



Granada Hills Times

Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council

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Welcome to Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council. You may be wondering, "just what is a Neighborhood Council?"

Neighborhood Councils were created by a change in the city charter in 1999. GHSNC was certified as a Neighborhood Council in 2006. The Neighborhood Councils are overseen by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (D.O.N.E.). Limited funding for operations and community projects is provided by the City of Los Angeles. The GHSNC is run by a board of 21 directors, some representing special interests like the business community, seniors and education; others



are elected to at-large positions. All Directors are volunteers. The Board of Directors meets once a month to direct operations and address the concerns and issues of stakeholders within the boundaries of the NC.

GHSNC has a number of committees made up of Directors and Stakeholders to address general and specific issues. Our major committees are Outreach, Planning and Land Use, Beautification, Education and Public Safety. We work on projects, large and small, that benefit the community. For instance, air conditioning the gym at Porter Middle School, providing computers for Tulsa and Granada Hills Elementary Schools, supporting the music program at Patrick Henry Middle School, supporting the Granada Hills High School and Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences Robotics Teams, and working with the Granada Hills Rotary Club to revitalize Veteran's Memorial Park (located at Chatsworth and Zelzah) are all examples of the Neighborhood Council has provided funding to complete or assist with ongoing projects.

We also work on issues such as overbuilding, traffic, graffiti, and public safety. We have also co-sponsored a Disaster Prevention Event along with other North Valley Neighborhood Councils. We have also co-sponsored Citrus Sunday, an annual event each year that gathers tons of fresh Citrus fruit for local San Fernando Valley Food banks. Look for our next event, "Movies in the Park" at Granada Hills Park on June 23. Our monthly Board meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at Granada Hills Charter High School. For information about meeting locations, or to contact us, please visit our website at www.GHSNC.org.

Your Town, Your Council

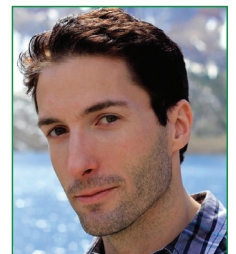
On the first Thursday of each month, a group of volunteers give their time and come together to increase safety, create and share local activities, and beautify our town. They hold a public meeting where stakeholders in the community are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate. Why should you come out to have a say in how your town looks and operates? I've had passionate discussions with my friends and family about how things should be different: politically, locally, and in the world in general. At the end of the

conversation I had a sinking feeling, because I knew in my gut that all of my talking didn't have any effect on the outcome. Unfortunately, this is a pretty common sentiment, but I found a solution for myself that may work for you.

One day a newsletter came to my door, just like this one. I picked it up and thought, "Jett, you are always talking about getting involved and this might just be your chance." That was five years ago. After that, I attended a few meetings to meet the people involved and got to see what went on. I sat and listened to the agenda items being discussed by the Neighborhood Council members and the audience. Some items were not relevant to me directly, however others interested me greatly, but each one had some impact on our community.

I realized even further how much pride I have for my community. These meetings encouraged me to throw my own hat into the ring by running for a seat on our Neighborhood Council. This was my way of having a voice and being involved in the process of actual change. What I urge you to do, fellow Granada Hills South brothers and sisters, is to help us shape our community into what you would like it to be. You don't have to be a Neighborhood Council director or come to every single meeting, but I encourage you to see for yourself what it's all about. Perhaps you can sit in on a general meeting or simply visit the website to get a better picture of what's happening in your neighborhood. We sponsor fun and worthwhile events throughout the year that you and your family should check out. We listen to local schools and other community groups that reach out for support. We think of ways to make our area more unique and attractive. Maybe with your ideas and input, we could achieve even greater results.

If you feel you have the time and passion please fill out the enclosed Candidate Application form and run for a board seat and see what change you can make in 2014.



Jett M. Dunlap

Outreach Chair, Election Committee Chair & Newsletter Publisher



Elections Are Coming

Elections of a new Board of Directors for Granada Hills
South Neighborhood Council



If you are a stakeholder as defined in the bylaws* of the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council you can qualify as a candidate for one of the 21 Director positions. The council boundaries are: 118 freeway on the North; 405 freeway on the East; Devonshire St. on the South; Lindley / Aliso Canyon Wash on the West

*Find out more: www.GHSNC.org

Filing Forms linked to GHSNC.org:

<http://empowerla.org/ghsnc/granada-hills-south-nc-2014-elections/>

Get involved with your community. You can make a difference. This is your opportunity to improve the quality of life in Granada Hills

Candidate filing begins December 15, 2013 thru January 15, 2014

- GHSNC has 21 seats on the Board of Directors; 10 at Large, and 11 seats representing special community Interests; Business, Commercial Property Owners, Homeowners, Community Organizations, Faith Based Organizations, Education, Seniors, Students, Renters, Youth Activity Organizations and Park/Cultural Arts Organizations.
- Stakeholders may vote for all at-Large Seats and any Special Seats they qualify for. For instance, you may own a home, be over 55 and belong to a community organization in Granada Hills; you are eligible to vote for all those seats. Proof of your qualification is required.
- Election will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., March 1st, at the Granada Hills Recreation Center. More information will be in the newsletter closer to Election Day

Neighborhood Council Election Candidate Guidelines

1. You may run for any Neighborhood Council (NC) Board Seat if you meet the candidacy requirements for the seat you are seeking.
2. You may distribute Vote-By-Mail (VBM) Applications (if your NC permits Vote-By-Mail), but you shall not collect them.
3. You shall not use the City of Los Angeles Seal, City of Los Angeles Letterhead, the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Department) Logo, the NC Logo or any other official NC designation created by the Department.
4. You shall not receive endorsements from the governing Board of the NC.
5. You may receive endorsements from individual Board members, acting as individual stakeholders.
6. You shall not use City facilities, equipment, supplies or other City resources for campaigning activities.
7. You shall not engage in negative campaigning ('mudslinging') during your campaign.
8. You shall not post handbills on public property. You must observe all handbill posting laws (Sec.28.04 Los Angeles Municipal Code).
9. You shall not engage in electioneering.
10. You may report any illegal or fraudulent activity to the Department.
11. You shall adhere to the Department's Neighborhood Council 2012 Election Manual and all other NC Election policies and procedures established by the Department. Please contact the Department with any questions on these policies and procedures.
12. You shall notify the Department if your stakeholder status changes, thereby disqualifying you from the NC seat you are seeking.



If you live in Granada Hills and are not within the GHSNC boundaries, you are most likely within the GH North Neighborhood Council. They are having their election on the same day with the same guidelines applied to candidates. Check their website at: www.GHNNC.org

Neighborhood Purpose Grants

One of the guiding philosophies of the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council is to contribute a good portion of the council's budget to improving the quality of life in our community (NC 2006 budget: \$50,000; 2013-14 budget: \$37,000). Approximately 50% of the NC budget has funded the following projects since Spring 2011.

New Neighborhood Watch Signs

Senior Lead Officer Dario Del Core of the Los Angeles Police Department, Devonshire Division approached your Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council and recommended that we purchase and place Neighborhood Watch signs on our streets in an effort to reduce crime. Through that request the council discovered that the streets of our beautiful town, our Granada Hills had blight. That blight was in the form of previously posted Neighborhood Watch signs on many of our streets. Signs posted and unwatched, posted and left to criminal elements that damaged and defaced the signs with stickers, graffiti and gang symbols.



Some signs were posted illegally on traffic control poles.



Some were damaged almost beyond recognition.

A U.S. Department of Justice sponsored University of San Marcos Study discovered by Ross Turmell (GHSNC-Chair Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness) tested and discovered that Neighborhood Watch Signs that were damaged, defaced and marked with graffiti were perceived to be a magnet for crime and

no longer function to inform citizens of a Neighborhood Watch in the area. The study was shown to the Council volunteers and Council President David Beauvais. After debate and decision the Council decided to act. Your Neighborhood Council removed the damaged, rusty, defaced signs and replaced them with brand new signs strategically placed per Los Angeles City Guidelines.

Your Neighborhood Council is comprised of elected volunteers that work for you each week. We hope to continue our ultimate goal that Granada Hills South be a safe place for all of our stakeholders. Each volunteer act by the Council and the Citizens of Granada Hills contributes to a whole community and a safe community where citizens can enjoy our beautiful part of the City of Los Angeles.

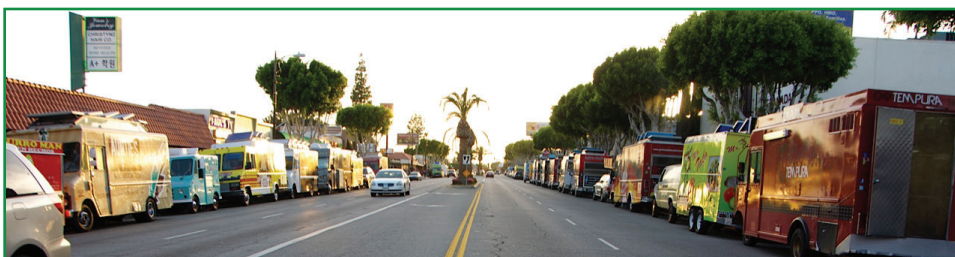
Citation: P. Wesley Schultz, Ph.D. ; Jennifer J. Tabanico, M.A. (2009). A Social Norms Approach to Community-Based Crime Prevention: Implicit and Explicit Messages on Neighborhood Watch Signs. Document No.: 226821.



Many were old, bent, damaged, rusty and had been defaced.



Brand new signs were strategically placed per LA City Guidelines.



Happy Holidays!

Holiday photos from Mark Hovater





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Granda Hills South Neighborhood Council

Keep in Touch!

Mailing Address: 11024 Balboa Blvd., Box 767
Granada Hills, CA 91344

Email: board@ghsnc.org

Website: www.ghsnc.org

Phone: (818) 217-0511



Facebook: www.facebook.com/ghsnc

Twitter: www.twitter.com/GHSouthNC



~ We need your voice ~

Come join us at our monthly board meetings!

First Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

January and February meetings:

Rawley Hall at Granada Hills Charter High School