

THE RIVIERA REPORTER



Hillside Ordinance Discussion Panel *by Karla Butte*

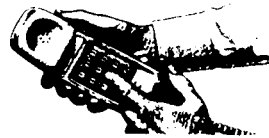
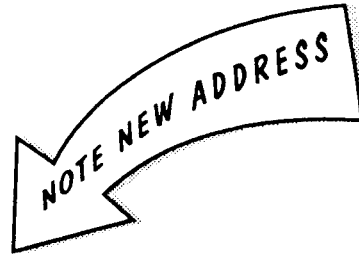
WHAT: RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS'S MEETING

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: RICHARDSON SCHOOL, NANCY LEE LANE & NEWTON ST.

INFO: R.H.A. HOT-LINE [310] 784-9RHA



TOPIC WILL BE A DISCUSSION OF THE HILLSIDE OVERLAY DISTRICT ORDINANCE. REPRESENTATIVES FROM CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT, CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND CITY COUNCIL WILL ATTEND. DISCUSSION WILL INCLUDE: HILLSIDE ORDINANCE HISTORY, ROLE OF PLANNING DEPT., ROLE OF PLANNING COMMISSION, CITY COUNCIL APPEALS.

Progress On View Impairment Ordinance *by Glenn Tanner*

The City Council heard a presentation from the Streetscape Team and heard input from about 25 residents regarding a proposed View Impairment Policy for City-controlled trees in the Hillside Overlay District. After discussing the various options, the Council voted to adopt a policy that includes the following items:

- All new or replacement street trees and median / park trees will be selected from a list of limited height tree species.
- The current tree trimming permit will be expanded to allow removal of City-controlled trees for view restoration on the applicants frontage with replacement trees

selected from the list mentioned above.

- The current tree trimming permit will be expanded to allow removal of City-controlled trees for view restoration on someone else's frontage with replacement trees selected from the list mentioned above only if that person agrees.

In addition, the Council directed staff to trim two of the Estrellita Triangle trees during the week of March 10 using an aggressive 'crown reduction' method to see if the trees can be trimmed below the line-of-view that residents whose views are blocked by those trees. Staff will evaluate the experiment and report back to the

Council on April 1. Staff has set up a Streetscape Hot-Line at 310-618-2713 to provide periodic updates regarding this issue. Questions regarding the trimming method may be directed to the Tree Services Administrator, Montey Chamness, at 781-6900. The final policy will not be in effect until the Council takes a final vote.

These actions by the Council are a dramatic shift in policy versus the past years and in fact are the result of the hard working RHA Board members who have promoting this issue for several years. The RHA is committed to pursuing the issue of view impairment in the future and your cooperation, input, and support is encouraged.

The Prez Sez...



by Glenn Tanner

In the last newsletter, I asked if any of you had pet peeves regarding the neighborhood. As you might recall, I had one - those darn gasoline powered leaf-blowers. You all must be a very contented bunch !!! Of the about 3,400 newsletters sent out, I received exactly two responses. I guess that brings to mind another issue that is important

as described elsewhere in this newsletter. Without some new volunteers those jobs will not be done and the effective representation of the Riviera, as demonstrated by our leadership in the View Impairment by City Trees policy now being adopted, will be compromised. That is something that ought not to happen.

...the need for active participation by the residents of an area to transform the neighborhood into a real community.

Well, here we go again! The informative presentation regarding the Hillside Ordinance that was scheduled to be held during our last canceled general meeting is scheduled again for Wednesday Night, April 9. Please note that this meeting is scheduled for the second Wednesday of the month versus the regular rotation of first Thursdays in order to ensure that all panelists will attend. Apologies to all for the abrupt cancellation of the last meeting.

to me: The need for active participation by the residents of an area to transform the neighborhood into a real community. No one can do that for you, only by getting involved yourself will it happen.

In addition, we are planning several community involvement events such as summer concerts or a neighborhood picnic, but frankly we do not have the manpower, or personpower, to arrange these events unless you get involved. Please see me at the next general meeting if you want to get involved, there is plenty to do without committing to an elected position.

So here is a great opportunity to give back a little to the Riviera: We need new Board members! There are several positions open that need your attention

R.H.A. Board Positions Open

The following RHA Board of Director positions are now open. We are soliciting interested persons from the Riviera to fill these slots.

This would be a great chance for you to get involved with your community, improve the area, and get to know your neighbors. The RHA assists the schools and performs community improvement projects, so please, call Glenn, Don, or Doug if you are interested (phone numbers are on last page of this newsletter), elections will be held at the next general meeting. Positions open are:

First Vice President - Membership

Secretary

City Council Liaison Director

Hospitality Director; and Historian.

Bonds... Torrance School Bonds

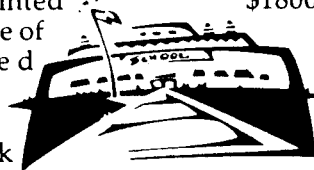
by Glenn Tanner

Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) is planning on a June 3 vote on an \$80.5 million school bond issue to fund needed improvements and repairs to the schools facilities and infrastructures at 33 campuses. The district proposes to pay back the bonds by forming a Mello Roos District to collect the new property tax. As pointed out in the *Daily Breeze* article of March 9, needed improvements and repairs total about \$135 million, but the TUSD has scaled back their request to \$80.5 million. That breaks down to a cost of about 13 cents per day for a single family homeowner or roughly \$48 per year to pay back the bonds.

After holding a public hearing attended by 150 people, the district voted unanimously voted to form the special district and levy the special tax. The tax must be passed by a two-thirds majority during the vote. Only one resident has formally objected to the creation of the special district. Most of the people gathered at the public

hearing overwhelmingly supported the bond issue. Mello Roos bonds may be used for capital projects and new equipment while general bonds are limited to mainly to construction. Trustees pointed out that TUSD receives about \$600 per year less per student than the state average and \$1800 annually less versus the national average. Therefore there are no funds left for capital improvements.

A strong school district is one of the main assets of a strong community, and TUSD is considered to be a strong district. As one speaker noted... "Torrance attracts young families and they come here for the schools..." A strong school district also upholds and supports higher home resale values. Another speaker summed it up by saying . "I feel an obligation to do for the 21st century students what has already been done for my kids..." The RHA urges you all to carefully consider this issue and vote your conscience on June 3.



Community Emergency Response Team



Mr. Herb Kahn, City Disaster Council Commissioner has written to us requesting support in an effort to allocate funds from the City of Torrance City Council to Support the Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT, program. It is possible that in case of major emergency, the Fire Dept. may not be able to meet the demand for fire and medical services due to a high number of victims, communication failures, and road blockages. Therefore, it is important that citizens who must rely on each other for assistance be as prepared as possible.

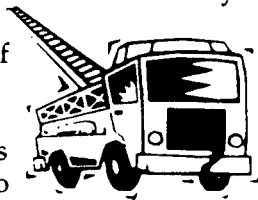
The entire CERT course is composed of 7 classes, each 2-1/2 hours.

Special Notice From The TFD

by Glenn Tanner

The Torrance Fire Department (TFD) has recently experienced a high number of candle related fires. They have requested that we issue **t h i s** reminder of a few simple safety rules for the use of candles:

Never leave candles unattended !!! Before going to bed at night be sure flames are extinguished. Place candles in a sturdy



holder which is designed not to allow the melted wax to overflow or carry the lighted wick to another location. Always supervise children around any open flame. Remember, the heat from the flame rises so do not place any combustible material above the candle. Have working smoke detectors and a current, practiced, escape plan for your family.

Schedule Of Upcoming City Public Works Projects

by Glenn Tanner

The City of Torrance Engineering Department has just released an update of the public works capital improvement program for 1997. City-wide, the program consists of multiple projects totaling \$47 million in improvements. The following areas in the Hollywood Riviera will be affected during 1997:

- Slurry seal repaving of all streets west of Palos Verdes Blvd.
- Total resurfacing of street pavement on Camino de las Colinas between Calle Mayor and PCH.
- Calle Mayor booster pump station

replacement (Calle Mayor at PCH), Spring 1997.

- Traffic Signal Pre-emption system installation at Anza and PCH.
- New City entry signs at Hawthorne and the south City limit.
- Sewer main and storm drain line replacements on Paseo de Gracia between Via los Altos & Via Linda Vista; Via El Chico; Via Atezeta between Via los Miradores and Paseo de Arena; Calle Miramar between Via Estrellas and Calle Mayor; Via los Tortugas between Vista Montana and Mesa St.; and Bluff St.

WHAT'S UP IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Emergency Police, Fire Medical
911

RHA Hot-Line
784-9-RHA (742)

Police Non-emergency
328-3456

City Hall
328-5310

Community Affairs
618-6392

Fire Dept. Information
781-7042

Fire Prevention
618-2973

Graffiti Removal Hot Line
781-7149

Park Maintenance
781-6901

Road / Sidewalk Repair
781-6900

Traffic Signals
781-6936

Dial-A-Lift
320-4020

Animal Control
618-5929

Motor Oil Recycling
781-6900

Household Hazardous Waste
Hotline
800-552-5218

Street Lights
800-655-4555

View Impairment Hotline
618-2713

Riviera Homeowners Association 1995-1996 Officers And Directors

President	Glenn Tanner	378-4446	Historian	OPEN	
1st Vice President (Programs)	Karla Butte	791-0222	Hospitality	OPEN	
2nd Vice President (Membership)	Armelle Feuvrier	375-1663	Landscape Chairperson	Ruth Vogel	375-4702
Treasurer	Gary Rivera	375-1663	Landscape	Mary Lenihan	378-7435
Secretary	Benson Black	375-0744	City Council Liaison	OPEN	
Newsletter Editor	Jim Vogl	378-1803	Mailing Chairperson	Shirley McNair	378-5557
Immediate Past President	Don Young Jr.	373-4642	City Planning Liaison	Virginia Levanas	375-0424
Past President	Doug Holker	378-8984	CHAT Liaison	Greg Anunson	378-6384

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Riviera Homeowners Association Membership

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ TEL: _____

Initial membership application _____ Renewal _____

\$15 \$20 \$25 Other

Please Clip and Mail to:

**RIVIERA
HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION**

**P.O. BOX 1074
Torrance, CA 90505**

& Thank you for your contribution!

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