



Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

ghnnc.org

Date: ~~5/14/10~~ 2/16/10
Submitted in 617 Committee
Council File No: ~~07-0000-8169~~
Item No.: 01
Deputy: SV
mblie

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
BOARD-APPROVED 2nd REVISED BUDGET
for DONE Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10): July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

		FY10	Actual Expenses	Funds
		Budget	as of 1/25/2010	Remaining
(100) Operations (41%)				
FAC	Facility Rent	\$ 15,000	\$ 14,448	\$ 552
FAC	Facility Furnishings/Signage	\$ 1,500	\$ 419	\$ 1,081
FAC	P.O. Box Rental	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ -
FAC	Phone Systems	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200
BOK	Departmental Books/Magazines	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ 300
COM	Computer Hardware/Software/Supplies	\$ 600	\$ 261	\$ 339
COP	Copying Expense	\$ 1,600	\$ 819	\$ 781
EDU	Training/Conferences	\$ 1,250	\$ -	\$ 1,250
OFF	Office Supplies	\$ 750	\$ 328	\$ 422
OTH	Bank Charges	\$ 150	\$ 50	\$ 100
OTH	General Operations	\$ 2,000	\$ 494	\$ 1,506
OTH	Postage/Mailings (to DONE)	\$ 250	\$ 34	\$ 216
OTH	Travel	\$ 1,750	\$ 296	\$ 1,454
RET	Annual Retreat	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 1,500
TAC	Accountant Review	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200
TRC	Staffing-Transcription/AppleOne	\$ 2,200	\$ 1,732	\$ 468
SUBTOTAL		\$ 29,360	\$ 18,990	\$ 10,370
(200) Outreach (48%)				
ADV	Advertising	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000
ADV	General Neighborhood Outreach	\$ 6,500	\$ 5,258	\$ 1,242
ELE	Elections	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,114	\$ 1,886
MAT	Postage/Mailings (for Outreach)	\$ 1,000	\$ 16	\$ 984
MEE	Meeting Space Rental	\$ 1,500	\$ 450	\$ 1,050
MEE	Meeting Refreshments	\$ 3,750	\$ 1,513	\$ 2,237
NEW	Newsletters	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,707	\$ 2,294
OTH	Citrus Sunday	\$ 525	\$ 524	\$ 1
OTH	Holiday Parade Float	\$ 404	\$ 221	\$ 183
OTH	Open House	\$ 515	\$ 515	\$ 0
OTH	Spring Egg Hunt	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500
OTH	Street Fair & Parade	\$ 3,571	\$ 3,570	\$ 1
WEB	Website Expenses	\$ 2,875	\$ 2,281	\$ 594
SUBTOTAL		\$ 34,140	\$ 21,168	\$ 12,972
(300) Community Improvements (7%)				
EMR	Emergency Preparedness	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000
GRA	Graffiti Removal	\$ 250	\$ 103	\$ 147
MAY	Mayor's Day of Service	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250
MED	Median Beautification	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 750
OTH	General Community Projects	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000
OTH	Pocket Park - N/W Woodley @ Rinaldi	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 400
REC	Local Rec & Parks	\$ 350	\$ -	\$ 350
SUBTOTAL		\$ 5,000	\$ 103	\$ 4,897
(400) Neighborhood Purpose Grants (4%)				
GRT	Other Neighborhood Purpose Grants	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500
SUBTOTAL		\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500
TOTAL		\$ 71,000	\$ 40,261	\$ 30,739
2010 BUDGET		\$ 45,000	\$ 30,739	43.3%
2009 ROLLOVER		\$ 90,650		REMAINING
2010 AVAILABLE FUNDS		\$ 135,650	\$ 64,650	← Remaining for 2011

FUNDING/EXPENDITURES BY FISCAL QUARTER

		CY - 2006				CY - 2007			
		1/1 - 3/31/2006	4/1 - 6/30/2006	7/1 - 9/31/2006	10/1 - 12/31/2006	1/1 - 3/31/2007	4/1 - 6/30/07	7/1 - 9/30/07	10/1 - 12/31/07
		FY - 2006				FY - 2007			
		3Q - FY06	4Q - FY06	1Q - FY07	2Q - FY07	3Q - FY07	4Q - FY07	1Q - FY08	2Q - FY08
Periodic DONE funding		\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
DONE funding to date		\$ 137,500.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
Periodic expenditure (net)		\$ n/a	\$ 4,182.42	\$ 4,486.74	\$ 8,152.95	\$ 6,876.99	\$ 7,522.50	\$ 9,121.11	\$ 6,224.63
Expenditures to date		\$ 82,296.43	\$ 86,478.85	\$ 90,965.59	\$ 99,118.54	\$ 105,995.53	\$ 113,518.03	\$ 122,639.14	\$ 128,863.77
Remaining available funds		\$ 55,203.57	\$ 63,521.15	\$ 109,034.41	\$ 100,881.46	\$ 94,004.47	\$ 86,481.97	\$ 127,360.86	\$ 121,136.23

		CY - 2008				CY - 2009			
		1/1 - 3/31/08	4/1 - 6/30/08	7/1 - 9/30/08	10/1 - 12/31/08	1/1 - 3/31/09	4/1 - 6/30/09	7/1 - 9/30/09	10/1 - 12/31/09
		FY - 2008				FY - 2009			
		3Q - FY08	4Q - FY08	1Q - FY09	2Q - FY09	3Q - FY09	4Q - FY09	1Q - FY10	2Q - FY10
Periodic DONE funding		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000.00	\$ -
DONE funding to date		\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 345,000.00	\$ 345,000.00
Periodic expenditure (net)		\$ 9,489.06	\$ 19,091.25	\$ 3,369.16	\$ 13,878.06	\$ 24,710.78	\$ 10,521.85	\$ 10,684.52	\$ 14,392.63
Expenditures to date		\$ 138,352.83	\$ 157,444.08	\$ 160,813.24	\$ 174,691.30	\$ 199,402.08	\$ 209,923.93	\$ 220,608.45	\$ 235,001.08
Remaining available funds		\$ 111,647.17	\$ 92,555.92	\$ 139,186.76	\$ 125,308.70	\$ 100,597.92	\$ 90,076.07	\$ 124,391.55	\$ 109,998.92

FUNDING & ROLLOVER BY FISCAL YEAR

Fiscal Quarter	Quarter End Total Remaining	Allocation by Funding Year								
		FY - 2004	FY - 2005	FY - 2006	FY - 2007	FY - 2008	FY - 2009	FY - 2010		
4Q FY-06	\$ 63,521.15	\$ -	\$ 13,521.16	\$ 50,000.00	--	--	--	--	--	--
1Q FY-07	\$ 109,034.41	\$ -	\$ 9,034.42	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	--	--	--	--	--
2Q FY-07	\$ 100,881.46	\$ -	\$ 881.47	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	--	--	--	--	--
3Q FY-07	\$ 94,004.47	\$ -	\$ 0.00	\$ 44,004.48	\$ 50,000.00	--	--	--	--	--
4Q FY-07	\$ 86,481.97	\$ -	\$ 0.00	\$ 36,481.98	\$ 50,000.00	--	--	--	--	--
1Q FY-08	\$ 122,639.14	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,360.87	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	--	--	--	--
2Q FY-08	\$ 121,136.23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,136.24	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	--	--	--	--
3Q FY-08	\$ 111,647.17	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,647.18	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	--	--	--	--
4Q FY-08	\$ 92,555.92	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.00	\$ 42,555.93	\$ 50,000.00	--	--	--	--
1Q FY-09	\$ 160,813.24	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,186.77	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	--
2Q FY-09	\$ 125,308.70	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,308.71	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	--
3Q FY-09	\$ 100,597.92	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 597.93	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	--
4Q FY-09	\$ 90,076.07	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.00	\$ 40,076.08	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	--
1Q FY-10	\$ 220,608.45	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,391.56	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
2Q FY-10	\$ 109,998.92	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,998.93	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
3Q FY-10	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,477.08	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
4Q FY-10	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$ 45,000.00

Hello City Council Members:

My name is Sue DeVandry and I am the Outreach Chairperson for the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council.

I am writing this letter to you not only as a NC board member but also as a Stakeholder in the City of Los Angeles. I am asking you to reconsider the budget cuts to the Neighborhood Councils and DONE.

As GHNNC Outreach Chairperson for the past five years, I have personally spent over 40 hours each month on Outreach activities which include writing newsletters and articles for local publications, speaking directly to Stakeholders about Neighborhood Councils at the local Street Faires, Emergency Preparedness events, eggs hunts, parades, etc. I have spent hours attending meetings regarding Planning and Land Use, Public Safety, By Laws, and Elections.

WHY DO I DO THIS???? Because I LOVE my neighborhood. I am passionate about my neighborhood. I want my neighborhood to be the best it can be.

I think everyone on the Neighborhood Council Boards are as passionate about their neighborhoods as I am. I am not asking for money for my hours of service. I give these hours VOLUNTARILY. I am not on the LA City payroll. I do not get free health care, pensions, cars, perks, etc. I am a volunteer for the City of Los Angeles and I am proud of it.

Granada Hills North is a "bedroom" community full of residences and very few businesses. In fact, we have only two supermarkets and a few businesses surrounding them in a shopping center. That is it. We do not have a Town Hall, a Library, a Police Dept. or a Fire Dept. which have community meeting rooms where we can hold committee meetings. We are not allowed to hold meetings in our homes due to ADA Compliance Rules and we are not allowed to meet outside our GHNNC boundaries. With all those restrictions we were forced to lease a small office to hold our committee meetings at a cost of \$15,000 per year. I know personally that each newsletter that I send out costs \$5,000.00. If I send out four per year that is \$20,000. We have a website and we pay the webmaster \$175.00 per month to maintain our website. (I know there are other NCs that pay a lot more than that for their webmaster). We need money to exist as Neighborhood Councils. We are here to help you, the City Council. If you cut our budgets, we will not be effective in communicating with our Stakeholders. We will not be able to function and operate as a Neighborhood Council should under the City Charter.

I know you have a tough road ahead deciding the cuts needed to get the City of Los Angeles out of this budget problem. I am asking to please not cut our funds.

Thank you for reading this letter.

Sincerely,
Sue DeVandry
GHNNC Outreach Chairperson

My name is Aaron DeVandry. I have never written a letter before to a government official, but I feel strongly enough about a pressing issue to make this my first.

I am a webmaster with two dozen clients, seven of which are Neighborhood Councils. I have made numerous friends and learned so much about the great city of Los Angeles through my work for the Neighborhood Councils.

I think it is easy for people to dismiss NCs as unimportant and unnecessary to their respective neighborhoods. This is due to the fact that much of what NCs do goes unnoticed, something that I am sure you experience in your own position of leadership. Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council, for instance, has been successful in getting phone companies to decorate all cell towers in the area to resemble trees and foliage. Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council has stockpiled two giant storage bins full of emergency supplies for their stakeholders. These are examples of things that go unnoticed by most people. But they are vital to the future of Los Angeles.

As webmaster for these NCs, I get to see first hand exactly what they do for the city. I maintain their event calendars, I attend their board meetings, and most importantly -- I receive the emails that come in directly from their stakeholders. I know when graffiti is reported in Granada Hills, and I have the privilege of reading the thank you letters from business owners who see the graffiti removed that very day. I read letters from residents who are thrilled about the playground specially designed for handicapped children at Lake Balboa -- a playground funded in part by the Lake Balboa NC. Recently, the Mission Hills NC sponsored the San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade, and I received three dozen emails from parade-goers thanking Mission Hills NC for their assistance in putting on the parade.

As far as I know, there are ninety Neighborhood Councils at the moment. It is hard to comprehend the amount of volunteer service these NCs provide to the community. In addition, these NCs are developing dozens of leaders to help shape the future of Los Angeles. I understand the city is in financial turmoil, but that is not the fault of the Neighborhood Councils. To cut funding or even reduce funding for these volunteer organizations is wrong.

Sincerely,

Aaron DeVandry
Webmaster
Arleta Neighborhood Council
Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council
Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
Mission Hills Neighborhood Council
Panorama City Neighborhood Council

I'm writing to enlist your help in saving the Neighborhood Council System.

Many NCs, including our own, have carefully managed their budgets over the years, skillfully allocating and planning use of rollover funds. Indeed, many NC projects could not have happened, and will not happen, without combining rollover funds with current-year budgets. We'll do our part to help balance the City budget by suggesting a one-time, off-the-top cut of 10% of rollover funds, but let's be fair in spreading the pain and not break the bank.

Eliminating Purchase Cards for NCs while on the surface looks like a grand idea, will make it extremely difficult for NCs to fulfill their mandate in many areas, including outreach. We try hard to work with small businesses in our respective areas, and especially in today's economy, many of these same businesses benefit from quick payment of fees and charges. Do not punish all NCs for the transgressions of a few.

I request that Neighborhood Council members be included in all related meetings and reports, and to have an equal footing to bring forth ideas and comment on recommendations concerning allowable expenditures for NCs. We're out there in our communities daily and have first-hand knowledge of what is required and necessary to fulfill our mandate.

Reducing our annual funding by 50%, to approximately \$22,000, will be a death knell. A 10% cut on top of the 10% already in effect would be more reasonable. Even one outreach effort, one of our primary functions, such as a large mailing to alert stakeholders to an important situation, easily costs \$5,000. NC election outreach comes to mind. Website design (a major outreach effort), maintenance, and hosting fees add to our annual expenses. Include the cost of office space to comply with ADA as a meeting place for regular board, committee, and public purpose meetings, and the budget's blown before the fiscal year starts.

And if Los Angeles really does need our help with the 2010 Census (as a recent notification to NCs stated), how can we help without sufficient funding?

Remember, NCs are an asset to the city, not a liability. Let us help.

Bill Hopkins
whopkins@ghnnc.org
Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
District 3 Representative
Public Safety Committee
PLUM Committee
Outreach Committee

Dear Councilperson,

We NCs recently received an email from the Mayor's office about the Census that included the following:

“The Mayor's Office of Census 2010 is currently calling on all of our community partners to join our planning efforts for March 2010 to GET-OUT-THE-COUNT (GOTC) in the SF Valley. We will be dedicating a month of service to the Census, and we can't do it without you.”
(Emphasis added)

As you know, if we undercount our population, our city could stand to lose millions of dollars in the coming years. Cutting NCs' funding would make it that more difficult for NCs to do anything meaningful, including helping the city with the Census. If the City really can't “do it without us,” it would behoove you NOT to cut NCs' funding!!!

This is just one example how cutting NCs will hurt you and the City. The relatively small amount of savings resulting from cuts to NC funding will come back and bite you in future years.

PLEASE DON'T CUT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS' FUNDING!!!!!!

THANK YOU!

Leon Marzillier

President, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

Councilmembers Krekorian, Hahn and Zine:

I have nothing more to add to the presentation you will hear today. Neighborhood Council members and stakeholders are part of the City and want to help you. We have valuable talent within the City family and it should be utilized to help you with the enormous budget crisis you are tasked with managing. I hope you believe in our value to you and allow us to help you recoup the millions of dollars of uncollected debt that is owed to the City. We are bringing money-saving ideas to you to take back to City Council.

I think you would be impressed with the amount of time, effort, and discussion that has been put into these suggestions that were written with a huge group of constituents from San Pedro to the Valley. As two of our most ardent supporters, I think that former Councilman Joel Wachs and Mayor Jim Hahn would be proud of the teamwork I've witnessed the past month. This is what I imagined when I voted for the Charter in 1999 because of the idea of neighborhood councils, before I knew what they could become.

Because I've been involved for so many years, I know the incredible amount of money volunteers spend just on gas and copying alone. The vast majority of us are responsible and have budgeted our money wisely and where we believe our communities need it. Without our rollover money, even our elections are difficult and some of our elections are next week. Please consider releasing our rollover funds and please consider the \$5000 cut that we graciously took last year as proof of our desire to work with you.

I disagree with those who would call DONE inefficient and ineffective. I believe that DONE has done a phenomenal job over the years considering their job description changes and they must update their skill sets every two years or so. I think that merging DONE with the City Clerk's office is a terrible idea. I would rather see the Neighborhood Councils take back the elections. There is another million we can save you there and do it more efficiently. It's imperative that we have project coordinators to act as liaisons and advise us. Therefore the DONE Hybrid that is being presented to you has many valid points. It's an excellent starting point and I look forward to hearing your thoughts on our ideas regarding the reorganization and hope that you too, will continue this discussion throughout the month.

Regards,

Kim Thompson

Co-Founder, Former Chair, and Current Stakeholder

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council



Sue DeVandry <sdevandry@gmail.com>

LA's Budget Crisis

Sue DeVandry <sdevandry@ghnnc.org>

Sun, Jan 31, 2010 at 11:30 PM

To: Councilmember.Smith@lacity.org, Councilmember.Parks@lacity.org, Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org, Councilman.Rosendahl@lacity.org

Honorable City Council Members - Budget and Finance Committee:

Neighborhood Councils are a vital link between City Hall and all of the residents and businesses of the City of Los Angeles. At this time of financial crisis for the City, the solutions require a partnership between the elected officials at City Hall and the elected representatives of our 90 neighborhood councils.

I am deeply concerned about an impending "breakdown" of the neighborhood councils' funding and of DONE. I am further concerned about the San Fernando Valley and particularly the North Valley, as we are a group of stakeholders that are many times left out of City needs discussions. We are the farthest from City Hall and many times the forgotten child of the City of LA, Our neighborhood council (GHNNC) is our link to the City as a whole, and very important to us.

The City Charter mandates preserving core funding both of DONE and the neighborhood councils. We support and demand budget, collections, and NC elections reform, -- and to finding the appropriate funding for NCs required by the Charter. We recognize the need for reductions in many city departments and services, including some cuts in DONE's budget and staffing. However, we believe that maintenance of funding for NCs is both reasonable and necessary to fulfill the charter-mandated requirements of the City and of neighborhood councils. We support reform of the Neighborhood Council funding system, but proposals to slash funding are not the solutions to problems outlined in the audit of DONE recently completed by the City Controller.

"The City cannot and must not violate its own Charter by denying the appropriate funding specifically required by the Charter."

Dismantling of City government is NOT in the best interests of the City. No matter how desperate things get, doing away with one of the most effective programs is NOT the way to go!

In brief, the city cannot and must not violate its own charter by denying the appropriate funding specifically required by the charter. We look forward to the support of all our elected officials in doing what's right and in moving forward together through these challenging times.

SAVE DONE AND NC'S and their Funding. YOU AND WE NEED THEM!

**Sue DeVandry
17530 Mayerling St.
Granada Hills, CA
Member- GHNC Board - Outreach Chairperson**



Sue DeVandry <sdevandry@gmail.com>

Hello Councilman Zine

Aaron DeVandry <aaron.devandry@gmail.com>

Sun, Feb 14, 2010 at 1:34 AM

To: Dennis.Zine@lacity.org

My name is Aaron DeVandry. You probably don't know me, but I have met you before several times. I was in your son Chris's class throughout all of his years at St. Euphrasia.

However, that was in the past. I'm here to talk about the current budget situation in Los Angeles.

I am working on building a web design career of my own, one that I started three years ago. I have ten total clients, seven of which are Neighborhood Councils. I have worked incredibly hard on their websites the past three years, from sending out timely emails to hundreds of stakeholders - yes, even for events sponsored by you and your office - to answering questions from concerned stakeholders, to providing tech support to Neighborhood Council members when they need it, creating artwork for newsletters for the NCs, and keeping stakeholders informed about their neighborhood and city with constantly updated websites. This is my full time job.

I don't get paid much for it either. Because I love the Neighborhood Council system and I fully support their efforts, I give them each an incredible break. Of all of my NC clients, the one that pays me the most pays \$150 per month, flat rate. The other NCs pay me less.

The reason why I am telling you this today is because I have read comments and reports from people who think the NCs are spending their money foolishly. I could understand if I was being paid \$20,000 per year by each NC to be their webmaster. But I am being paid more like \$1500 per year from each of them.

The past two weeks I have heard from each of my NC clients telling me that even at that low rate, if their funding is cut, they will not be able to retain my services any further.

Neighborhood Councils, organizations that are designed to keep their local communities informed about the city they live in, and to protect their stakeholders in emergencies, will not be able to afford a webmaster, even one who works for as little pay as myself.

I have seen the incredible work that these NCs do. Nearly all of it goes unnoticed by the public. It seems the City Council gets credit for what gets done in the City, while the NCs should be getting credit for what doesn't get done - such as buildings being constructed that would violate zoning laws. No one ever hears about stuff like that.

I am asking to consider this when it comes time to vote for the future funding of the Neighborhood Councils. The funding for these NCs is vital to their existence. Without funding, they can't do their job.

Thank you so much for your tireless service to our amazing city. I wish you all the best.

Aaron DeVandry

Hello Councilmember. My name is Aaron DeVandry. I am a webmaster in the City of Los Angeles, and I rarely write letters like this.

First of all, I am extremely appreciative of all you do for our city. You work incredibly hard at your job, and I have the utmost respect for you and your position. As a result, this letter is designed to uplift and encourage you as you make some important decisions this week. I am not a Neighborhood Council member, although I often attend NC meetings, and I am keenly aware of the volunteer work they provide.

I am working on building a web design career of my own, one that I started three years ago. I have ten total clients, seven of which are Neighborhood Councils. I have worked incredibly hard on their websites the past three years, from sending out timely emails to hundreds of stakeholders - yes, even for events sponsored by you and your office - to answering questions from concerned stakeholders, to providing tech support to Neighborhood Council members when they need it, creating artwork for newsletters for the NCs, and keeping stakeholders informed about their neighborhood and city with constantly updated websites. This is my full time job.

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I am asking you to consider this when it comes time to vote for the future funding of the Neighborhood Councils. The funding for these NCs is vital to their existence. Without funding, they can't do their job.

I understand that you need to make cuts in the City Budget, I am thankful for that, and my children will one day be thankful for it to. Hence, I have come up with an idea that may solve some dilemmas in regards to Neighborhood Councils and their funding:

- Keep the yearly funding for Neighborhood Councils the same, **with restrictions**. Let the NCs know that those funds are not to be spent on things such as cheerleading uniforms for the local high school (yes, one NC did give money for that purpose, which I disagree with). **NCs should be spending their funding on outreach and publicity, which is what the funds were originally designed for.** The schools and police department have their own funding. Neighborhood Councils should spend their money on their own council purposes, not on schools and other outside organizations.
- **Release the rollover funds back to those Neighborhood Councils who can show a plan and a need for them.** I know of one NC, for instance, that has saved up some funds for the sole purpose of paying for an office, since their area has no library, Fire Department, or other public meeting space. If an NC can show a need, and if that NC has shown integrity in their spending, it would be wrong to take the money they have been diligent in saving.
- **Demand that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment enforces these changes, and educates the NCs on these changes.**

Thank you so much for your tireless service to our amazing city. I wish you all the best.

Aaron DeVandry

VOTE!

GRANADA HILLS NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

ELECTIONS

MARCH 2, 2010

Vote 2-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 2

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council Office

11139 Woodley Ave., Granada Hills

(Corner of Woodley and San Fernando Mission)

You do not have to be registered to vote in a city, state or federal election to participate.
You can vote as a Stakeholder if you are at least 18, live, work, own property or declare a stake
within the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council boundaries and affirm the factual basis for it.

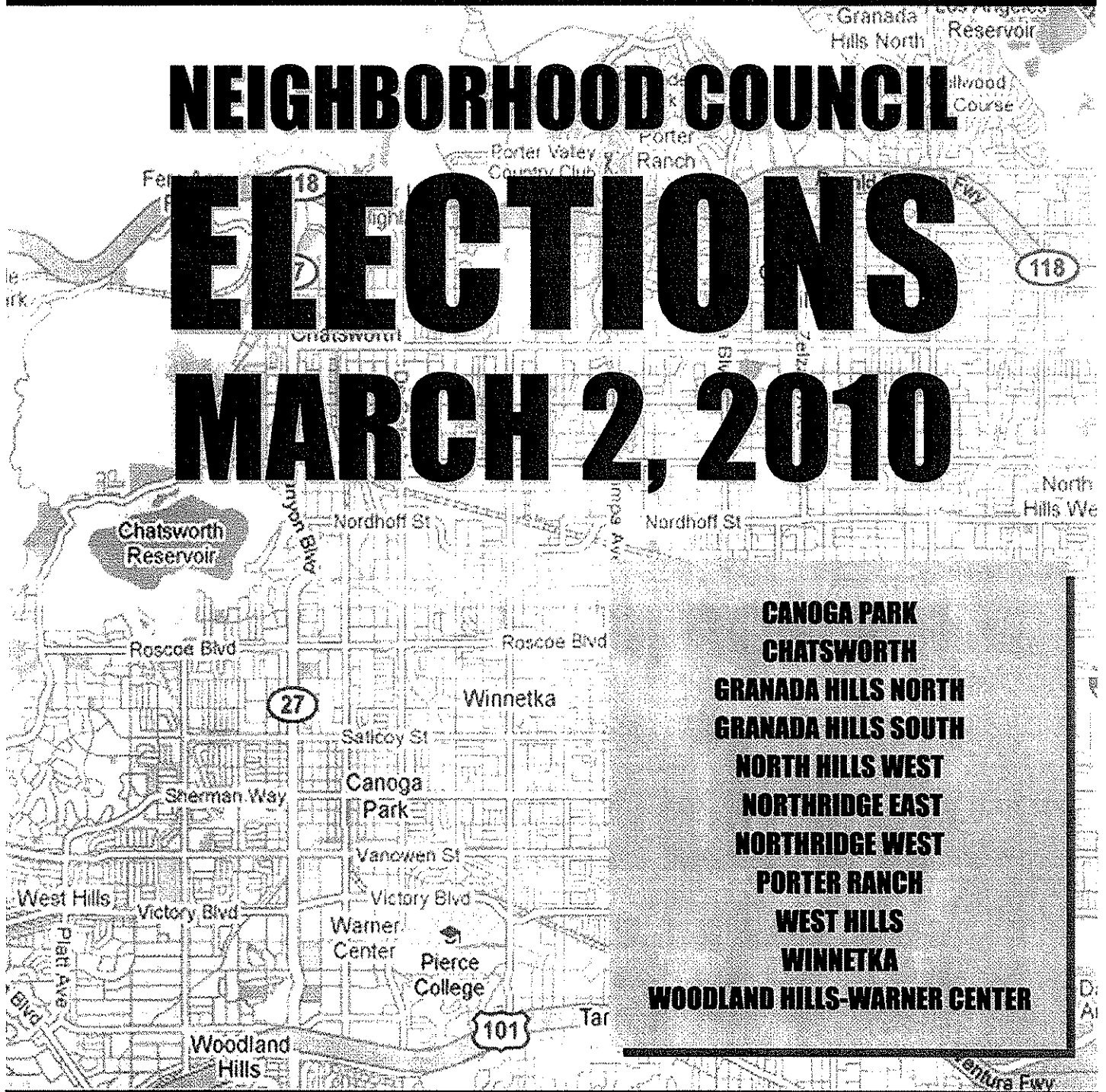
www.ghnnc.org

SAVE THE DATE!

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

ELECTIONS

MARCH 2, 2010



CANOGA PARK
CHATSWORTH
GRANADA HILLS NORTH
GRANADA HILLS SOUTH
NORTH HILLS WEST
NORTHRIDGE EAST
NORTHRIDGE WEST
PORTER RANCH
WEST HILLS
WINNETKA
WOODLAND HILLS-WARNER CENTER

CONTACT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council: www.ghnnc.org