background about what Public Works is responsible for in our city. **John Walker** asked him to include infrastructure discussion in his comments. **Kevin James** stated that he can be reached at Kevin.James@LACITY.ORG and he thanked John for inviting him. Public Works is the only full time commission. There are 5 of them and they oversee 5 bureaus. They are the environmental department and the infrastructure department as well. There are 15 council districts and there is a liaison to each council district. He is responsible for district 3, 12 and 15. **Barry Johnson** mentioned the issue of public comment. The Public Works Commission has a different approach to public comment. If someone is an applicant, protester or a party to an item before them his puts no limit on them. He allows 2 minutes for each speaker and usually allows another 30 seconds or so if needed if it is a matter within the jurisdiction of his commission. He only limits below 2 minutes if there are 50 to 80 speakers on

one item. On only two occasions that has happened. They don't have as many speakers as the city council. The Bureau of Street Services is responsible for some of the larger items like the sidewalk repair plan. They are the managers of this plan. The city has not done real sidewalk repairs since the 70's. The lawsuit requires the city to do a \$1.4 billion sidewalk repair plan. The City Council will decide the policy of how the plan will be implemented. He explained the fix and release program. In this program the city will do the repair for round 1 after the repair is made, the responsibility for the sidewalk goes back to the homeowner. It is in the state law that the responsibility for the sidewalks belongs to the adjacent property owner. When the sidewalk is uprooted by the street tree the city is responsible for the repair. Whether the property owner pays for it or the taxpayers pay for it, stakeholders are still paying for it. The adjacent property owner is getting the benefit of the repair. That is why they are advocating fix and release. The settlement requires a specific order for sidewalk repairs, government facilities, high traffic areas, transit corridors, hospitals and areas where seniors assemble, then neighborhoods. 20% of the funds every year must go for ADA focused complaints which will include neighborhood areas. One of the most difficult issues is tree removal and replacement. It is a quality of life, environmental and beautification issue. It will be a challenge over the upcoming years. Pavement preservation is another issue. As long as the budget money is limited to maintaining the current pavement, only A & B and probably C+ streets will get slurry sealed for \$250 a mile. If street falls to a C then the cost of resurfacing is ten times as much. Reconstruction is even more expensive. Around a million to two million dollars a mile. If it is a concrete street it is \$5 million a mile. It costs about 3.6 billion dollars to fix the D and F streets. It is possible that the county or state may provide some funding. State gas tax revenues provide \$150 million for to pave our streets. \$5.6 million from the gas tax goes to street paving. Los Angeles only gets 3% and we have 10% of the population. He came up with ten different ways to divide the money and hopes that the legislature will adjust this allocation in the special session. Measure R will include funding for street repairs. There is also a clean streets initiative. There is illegal dumping because there are inequities in services provided to South Los Angeles a verses the rest of the city. When you look at the actual services, the number of tons of trash from council districts 1, 8, and 9 was 19 hundred tons. The Bureau was out with strike forces. The data is not perfect as the pick-up requests are not being closed out. The My LA 311 app has problems with hold times. This is due to IT issues. With respect to street sweeping and pot hole repairs, timing is now being improved due to the use of GPS coordinates. The repair crew takes picture of the repair. It is now taking about 3 days to get things fixed. They are no longer allowed to give tickets if no sweeping takes place on a street where it is a posted no parking for street sweeping. Routes not being swept are posted on the website so DOT does not ticket and people who check the site can park without getting a ticket. The mayor gave refunds of \$1.6 million to people where tickets were given and the streets were not swept. The "Act Soft" technology lets the people know where the streets are being swept. With respect to capital improvements – the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge is being torn down due to seismic issues. As to sewer pipes repairs,

it is a pain when it is a water main break but worse if it is a sewer line. Sanitation is spending \$150 million a year to repair sewer lines. Above Ground Facility ("AFG") issue – jurisdiction over street lighting poles. The DWP has jurisdiction over its poles. Whenever an AFG is attached to an apparatus, notices are sent to everyone in a certain radius. Everyone that gets the notice has an opportunity to protest. When some oppose cell tower, the counter argument is the fact that people need to get in touch with their kids. They must have the ability to get their email. Dr Lucy Jones said that after an earthquake, people will leave their home sooner if they have no cell service than if they have no electricity. The Federal Communications Act of 1996 – says that local governments cannot take health considerations into the decision of whether or not to grant an AGF. They need to demonstrate the AFG is not needed or that there is a better location. Have not tried to find the better location. With respect to hillside erosion, on Laurel Canyon between Mulholland and Sunset there is more sluff than on this side. The hillside will be tested and if it is slipping then they can get access to correct the problem. They tested it and will continue to test it. **Mr. Young** asked if the DWP is required to notify residents like public works does. **Lisa Karadjian** said the pavement on Laurel Canyon needs attention. **Kevin James** said it is a concrete street so it is on a list for future repair. There are other streets that are worse. **Mr. Rynew** said this is a minuscule problem as compared to what happened to Coldwater Canyon. Coldwater was repaired but we ended up with another hole. **Kevin James** said he can't speak to the DWP issue. **Lana Shackelford** asked if we can go to the website to see if the street sweeper has passed. **Barry Johnson** said Moorpark is secondary street and it looks like an in and out saw tooth because of street dedications. Public works does not control the policy; it is under the council office's control and street services. **Alex Izbicki** said he understands we are chasing the street repairs. As we convert small 5 to 10 unit buildings; we increase the weight on the infrastructure. Why aren't we seeing what is happening and slowing things down? The City Council has accessed the low impact development ordinance. There are additional concessions given on low impact developments. Public works is also working with street services on haul routes. The City does not charge enough money for the damage that is done by the construction trucks. If we rework the fee structure, we will collect the funds that pay for the damage that is done by the added development. A **Stakeholder** asked about the F streets and asked if the hillside streets will be prioritized due to the expected heavy rains. **Kevin James** responded that will be worked at and he suggested that the stakeholder send in a specific request. **Lisa Cahan Davis** asked when doing a slurry seal do they work with other departments to use sustainable practices. **Kevin James** responded that they are concerned about the heat island effect. He said that beyond that he does not know and he suggested she ask Adrin Nazarian. **John Walker** asked can there be an absolute moratorium on building for a couple of years? Can we just take some time and put LA back together?. **Kevin James** said "No" because these are jobs that people will not have. No elected official would halt construction because that is a job killer.

10. **Diego Edber**, Special Neighborhood Prosecutor from the City Attorney's Office. **John Walker** introduced Diego Edber. **Diego Edber** stated that he will talk about homelessness. The number one complaint he gets is about homelessness. What are we going to do with the homelessness problem? It is a society issue not a prosecutorial issue. It becomes one when they commit crimes. Jailing people for non-violent crimes does no good. They have lots of repeat customers. They are trying to find other ways to deal with them instead of jailing them. Persons sentenced for under 60 days are immediately released. Someone sentenced for 180 days spends a couple of weeks in jail. Under Laura's law 130 beds were made available for the homeless. They are having had trouble getting anyone into that program. To qualify the person must be disabled and have mental issues. There is another program that is a pilot program where anyone homeless and mentally ill can be provided housing, counseling and allows them to bring pets. There are 50 beds available under this program. About 48 of those beds are still available because some people do not want help. If they continue to live the streets because don't want to go to a shelter they are the ones charged with crimes. One of the laws related to belongings left on the streets is municipal code section 56.11 which changed the law on abandoned property. Bulky items can be taken immediately but the law is not being enforced because the property taken has to be stored. There is no location in the Valley designated for the storage of the property. The Mayor has asked the bureau of street services not to enforce the law. They are not posting the notices or enforcing the law. They are not sure if violations of code section 56.11 should be an infraction or a misdemeanor. Studio City is seeing a problem with the homeless parking in front of homes. It is legal. They just have to move the car every 72 hours. Dozens of homeowners a week are calling wanting to get them to move these vehicles out of the neighborhood. You can't under the current laws. The law has to be rewritten. **Diego Edber** said he focuses on problem areas and problem people. **Lana Shackelford** asked about the 50 beds - would it be appropriate for people to be assigned by a judge to that facility. **Diego Edber** responded that the person must agree to counseling and job training. **Alex Izbicki** said this is an issue of money. Why do we hire people to just deflect and shrug? He follows Spotcrime.com and noted that all spots are outside of his neighborhood. His neighborhood has a private security service. Why does it take private security to prevent crime? **Diego Edber** said it is very depressing to see early releases from prison after the person is finally sentenced. He goes to the senior lead officer meetings and officers encourage private security. We have only 10 % of the officers we need to have compared to other major cities. **Jeff Carter** asked about the statement that the Mayor has asked street services not to post. **Diego Edber** explained that you can't pick and choose which laws to enforce on a political basis. **Jeff Carter** asked if Mike Feuer issued any opinion as to the legality of the Mayor picking which laws to enforce based on ideologies. **Diego Edber** said not to his knowledge. He also said other departments are enforcing it. It is difficult to prosecute. **Barry Johnson** said that in parks there are many homeless and on Alvarado under the 101 overpass there

are beds, tents and generators. Why is this allowed to continue? **Diego Edber** said parks and recs should do something about this. He has prosecuted 95 people in the last three days who were given warning to get out of an area that did not do so. Officers do site them but do not do a formal arrest. It takes an officer 7 to 8 hours to arrest 1 person. They are understaffed and have to go after bigger criminals. What we really need to do is to give people a place to go. Rita Villa said that we are considering the following motion tonight: "The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports the passage of Assembly Bill No 1355 the Building Homes and Jobs Act and requests that the City Council pass a motion in support of it." and she hopes it will be passed. **Diego Edber** told people to contact him [diego.edber@lacity.org](mailto:diego.edber@lacity.org).

11. Treasurer's Report by **Bill Harmond**. **Bill Harmond** reviewed the monthly expenditure report. We have plenty of money. 1/4 of the budget is not yet allocated. We need to know what the election will cost. We at least need a general idea. **John Walker** read the motions.

**Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the Monthly Expenditure Report for August 2015, and hereby accepts and approves it.**

See Board Vote on Board Vote Count Form attached to these minutes as Exhibit I. The motion was **approved** in the absence of objection.

12. Sustainability Committee Report **Lisa Cahan-Davis**. **Lisa Cahan-Davis** reported that the first event is the sustainable garden event. There will be 5 speakers making presentations. This is the Sustainability Committee's first event. There will be experts in water capture and reuse. Please come and invite your friends to come and be a part of this. **Lisa Cahan-Davis** reported that she has been attending the sustainability alliance committee meetings. A representative from the DWP was there and he spoke about the proposed rate increase. **Lisa Cahan-Davis** indicated that she has attended a lot of events. One of the events was on the drought and the resulting water shortage. The committee is working on the 2016 Green Living fair. It will be held in late May next year. Hundreds of people come to that event. She asked everyone to help or bring in other groups to help. The Congress of Neighborhoods event is coming up on 9/26/15 from 7:45 to lunch. She will be speaking at the Congress.
13. Outreach Committee Report by **Lana Shackelford**. **Lana Shackelford** reported the dates for the Monster Palooza event and encouraged people to come out. At the Outreach Committee meeting they discussed the good neighbor laws book. It will not be published until next year because of some changes that are needed. The small business fair is coming up on November 2, 2015 at the Studio City Library from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. They are also planning for the Luminaria event. This will be the 5<sup>th</sup> year that the SCNC sponsors this event. It will be held at the Campo de Cahuenga on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 3:00pm to 7:00 PM. The next outreach meeting will not be held on its previously scheduled date. Possibly it will

be rescheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup>. The SCNC now has an Instagram account. Friday there will be a video spot on our web site. There will be further information on that in the future. **Jeff Carter** said if you have not seen the monster movies come and see these classic movies. **Bill Harmond** asked about the election. Lana Shackelford said if you want more information about the election come to the next outreach committee.

14. Land Use Committee Report by **Lisa Sarkin or Lisa Karadjian**. **Lisa Karadjian** passed on presenting a Land Use Committee report so that the time could be devoted to the motions. **John Walker** read Motion A.

**Motion A: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council opposes the private street application for 3779-3801 Berry Drive [PS No. 1430].**

**Lisa Karadjian** gave background on Motion A. **Leslie Buffum** asked if we have seen the photos. She showed a photo and said this is the property and the run off after the rain yesterday. She does not feel that the developer has been honest. **Mr. Goodman** said he was told by the developer that permits were in place and approved but that was not true. The August 19 conditions have not been met. He asked the developer if there are any plans for the homes which will be built. The developer said no but she has emails with reference to the detailed plans for the homes. **David Buffum** said he supports the motion. **James Becker** said he is a member of the land use committee. He voted against the motion to oppose. It is a disservice if we approve this without conditions. The planning department will move forward and there will be no conditions. There should be a statement that the city must follow the code without exceptions. **Chris Olander** said he supports the motion. He has attended three meetings on this now. The property is not being maintained. There are decaying walls on the property now. The vast majority are opposed to this development. **Jan Ross** said she supports the motion. She has a petition with over a hundred signatures. She feels there were misrepresentations. The geology report is 3 years old. The geology report was not approved. It lacked sufficient information for them to approve it. The developer is not complying or being honest. **Rosa Wong** said she is an owner on Barry Drive. Two houses are below the site. Rocks tumble down all the time. Rocks land at her front door. This hillside is unstable. It was a red zone. Do not forget there were 5 collapsed homes up the street. There is nothing left there. Others will return to their homes but the neighbors will remain in danger. Use common sense and experience. Stop a disaster from happening. **Ronald Meyer** supports the motion. **Barry Johnson** said he is not a fan of big box houses. You could build separate drive ways by right with proper soil reports. If you pass the motion the engineering reports will make it right. **Bruce Nussbaum** – said he supports the motion , **Vicki Nussaum** said she lives at 3821 Barry and she supports the motion to oppose. She is concerned about the geology of the property. The retaining walls on properties above this property are failing and she is concerned this is not safe. **Harvey Goodman** said he is here representing the developer. The Civil Engineer for the project, Mr. Blessing, is also here. The



application is for a private street. The private driveway will be built to public street standards. It will be the practical access to three existing lots. We have 3 choices: i. Develop each lot individually by right. ii. We can oppose the project and the hillside will remain the same. It is unstable and unsatisfactory. There is no control over the run off and it will be an undersized dangerous street. iii. We can support the development and get an improved hillside and access with only 1 driveway. Drainage will be controlled. There will be a dedication for a widened street and curbs and gutters will be put in. There is a city engineers report that has engineering conditions for the project. If they don't follow the conditions there will be no private street project. He asks that we reverse our motion and have input. **Barry Johnson** said that flyers were passed out to the neighborhood in the 500 foot radius. 11 stakeholders were against the private street based on their comment cards. Lisa Sarkin, Lisa Karagian and James Becker voted against the motion. They should have made a motion to support the development with all conditions of the city upheld. They should have supported the development with conditions. **John Walker** said we can't put conditions on streets. We can't dictate that unless we have as an ordinance like an RFA. They want to be able to have input. **Rita Villa** proposed an amendment to the motion. The amendment was second by **Lisa Karadjian**. Vote on the amended motion.

**Amended Motion A: The Studio City Neighborhood Council opposes the private street application for 3779-3801 Berry Drive [PS No. 1430]. If the City Planning Department approves this application over our opposition, such approval should be subject to the following conditions:**

- **A turn around on the property at 3801 Berry Drive for emergency vehicles with no steps allowed from Berry Drive.**
- **Improvement of Berry Drive including sidewalk and gutter.**
- **No exceptions to the current requirements in the Los Angeles Municipal Code.**
- **A new geological/soil report be required.**

See Board Vote on Board Vote Count Form attached to these minutes as Exhibit II.  
**Motion Carried.**

**John Walker** read Motion B. **Lisa Karadjian** gave background on Motion B. Flyers were passed out and no stakeholders were present for or against the project other than the applicant. The LUC added conditions. **Barry Johnson** stated that he personally distributed flyers to more than the 500 foot radiuses properties including businesses. Not one person came and he distributed the flyers in 105 degree heat.

**Motion B: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports Shiki Sushi, located at 12745 ½ Ventura Blvd. [ZA-2015-2434 CUB CU] with the attached conditions Exhibit A.**

See Board Vote on Board Vote Count Form attached to these minutes as Exhibit III.  
**Motion Carried.**

15. Government Affairs Committee Report by **Rita Villa**. **Rita Villa** requested that motion be read. **John Walker** read Motion A. **Rita Villa** gave background on Motion A.

**Motion A: The board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council understands the need for infrastructure repairs, capturing storm water and improving the quality of our groundwater and water quality overall but it does not support the increases in water rates as presently proposed by the DWP for the following reasons:**

- 1. The DWP runs a surplus every year which is transferred to the general fund. These surpluses result from the fact that spending for needed infrastructure repairs has been deferred for far too long.**
- 2. The DWP imposes taxes on our water usage as part of the monthly bill. The rate increase will increase these taxes and that is a tax increase that the voters have not approved.**
- 3. LA has continued water savings – Los Angeles residents cut their water use by 21% in July 2015. These historic conservation measures actually have resulted in decreased revenues to the DPW.**
- 4. The residential rates will be increased and some bills will go up by as much as \$88.19 per month. Residential users cut back on water usage and are then asked to pay more for what they do use.**
- 5. Residential users are not the greatest water users. Agriculture is a much greater user of water yet there does not appear to be a proposal to increase rates on those users. We are aware that agricultural users have had to cut back their usage.**
- 6. One of the greatest ways to increase our local supply of water is through improvements in storm water capture. With every inch of rainfall millions of gallons of water are wasted as they are channeled directly to the ocean. The percentage of the revenue increase from the proposed rate hikes which is being allocated to storm water capture is only 5 %. This is not an adequate allocation.**
- 7. In addition to the rate increase the DPW is also proposing a “reliability pass-through factor to pay for water and power infrastructure improvements.” How many ways are the stakeholders going to be asked to fund these improvements?**
- 8. Any proposed rate increase should go to a segregated fund earmarked specifically and exclusively for investing in infrastructure, continued reliable water and power delivery and meeting regulatory mandates. 100% of the revenue raised by the rate increase should go to these initiatives. There should be no transfers to the general fund resulting**

**from the rate increase. There should be no utility tax imposed on the revenue generated by the rate increase or 8% power transfer tax on the revenue generated by the rate increase from the sale of electricity.**

**Barry Johnson** said he supports the motion. **John Walker** said that Dr Pickle, the rate payer advocate, approved of this motion. **Jeff Carter** said that he supports the motion. **Richard Niederberg** said it is not likely that the City council will approve this. **Motion Carries.**

See Board Vote on Board Vote Count Form attached to these minutes as Exhibit IV.

**Rita Villa** requested that motion be read. **John Walker** read Motion B. **Rita Villa** stated that the background on Motion B had previously been sent to the board.

**Motion B: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports the passage of Assembly Bill No 1355 the Building Homes and Jobs Act and requests that the City Council pass a motion in support of it. Motion Fails**

See Board Vote on Board Vote Count Form attached to these minutes as Exhibit V.

16. VANC Report from **Richard Niederberg**. **Richard Niederberg** reported that they had a 4 hour meeting. VANC took no position on side walk vendors. Grace Lieu did a presentation on the elections. December 18, 2015 is the filing date for the election on April 7, 2015. On line voting will complicate things. The roll-over funds are being doled out slowly. DONE is trying to define community interest stakeholder. The sustainability group was discussed. There will be an election workshop November 12, 2015 and there will also be a celebration event. VANC requested a donation of \$250 for both. Emily Hibard asked why VANC took no position on the street vendor issue. **John Walker** said the SCNC has taken a position on that issue.
17. Transportation Committee Report by **Barry Johnson**. **Barry Johnson** reported that they discussed no parking on Laurel Canyon during rush hour on each side of the street that the traffic is going. The only opposition was from the smoke shop that has no parking. No motion passed. They are going to the transportation department to ask for a traffic study. At the meeting on October 7 they will be asking the city to prohibit apps like Waze from directing a person through a neighborhood that is not meant as a though fare to get to another location. **Alex Izbicki** said the Waze thing is just a symptom of our over building. Richard Niederberg said there is too much cut through traffic in his area. Rudy Melendez stated that he rides the Studio City hills on his bike. He rides during rush hour. There are cars streaming on small residential streets. These cars are cutting through to avoid traffic. **Jeff Carter** said his dog was hit on Barry Drive. If the mayor wants to stop cut through traffic the neighborhoods need to put cops there to give out tickets.

18. Budget Committee Report by **Remy Kessler**. **Remy Kessler** absent so there was no budget committee report.
19. Bylaws Committee Report by **Jeff Carter**. **Jeff Carter** reported that he has two new members on the committee. Their next meeting will be held on September 29, 2015 at 7 pm.
20. Cultural affairs Committee Report by **Richard Niederberg**. **Richard Niederberg** reported on the Luminaria. Adrin Nazzarian wants to attend. Mr. Krekorian should be asked to be there. The event will take place on December 6, 2015 from 3:00pm to 7:00pm. The set-up is on Saturday in the morning. **Lana Shackelford** said the Outreach Committee members will help Richard with the set up at the event.
21. Budget Advocate Report by **Brandon Pender**. **Brandon Pender** was ill so there was no budget advocate report.
22. Comments from Board Members on subject matters within the Boards jurisdiction. **Alex Izbicki** asked if it was true that our email servers keep our emails only for 90 days. **John Walker** replied yes but that agendas and minutes are kept up for 5 years. Jeff Carter thanked us for letting he be back. Emily Hibard said we have a new "about" page on our website. **John Walker** said we will be taking a new black and white photo for the website before the next meeting.
23. Adjournment. **Moved:** Sam Eisner, **Second:** Rita Villa, **Vote:** Unanimous.













