Contact Information
Neighborhood Council: Van Nuys Neighborhood Council
Name: George Christopher Thomas
Phone Number: (818) 605-8940
Email: george.thomas@vnnc.org
Date of NC Board Action: 01/08/2014
Type of NC Board Action: General Comments

Impact Information
Date: 01/16/2014
Update to a Previous Input: No
Directed To: City Council and Committees
Council File Number: 13-1103
Agenda Date: 01/21/2014
Item Number: 4
Brief Summary: The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council approved the following language at the January 8th General Meeting,..."Fire Station 39's relocation be to the NW corner of Friar and Cedros or any other feasible site considered by the City for such purpose or otherwise."

Additional Information: The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council would like to participate in every decision being made in regards to Fire Station #39. Please keep us in the loop every step of the way, and we will distribute the latest happenings and news to our constituents.
(info@vnnc.org)
General Meeting Agenda VNNC
Van Nuys Neighborhood Council
January 8th, 2013 (Wednesday 7:00pm - Midnight)
6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Council Chambers/Multipurpose Room
Van Nuys, CA 91401

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America
2. Roll Call (Quorum Call)
3. Comments from the Chair -- *Speaker Cards: 2 minutes, 2 Public Comment Times. (This includes
   speaker cards on any and all agenda items -- a limit of 10 minutes for the entire meeting per Stakeholders and
   Councilmembers alike)
4. Public Comment (On matters within the VNNC Board’s Jurisdiction.)
5. Secretary’s Report -- (Jon Hendry) -- Re-Approve November Special Meeting Minutes & November
   Meeting Minutes & December General Meeting Minutes
6. Treasurer’s Report -- Jeanette Hopp and/or Maria Skelton (Second Signatory) -- Approve Treasurer’s
   Report
7. Committee Chairperson’s Reports, Budget Advocate’s Report, Elected Officials’ Reports & Election
   Chair’s Report
8. New Business
   a. Speech and Presentation by Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Koretz. -- (20 minutes)
   including the “Question & Answer” session. The VNNC is continuously reaching out and working with the local
   elected officials in the San Fernando Valley. By inviting the Councilman to speak and working with his office,
   the VNNC is forming a relationship with Mr. Koretz so as to improve the quality of life in the mid-valley.
   b. UCLA Urban Planning Presentation (Quirino De La Questa & UCLA Students)
   c. Speech and Presentation by Mayor of Gardena Paul Tanaka, Candidate for LA County
   Sheriff. -- (20 minutes) including the “Question & Answer” session.
   d. Fire Station 39 ad-hoc committee is now asking for the full board to support a community
   impact statement stating Fire Station 39’s relocation be to the NW corner of Friar and Cedros or any other
   feasible site considered by the City for such purpose or otherwise.
   e. Funding for the Valley Family Justice Center. (Not To Exceed $1000) The $1000 requested
   is to help complete the toddler area of the main facility that is being built on Oxnard & Vesper. The VNNC
   is counter-requesting the Valley Family Justice Center seek funds from the neighboring Neighborhood Councils as
   well. NTE $1000 -- ACTION ITEM.
   f. The VNNC Secretary has requested reimbursement for miscellaneous office work. The
   VNNC Secretary has promised to produce documents to the Budget & Finance Committee, as well as the full
   council. The VNNC Secretary has requested a reimbursement not to exceed $50. (NTE $50) ACTION ITEM
   g. Resubmit invoices for reimbursement for VNNC Vice President Howard Benjamin. Mr.
   Benjamin submitted 4 invoices for reimbursement, 3 of which were rejected. Mr. Benjamin has requested the
   3 invoices be resubmitted and is seeking an update on the status from DONE/Empower Los Angeles. ACTION ITEM

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 requested by emailing info@vnnc.org. Members of the public are invited to address the council on any items on the
agenda prior to any action by the Council on that specific item. Member of the public may also address the board on any matter within the
subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. The council will entertain such comments during the public comment period(s). Public comment
will be limited to 10 minutes with 2 minutes per individual for each item addressed. The aforementioned limitation may be waived by the
chairperson of the meeting. (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3(b)) Members of the public who wish to address the council are
urged to complete a speaker card and submit it to the President or Secretary prior to commencement of an agenda item. Cards are available
at the back of the room. However, should a member of the public feel the need to address a matter while discussion of the item is in
progress, a card may be presented to the President or Secretary prior to final consideration of the matter. In the interest of time, All Board
& Public Comments will be limited to no more than 2 minutes unless otherwise adjusted at the discretion of the President. It is requested
that individuals who require the services of a translator contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment 24 hours prior to the
meeting. Whenever possible, a translator will be provided. SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR LA
OFICINA CON 24 HORAS POR ANTICIPADO. 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 listen device, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be
provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make you request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting
you wish to attend by contacting Thomas Soong, Neighborhood Council Advocate at (866) LA HELPS.
Van Nuys Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 3118
Van Nuys, CA 91404-318 (vnnoc.org)

h. The VNNC is seeking to switch from the GoDaddy website service provider to WordPress which will include previous credit rolled over into the new VNNC account. The VNNC website switch over will not cost more than $500. The requested allocation of funds for the switch over does not exceed $500. (NTE $500) -- ACTION ITEM

i. The VNNC will be voting on filling the vacancy of the Senior Seat. Mr. James Pieper has fulfilled the requirements to be voted on to the Neighborhood Council, and his stakeholder status is still pending with DONE. The VNNC shall have the vote on the Senior Seat, with a pending double check with DONE on Mr. Pieper’s stakeholder status.

j. The VNNC shall vote on the official appointment of Councilman Quirino De La Questa to become the Chairman of the Planning & Land Use Committee (PLUM). The VNNC will also vote on the official removal of Councilman Indra Ciccarelli as the Chairman of the PLUM Committee.

k. Holiday Party Update -- Councilman Candido Marez

9. Old Business

a. Sister City Update (Amsterdam, The Netherlands) -- George Christopher Thomas

10. Public Comment

11. Adjournment
COMMITTEES

**Executive:** 1st Monday of every month (or 9 days prior to the meeting at 6:30 P.M.)
Δ Sets the agenda for board meetings, receives requests, and assigns tasks.
GEORGE CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, CHAIRMAN
HOWARD BENJAMIN, VICE PRESIDENT
JOHN HENDRY, SECRETARY
JEANETTE HOPP, TREASURER
JOSEF LAZAVORITZ, PARLIAMENTARIAN
HERBERT THOMPSON, CHAIRPERSON OF THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE
Location: 6240 Sylmar Street, 2nd floor Community Room

**Safety:** 2nd Wednesday of every month prior to VNNC general board meeting at 6:00 P.M.
Δ Deals with community safety issues within the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council area.
JOSEF LAZAROVITZ, CHAIRMAN -- ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE -- (MARILYN HAVARD, PENEOPE MEYER, JOHN HENDRY, DONALD & PRUDENCE SCHULTZ)
Location: Braude Center, 6262 Van Nuys Blvd, Room 1-A

**Parks & Recreation:** 2nd Wednesday of every month prior to VNNC general board meeting at 6:00 P.M. or TBA
Δ Deals with issues concerning children and youth, park programs, facilities and playgrounds in the VNCC area.
CANDIDO MAREZ, CHAIRMAN -- ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE -- (JOHN CAMERA, ROLAND GUEVERA, MIRIAM FOGLER (STAKEHOLDER), MR. JAMES PIEPER)
Location: Delano Recreation Center, 14100 Erwin Street, Van Nuys, CA.

**Budget & Finance:** 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:00pm (Right before the VNCC General Meeting)
Δ Deals with Van Nuys Neighborhood Council (VNCC) budgetary issues.
JEANETTE HOPP, CHAIRWOMAN
ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE -- (CANDIDO MAREZ, HERBERT THOMPSON, MARIA SKELTON, JENNIFER HUGHES (STAKEHOLDER))
Location: TBD

**Planning & Land Use:** 2nd Wednesday of every month prior to VNCC general board meeting at 6:00 P.M. or TBA
Δ Deals with planning, zoning and land use issues that affect the VNCC community, including proposals for new projects, zoning changes and variances, proposals for tenant improvement (T.I.) construction, building improvements and special uses, development, development of new business e.t.c.
JERRY MARTIN, CO-CHAIR -- ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE -- (JOHN HENDRY, HOWARD BENJAMIN, PENNY MEYER, PAUL ANAND, MARIA SHERTZER)
Location: Braude Center, 6262 Van Nuys Blvd, Room 2B, Van Nuys, CA.

**Government Relations/Rules & Bylaws:** Meetings held 2nd Wednesday of every month or TBA
Δ Deals with citywide issues, council files, actions of city officials and departments, bylaws, rules and regulations, policies and procedures.
CHAIRMAN PAUL ANAND -- ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE -- (JEANETTE HOPP, JOHN HENDRY, JENNIFER HUGHES (STAKEHOLDER), JOSEF LAZAVORITZ, PENNY MEYER, DEREK WALEKO)

**Outreach:** Meetings held last Thursday of every month. (Or possibly the 2nd Tuesday of the month) or TBA
Δ Deals with outreach to inform the VNCC community about board meetings, elections, committee meetings, projects and special events, e.t.c.
MARIA SKELTON, CHAIRWOMAN, HERBERTTHOMPSON69@YAHOO.COM, 818-385-5665
ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE -- (HERBERT THOMPSON, CANDIDO MAREZ, HOWARD BENJAMIN, RICHARD HOPP)

All calls should be after 8:30 A.M. or before 8:00 P.M.
Monday through Saturday.

For Non-Emergency City Issues Dial ~ 3 1 1
January 10, 2014

The Honorable Herb J. Wesson, Jr.
President
Los Angeles City Council

c/o Holly L. Wolcott
Interim City Clerk
City Hall Room 360

VAN NUYS FIRE STATION NO. 39 (CF 13-1103) NOISE ANALYSIS

Dear President Wesson and Honorable Members:

We transmit herewith additional information to clarify and amplify the information previously provided about the proposed Van Nuys Fire Station No. 39, and we urge the City Council to move forward with adoption of the Negative Declaration as set forth in the report from the Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering dated July 22, 2013.

The City is proposing to construct a replacement fire station on two vacant lots located on the corner of Oxnard Street and Vesper Avenue in Van Nuys. The existing Fire Station No. 39, at 14415 Sylvan Street, cannot house the additional resources needed to meet present and future demands for fire protection services. The replacement fire station will include an approximate 18,533-square-foot facility and other associated improvements.

Following the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Bureau of Engineering conducted an Initial Study and determined that the proposed new fire station would not cause a significant environmental impact. A Negative Declaration was prepared and circulated for public review and comment.

Residents near to the proposed new site expressed strong opposition when the Board of Public Works Commissioners considered adoption of the Negative Declaration and again when the matter was considered by the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee. Noise impacts on adjacent residents is chief among the community’s concerns. City staff met with the community several times, and these concerns
remained prominent. Therefore Councilmember LaBonge asked for a noise study to be done for the project, and asked that a decision regarding the Negative Declaration not be taken until the noise study had been completed.

A formal noise study for the project was conducted by the acoustics firm Veneklasen Associates in November and December of 2013. A report of the study and findings is attached. Acoustical experts measured noise levels produced by fire equipment in simulated and actual emergency responses at the existing fire station and the proposed new site. These measurements were then used to model the increase in community noise exposure levels due to possible future fire station operations at the existing and at the proposed new locations. The analysis indicates that noise impacts at the existing site is substantially higher than it would be at the proposed new site, if the existing site were retrofitted to accommodate the new fire station activity.

This finding amplifies the finding of the City's Initial Study that the impact from construction and operation of the proposed fire station would be less than significant. CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5 states that recirculation of a Negative Declaration for public comment is not required when new information is added to the negative declaration which merely clarifies, amplifies, or makes insignificant modifications to the negative declaration. City staff has considered the concerns and the comments received to date and determined that recirculation is not required by the Guidelines.

City staff will continue to work with City and community stakeholders throughout the life of this project to produce the best project possible. We urge the City Council to move forward with adoption of the Negative Declaration as set forth in the report from the Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering dated July 22, 2013.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Doty at (213) 485-5759.

Sincerely,

Deborah Weintraub, AIA, LEED
Interim City Engineer

Attachment: Fire Station 39 Acoustical Analysis

cc: Honorable Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Council District 4
Honorable Councilmember Nury Martinez, Council District 6
Kevin James, President, Board of Public Works
Matt Szabo, President Pro-Tem, Board of Public Works
Ted Jordan, Assistant City Attorney
Tim McWilliams, Deputy City Attorney
Jim Doty, Bureau of Engineering
Allan Kawaguchi, Bureau of Engineering
Reza Shahmirzadi, Bureau of Engineering
MEMORANDUM

To: Allan Kawaguchi  
L.A. City Department of Public Works

From: Steve Martin  
Veneklasen Associates

Date: January 6, 2013

Subject: Fire Station 39 Acoustical Analysis – Memorandum

INTRODUCTION
Emergency vehicle and siren noise were measured during simulated emergency response events at the existing and at the proposed future site for Fire Station 39. Brüel and Kjaer Model 2250 Type 1 sound level meters were used to measure and record these noise levels. We also measured the ambient noise using a Brüel and Kjaer Model 2260 Type 1 sound level meter at the proposed site over a three day period and the existing site over a two day period. The objective of these measurements was to model the noise at the existing site and at the proposed future site due to anticipated future daily operations of Fire Station 39.

The future estimated average number of Fire Station 39 emergency vehicle responses is 51 per day, which includes four of these events utilizing a second siren. This is equivalent to 2.125 responses per hour. This is substantially higher than the average incident count in 2012 of 19 per day or 0.8 responses per hour. This study assumes the 51 equivalent daily events; should the actual event count be 19 per day, the modeled noise levels will be 4 dBA lower.

EXISTING SITE

Existing Nearby Land Uses
The existing Fire Station 39 is located adjacent to a two-story office building on the east currently serving as lawyers offices and two one-story offices for bail bonds and home design businesses on the west. The City Hall with its seven conference meeting rooms and the public counter area is across Sylvan Street to the south, as is the Marvin Braude San Fernando Valley Constituent Service Center with multiple offices. To the east of the corner of Sylvan Street and Sylmar Avenue are 40 multi-family residential dwellings on the north side of Sylvan Street, with a Child Development Center and the Los Angeles County Service Center with multiple offices.

Measurements
At this existing site, five simulated events and one actual emergency response were measured on December 11, 2013 at three locations: across the street in front of Van Nuys City Hall, at the adjacent lawyers offices at 14401 Sylvan Street, and in front of the three-story residential structure at the north-east corner of Sylvan Street and Sylmar Avenue. Two of the simulated events and the actual emergency response headed in the western direction; three of the simulated events headed in the eastern direction. The emergency response event noise levels (Leq) ranged between 84 and 89 dBA at the City Hall position, 82 to 103 dBA at the lawyers’ offices, and 71 to 90 dBA at the corner of Sylvan and Sylmar, with the average Leq measuring 87.7, 95.6, and 85.8 dBA, respectively. The duration of the events averaged 22 seconds. The ranges of the measured maximum noise level (Lmax) of these events at each location were 93-102 dBA, 91-114 dBA, and 79-100 dBA with Lmax averages of 99.4, 107.4, and 96.3 dBA, respectively.

The long-term measurements at the existing Fire Station 39 were performed on the roof of the existing fire station. An incident log of fire station activities was utilized to exclude the noise from these activities to determine the existing ambient noise level without fire station operations. The measurements and ensuing analysis indicate the ambient hourly average noise levels (Leq) ranged between 53 and 75 dBA and the CNEL ranged between 66 and 68 CNEL, averaging 67 CNEL. The existing Lmax of the measurements during the 10:00 pm and 7:00 am nighttime period ranged between 66 and 87 dBA.
Future Conditions
The average measured simulated/actual event noise levels measured at each position were utilized with the future estimated responses of 2.125 per hour to model the hourly Leq and CNEL noise levels. To maintain consistency with the proposed site analysis, each event was considered to occur for 14 seconds as measured during the proposed site noise measurements (see PROPOSED SITE Measurements section). The results of the modeled noise levels existing at the site without Fire Station 39 operations and due to the anticipated future number of emergency responses are summarized in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Modeled 1-Hour Leq Noise Levels (dBA)</th>
<th>Modeled CNEL (dBA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anticipated FS-39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Hall</td>
<td>53 to 75</td>
<td>67 to 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers’ Offices</td>
<td>53 to 75</td>
<td>75 to 78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylvan and Sylmar</td>
<td>53 to 75</td>
<td>65 to 75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FS-39 = Fire Station 39

PROPOSED SITE
Existing Nearby Land Uses
The existing land uses to the north, east and west of the proposed Fire Station 39 site are industrial. Across Oxnard Street to the south of the site is a one-block width area of residential use with industrial properties to the east and west. Eight residential properties are located along the south side of Oxnard Street opposite the proposed site, with another six residential properties further south and within 200 feet of the proposed site.

Measurements
At the proposed future site, six simulated events were measured on November 7, 2013 along the south sidewalk of Oxnard Street, with three heading in the western direction and three heading in the eastern direction. A seventh event measured was an actual emergency response heading in the western direction. These event noise levels (Leq) ranged between 89 and 96 dBA and averaged 92.6 dBA Leq during a typical 14 second event. The maximum noise levels (Lmax) ranged between 98 and 104 dBA and averaged 102.6 dBA Lmax.

The long-term measurements at the proposed future fire station site were performed at the center of the existing parking lot in order to provide a safe location for the measurement equipment. The measured results over the three-day period indicated the ambient hourly average noise level (Leq) ranged between 52 and 65 dBA and the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) ranged between 64 and 66 CNEL, averaging 65 CNEL. The long-term measurements also indicated existing Lmax noise levels during the 10:00 pm to 7:00 am nighttime periods ranged between 67 and 88 dBA. However, because these measurements were performed in the center of the existing parking lot, approximately 140 feet from the center of Oxnard Street, and assuming the measured noise levels are predominately due to traffic noise, the actual CNEL may be as much as 6 dBA higher at the residential property line, a distance of approximately 35 feet from the center of Oxnard Street. An additional factor impacting the ambient noise level on the residential property is the existing five foot wall, which may reduce the noise level on the residential side of the wall as much as 6 dBA. As these factors cancel each other, the measured hourly Leq, Lmax, and 65 CNEL noise levels will be utilized in the modeling analysis.
Future Conditions

Utilizing the average measured 92.6 dBA noise level during the average 14 second event for the future average estimated responses of 2.125 per hour, the modeled hourly $Leq$ noise levels on the three impacted residential properties within 50 feet of the new proposed Fire Station 39 in operation are 65 to 68 dBA, higher than the currently measured 52 to 65 dBA noise levels by 3 to 13 dBA. The model shows a cumulative noise level is 72 CNEL, 7 dBA higher than the currently measured 65 CNEL.

At the five residential properties located up to 100 feet away from the proposed site, the CNEL is modeled to be 5 dBA higher than the existing CNEL, while the six residential properties located 200 feet away are modeled to be 3 dBA higher. This is summarized in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Modeled 1-Hour $Leq$ Noise Levels (dBA)</th>
<th>Modeled CNEL (dBA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residences along Oxnard St.</td>
<td>52 to 65</td>
<td>65 to 68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residences 100' south</td>
<td>49 to 62</td>
<td>60 to 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residences 200' south</td>
<td>46 to 59</td>
<td>54 to 59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FS-39 = Fire Station 39

Comparison of the Modeled Impacts

The model indicates the impact due to 51 daily events at the existing Fire Station 39 is a CNEL increase of 7 dBA at City Hall impacting seven conference meeting rooms and the public counter area and at the San Fernando Valley Constituent Service Center offices, 14 dBA at the lawyers' offices and the three offices on the west side of the fire station, and 6 dBA at the multifamily residential structure and adjacent residential buildings (minimum 15 units) as well as the Child Development Center and the Los Angeles County Service Center. The model for the proposed future site indicates an impact of a CNEL increase of 7 dBA at three residences located closest to the proposed site, 5 dBA at five residences located approximately 100 feet from the emergency response events, and 3 dBA at six residences located approximately 200 feet away.

Conclusion

The model shows a cumulative increase in noise levels due to the anticipated future operations at Fire Station 39 both at the existing site and the proposed site to be an increase of 5 dBA CNEL or more at a number of receptors due to the anticipated number of fire station responses. At the existing location, this increase occurs at the adjacent three office addresses, at a minimum of 15 residential dwellings, at seven conference meeting rooms and the public counter area within the City Hall building, at multiple offices within the San Fernando Valley Constituent Service Center, at the Child Development Center, and at multiple offices within the Los Angeles County Service Center. At the proposed site, the modeling indicates this increase of 5 dBA CNEL to occur at eight residential dwellings. The cumulative noise level increase at the closest receptors for the existing station is a 14 dBA CNEL increase and at the proposed site is 7 dBA CNEL.

The noise modeling impact of the anticipated number of operations for Fire Station 39 is substantially higher at the existing fire station site than the impact at the proposed fire station site.