

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Chatsworth Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 03/06/2013

Type of NC Board Action: Against Proposal

Impact Information

Date: 03/12/2013

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 13-0002-S14

Agenda Date: 03/06/2013

Item Number:

Brief Summary: The Chatsworth Neighborhood Council voted on 3/6/2013 at their regularly scheduled Board Meeting to support AB22 (Blumenfield) which would require a majority public vote if the Los Angeles City Council wishes to repeal the existing ordinance under which the City is responsible for repairing sidewalks, curbs and driveways if damaged due to parkway tree roots.

Additional Information: It was found unfair to require property owners (after 40 years of existing policy) to now be responsible for the cost of repairing such damage.



# CHATSWORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 3395, Chatsworth, CA 91313-3395

Voice: (818) 464-3511 Fax: (818) 464-3585

<http://chatsworthcouncil.org>



**Andre van der Valk, President** · **Judith Daniels, Vice President** · **Vicki Briskman, Treasurer** · **Carol Lucas, Secretary**  
Dorothy Allison · Kamesh Aysola · Jelena Csanyi · Diana Dixon-Davis · Jeff Hammond · Daniel Huffman  
Mary Kaufman · Chuck Knolls · Scott Munson · Richard Nadel · George Nelson · Erik Pampalone  
Linda Ross · Linda van der Valk · Jim Van Gundy · Lucie Volotzky · Matt Weintraub .

## Meeting Notice March 6, 2013

The board of the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council will meet at 7 p.m. at Lawrence Middle School, 10100 Variel Ave. Join us for refreshments and casual conversation with board members beginning at 6:30 p.m.

### AGENDA

1. Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call
2. Public comments- **max. 5 minutes per item**
3. Announcements-**max. 2 minutes per item**
4. Approval of Feb. 2013 minutes
5. LAPD officer report - Danny del Valle
6. Councilman Englander's office -Megan Cottier

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**NEW BUSINESS** *All listed motions include discussion, possible action and Community Impact Statements*

7. President's Report  
Outstanding Citizen and Youth of the Year nominations
8. **Motion:** to approve monthly CNC expenditures and other financial matters. Vicki Briskman
9. **Board Member Motion:** To spend up to \$2,000.00 for chairs and tables for the community room from the administrative fund Vicki Briskman
10. **Standing Committees**
  - a. Land Use Linda van der Valk **Motion:** To approve a letter to support the Sherwood Forest Homeowners Association in opposing an elder care facility at 17545 Parthenia Street.
  - b. Enhancement Jelena Csanyi and Richard Nadel **Motion:** To spend up to \$1,000.00 for food and supplies for Chatsworth's 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration at Day of the Horse.
  - c. Legislative Matt Weintraub **Motion:** To send a letter to Assemblyman Bob Blumenfield endorsing his Assembly Bill 22 concerning sidewalk repairs.
  - d. Public Safety & Transportation Scott Munson **Motion:** To spend up to \$50.00 for lanterns to light entrance to CNC mtg. **Motion:** To support bike lanes on Corbin between Lassen and Rinaldi contingent upon DOT making arrangements for on street parking for residence that front on Corbin. **Motion:** To approve up to \$250.00 for SOLID via NPG Neighborhood Watch supplies Chatsworth. **Motion:** to approve up to \$1,000.00 for replacement tools and a new weight bench for Fire Station 96. **Motion:** to approve up to \$1000.00 for SOLID via a NPG for LAPD Devonshire Division needs including break room remodeling and other misc. repairs.
  - e. Beautification Kamesh Aysola **Motion:** To spend up to \$750.00 for CD 12's Family Festival **Motion:** to spend up to \$3,200.00 to plant new trees on Mason and maintain for two years.
  - f. Equestrian Mary Kaufman
  - g. Outreach Jim Van Gundy
10. Board member comments / reports VANC -Scott Munson
11. Adjournment

A public comment period will be provided. **The chair may set a speaking-time limit and/or require that speaker cards be completed.** Accommodations under ADA may require 72 hours advance notice to (818) 464-3511. Meetings may be recorded by audio or video means.

Para la traducción de este anuncio o para pedir servicio de traducción para una reunión del Concejo Vecinal de Chatsworth, favor de comunicarse con el Departamento de Fortalecimiento de Vecindarios al (213) 978-1551 con anticipo de por lo menos 3 días de trabajo.



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March 6, 2013

Office of Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield  
California State Capitol  
Room 6026  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblymember Blumenfield,

Chatsworth Neighborhood Council is pleased to support Assembly Bill 22 (Blumenfield), which would require local governments to seek voter approval before shifting costs to homeowners to pay for the repairs of damaged sidewalk caused from tree growth.

Sidewalks fall into disrepair for several reasons and state law requires adjacent property owners to maintain sidewalks for safe public use. However, some causes for sidewalk damage are not caused by property owners, such as root growth from trees planted by municipalities. Since some municipalities specifically assumed responsibility for tree root growth-related sidewalk repair costs long ago, the public should have the last word on any changes in responsibility.

This is an enormous problem in the City of Los Angeles. For nearly 40 years, the city's ordinance has specifically exempted homeowners from repairing sidewalk damages that are a result of tree growth. But the City has accumulated approximately \$1.5 billion in backlogged sidewalk repair costs and recently considered a proposal to shift these costs to homeowners, without resident input.

The City needs safe sidewalks. But this potential change in Los Angeles is not a simple accounting shift. It is a pricey bailout for decades of failing to maintain sidewalks, which also exposes homeowners to trip and fall lawsuits. This makes the City's consideration an unfair and unevenly spread burden among homeowners.

AB 22 will simply ensure that if local municipalities move forward with passing along their sidewalk repair costs to homeowners, that the change is done with public consent. For these reasons, the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council supports AB 22.

Sincerely,

Andre van der Valk  
President