



WHHO Newsletter

April, 2025

Woodland Hills Homeowners Organization

P.O. Box 6368, Woodland Hills, CA 91365 | www.whho.com

Wednesday Night:

April 23rd 7:30 PM

Guest Speaker:

**Representatives of the
Rams Village at Warner Center
And The New Promenade**



Come with your questions and suggestions!

WHHO General Meeting

**Wednesday, April 23, 2025
7:30 PM- 9:00 PM on Zoom**

Webinar Virtual Meeting – Register to attend by going to www.whho.com

WHHO invites you to our meeting to hear from those that know:

Rams unveil bold new game plan for Warner Center and the West Valley.

Rams Village at Warner Center is a lot more than you could have imagined.

Stan Kroenke and the LA Rams have made a serious commitment to the Woodland Hills area—a very big commitment. The Rams owner and real estate mogul has pulled the veil off his plans to develop a key piece of our Woodland Hills community – some 52 acres of the nearly 100 acres they purchased in 2022 when they bought the old Promenade Mall site in Warner Center along with its redevelopment plans from Westfield. And on Wednesday evening, they will share the vision and answer questions about it at the WHHO’s general meeting starting at 7:30 on Zoom.

“Attendees will be able to ask questions with the planning and architectural team who designed the Rams Village Center and elevated it far beyond what Westfield had originally designed for the sites,” noted WHHO President John Walker.

“Plus, they’re also presenting their plans turning the old Blue Cross/Anthem property--including the old headquarters building—into the new permanent home for all of the LA Rams’ on-field as well as all off-field operations,” Walker added. This will include a new, permanent headquarters and training facility for the Rams as well as residential, commercial office, retail, and an entertainment complex and several features designed for community use. They intend to call it the *Rams Village at Warner Center*.

The 52 acres development is surrounded by Erwin Street on the south, Canoga Avenue on the east, Oxnard Street on the north, and Topanga on the west.



Walker pointed out that the Kroenke planning and design teams paid close attention to preventing traffic flow concerns, adding features that are intended to serve the entire West Valley population, and fulfilling the State mandate of providing a significant number of livable units that meet the “Low Income” and “Affordable Income” rental levels.

The WHHO President also noted that the Kroenke Organization and their famed architects out of San Francisco (the Gensler Organization) have boldly claimed that it will rival the luxurious headquarters of the Dallas Cowboys in Frisco, Texas. “They have promised to provide the team and the fans with a state-of-the-art training facility and headquarters complex set into a new living-shopping-entertainment community that will establish Warner Center as the true hub of the West Valley and the entire western LA region,” Walker continued.

Walker also noted that the price tag could run over \$10 billion and create thousands of jobs and significant revenues for the City of Los Angeles. He went on to state that the indoor arena that Westfield had originally planned along Topanga Blvd. has been scrapped and replacing it will be an indoor entertainment arena with about a 5,000-seat capacity that will be built just to the west of the existing Ram training fields that are off

Owensmouth. The architects have added an outdoor facility of bleacher styled seating for some 2,500 just to the east of the arena.

As you probably already know, the Kroenke Organization has previously purchased the old Promenade Property, The Village Property and the Anthem office building and its surrounding property. During this presentation you will learn about how the Rams owner intends to up-grade and modernize the entire area and bring new businesses and service into the Warner Center area that has seen major large corporate employers leave or down-size over the past decade.

By placing all of the LA Rams offices and staff in Warner Center, the Kroenke Organization believes that it can elevate the West Valley from being just a shopping destination, into the vital heart of the West Valley. “That’s what the Kroenke Organization did in a run-down section of Inglewood with their construction of SoFi Stadium, a new and attractive shopping district, and facilities for concerts and other entertainment venues,” Walker stated. He noted that the Rams and the Kroenke Organization developed the \$5.3 billion SoFi stadium complex at the old Hollywood Park site in Inglewood and the futuristic venue has hosted the Super Bowl and likes of Taylor Swift and will be one of the centerpiece venues for the upcoming LA Olympics.



“We look forward to seeing the details of the project at our meeting and we understand that they are looking forward to hearing what the community thinks about the projects,” Walker said, “So I hope our WHHO members and visitors will join our Wednesday night Zoom meeting starting at 7:30 PM.”

To register to attend the meeting, please go to our website at www.whho.com and add your name so you can be admitted into the meeting. There is no charge and everyone is welcome.

The Rams and the Kroenke Organization developed the \$5.3 billion SoFi complex at the Hollywood Park in Inglewood where the Rams play, and they hosted the Sper Bowl and the lies of Taylor Swift. We are hopeful that this project will be as spectacular. Come see what the propose and bring you questions and opinions.

WHHOnews
April-2025 Bass State of City
Get ready for a lot more of a lot less
coming from the City’s services.
Mayor Bass and City Council face
skyrocketing costs and submerging
finances in the City’s future.

If you got to listen to her “State of the City” address by Mayor Karen Bass on Monday, you shouldn’t expect much from the City. Instead, you should get ready for a lot less, according to the Mayor and her staff.

That’s because the City is not only broken—but it is *broke!!!* The City of Los Angeles is nearly \$1Billion in the red with costs escalating and income falling. And with hundreds of businesses closing or leaving the city with a shrinking tax base, plus escalating housing costs, the storm of Federal tariffs on anything and everything imported to the US, and the careless, spend-thrift policies by our State Assembly

and Senate representatives, and you the recipe for a situation that has almost everyone in the stew in not only the near future, but apparently far beyond it.

Bass revealed that her budget for the next year calls for the elimination of more than 2,700 positions in departments throughout the government. While a number of those positions are currently unfilled, the Mayor is calling for the elimination of 1,650 City workers from virtually every department and service that the City depends on to run at an “acceptable” level.

Adding to those financial woes is the fact that the State of California is also significantly in the red, so Mayor Bass’s hopes that Sacramento will help bail out the City seem slim at best.

Post Speech: Highlights and clarifications.

According to Vahid Khorsand, a key member of the Board of Public Works and the Valley Advisor to the Mayor, there are a number of key points that the Mayor and her staff want to underline after the Mayor’s speech—especially on homelessness, public safety, recovery and rebuilding, and economic development among other key topics:

Homelessness:

* According to the Mayor, Homelessness fell for the first time in years, with a **10% reduction** in street homelessness and a **38% reduction** in makeshift structures.

* The City had made policy changes to streamline homeless support, including easing documentation requirements and ensuring homeless vets can access housing and benefits.

* Last week, an **Inside Safe operation** moved **45 unhoused Angelinos indoors**, and cleared over **20 RVs** from a long-standing encampment near **five schools** and **Angelus Rosedale Cemetery**.

However, it must be noted that because of US Superior Court Judge Carter’s order for a complete accounting and analysis of the billions of dollars being spent annually in the City and County on

homeless encampments and needs, and the decision by the LA County Board of Supervisors to withdraw \$350 million in annual funding funds from LAHASA (Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority) because of questionable use, lack of accountability and transparency, and to channel the money into its own department to oversee homelessness services because they have not been happy with the pace, results or accountability of the City’s agencies.

Public Safety:

* Violent and property crimes are down; homicides **dropped 14%**, gang-related homicides **fell 45%**, and shooting victims decreased **by 19%**.

* Increased LAPD recruitment for boots on streets, although a broken hiring system continues to slow progress so that a significant number of positions for new police recruits remains high.

Recovery & Rebuilding:

* Recovery in the Palisades is on track to be the fastest in California history, with homes rebuilt and utilities restored rapidly. However, the issues of cost(s), insurance, lawsuits, and numerous other factors are impacting recovery.

* The Mayor is creating new measures to expedite rebuilding, including a self-certification program and AI technology for faster plan reviews. Again, the factors of insurance, financing, infrastructure replacement (water, electric) remain major issues with no clear policy or funding solutions.

Dealing with “Broken,” while absolutely “Financially Broke.”

Mayor Bass stated that she proposes to overhaul the City’s broken systems with a budget proposal that’s focused on reducing spending while protecting essential services for the City’s inhabitants and guests. The problem is, she has a City Council with 15 different voices shouting “we need even more money,” and throwing a fit and threats if any of their dollars need to be reallocated in order to patch holes in even more critical areas and services.

Remember, that more than half of the City Council has turned-over to new Councilmen—many affiliated with the Democratic Socialists-- and they got elected making hundreds of promises (no matter what the costs) to their constituents. Many of these people have not had the experience of working together to solve the kinds of problems now impacting the City and the businesses and residents who call this home. For them, there’s a primary allegiance to the people who elected them—and not to the City as a whole.

The Mayor also made promises to attract greater investments in jobs, housing and solving the rising cost of living that are impacting a majority of the City’s residents. But, as stated before, there are no easy or fast solutions. So, get ready...

HOMELESSNESS – TAKE ACTION

Take action now to help with the homelessness issue in Woodland Hills. We can maintain a clean, safe, and welcoming community for all, but it requires everyone's effort. Report any litter, graffiti, or signs of neglect on buildings, streets, or underpasses immediately using the MYLA 311 app or call (213) 473-3231.

Homelessness is a critical reality in our area, and many unhoused individuals are in urgent need of support. If you see an encampment, report it now through the MYLA 311 app or file a request on the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority portal: <https://www.lahsa.org/portal/apps/la-hop/request>. LAHASA works to connect those experiencing homelessness with essential resources. Your report can be the vital first step in providing much-needed help.

If you have ongoing concerns, please reach out to Councilman Bob Blumenfield's office at Councilmember.Blumenfield@lacity.org or call (818) 774-4330.

You're invited to celebrate Platt Library's 30th Anniversary all week long.



The Platt Library in Woodland Hills (On 23600 Victory just east of Platt Ave.) is celebrating its 30th Anniversary with a series of events including DJ lessons, live music performances and other artistic activities for both children and adults. On Saturday, April 26th the Library will hold a special meet and greet where you can meet your elected officials, library representatives and community organizers, and where a number of awards and tributes will be given out.

Everyone is invited and there is parking available to handle virtually everyone. On Saturday snacks and refreshments will served, and you can come as you are and choose your own time to attend. The celebration is being sponsored by The Friends of Platt Library.

Here's a modified schedule of activities from April 24 to April 26.

April 24 – 26: Then and Now

Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Platt Library:

Thursday, April 24 4 pm The Reptile Family

A hands-on program with reptiles, amphibians, and arthropods.

Saturday, April 26 12:30 pm Henna, Face Painting & Glitter Tattoos

Katy DeBra will share ideas and design tips.

Saturday, April 26 1 pm Madcap Balloons

Imaginative animals, hats, and character-shaped balloons.

Saturday, April 26 1 pm Makido Hirata Live in Concert

Internationally renowned classical pianist will perform

Saturday, April 26 2 pm Recognition and Tributes

Meet your elected officials, library representatives and community organizers.

Saturday, April 26 3 pm Reception and refreshments

Uh-oh, Another problem from getting from here to there—especially if you live in the West Valley.

So, the Palisades Fire crippled the Pacific Coast Highway and almost put the western end of Topanga Canyon Blvd. completely out of business. Only now, a few months from the devastating fires and mudslides are these crucial commuter routes just beginning to re-open with forecasts by experts predicting it may take another year before they become fully operational for commuters again.

But now, anyone wanting to head over the Malibu Hills to reach LA's west side and the LA Airport may be facing another substantial delay. Caltrans has announced that it intends to repave the pavements of the 405 Freeway in Sepulveda Pass--a

10.2-mile stretch of I-405 between the Los Angeles communities of Van Nuys and Westwood along one of the most congested stretches of Interstate roadway in the nation.



According to Caltrans, the project consists of replacing sections of two lanes in each direction from Victory Boulevard to Mulholland Drive. Sections of other freeway lanes will be repaired to enhance safety and improve mobility along the primary corridor between West Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley.

The four-year project will apply about \$143.7 million toward rehabilitating the primary corridor between West Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley and will include restoring/replacing two overhead sign structures, 98 sign panel replacements, upgrading 6,400 feet of Metal Beam Guardrail and upgrading 10 curb ramps.

Caltrans states that this project will improve the safety and mobility along I-405 between Van Nuys and Westwood as well as sustainably extend the pavement life, and construction is projected to start in spring/summer 2025 with an anticipated completion in winter 2029.

However, Caltrans has been silent on the impacts the project may cause on the thousands of commuters who have been forced to abandon use of Topanga Canyon Blvd, due to restoration work following the fires and mudslides.

For those who want more facts or want to voice their opinions, The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will hold a public, informational meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 24 for the Interstate 405 (I-405) Pavement Rehabilitation Project.

To join in on the meeting, please register at:

<https://cadot.webex.com/weblink/register/r3b89bd7e5d05464662425681b1b85803>

Neighborhood Council Elections – Soon-

As you probably already know, the neighborhood Council reviews action that are pending in our area and advises our Councilman, Bob Blumenfield, about the concerns and interests of our community.

Elections will be held for Residential, Business, and Community Based Organization (CBO) representatives for the following areas: Area 2, Area 4, Area 6 and an At-Large representative.

The application date has passed, and the candidates that are running will be listed on the NC web page.

For more information can go to:

<https://neighborhoodempowerment.lacity.gov/elections/>

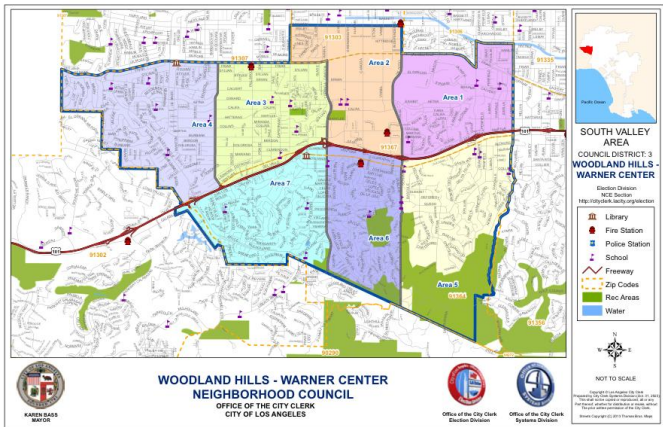
Key Deadlines

- April 4, 2025 – First day to request a mail-in ballot. So, you can get yours now.
- May 27, 2025 – Last day to request mail in ballot
- June 3, 2025 – Election Day (all ballots need to be mailed by this date)
- June 18, 2025 – Certification of Election results

Be sure to know your candidates that want to represent you and our area of the community and be

sure to vote. An informed voter helps our community by selecting good, qualified members of the Council.

Know your area:



You will find more information at the NC web page at the bottom: [Neighborhood Council Board Members - Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council](#).

An individual can qualify to vote in area 2,4, and 6 as:

- 1) Resident, or
- 2) Business- own or work, or
- 3) being a member of a Community Based Organization (CBO) such as attendance at a school (parent or child), or a member of a religious organization or other community based organization like the WHHO. Or you may qualify for more than one Area.

IT IS POSSIBLE TO QUALIFY TO VOTE IN ALL THREE AREAS- 2,4, & 6.

Some examples of nonprofit community based organizations in Woodland Hills are the WHHO, Valley Cultural Center, Chamber of Commerce, Friends of Platt Library, churches, or synagogues and schools

AREA 6- CBO -WHHO qualifies as a Community Based Organization for Area 6 - ALL WHHO MEMBERS can vote in Area 6. Be sure to request

JOHN (john@whho.com) to send you a letter stating you and your spouse are members in good standing.

Be aware you must register your spouse and any children over 16 to vote! See the NC web page listed above.

The city will require proof of eligibility in each area you qualify to vote in- you may be able to vote in more than one area. For example, you may live in one area, work in another and belong to an organization (religious or school, or CBO) in a different area. You can request a Ballot in each of these Areas where you qualify. You can get more information from this link:

[NC Documentation Guide2025](#).

THE WHHO NEEDS YOU TO BE PART OF US IN 2025.

The WHHO wants to be your voice as well as your eyes and ears into what's going on in our community and our City that will affect your lifestyle, your property and your neighborhood.

We try to bring you discussions with important City, County and State figures that can have an impact on your home, your neighborhood and your community.

We encourage you to attend our Zoom meetings (they're free - just register for them), and we're anxious to hear your comments on how we can be even more effective in our efforts to protect and advance our neighborhoods. Have a story for the WHHO news? Please email it to us. The more everyone knows, the better for our community. Or, if there's something you think needs to be covered, let us know.

At the bottom of the first page of our web site, www.WHHO.com you can register and pay for your membership using PayPal (it accepts any credit

card). So, join us today. We look forward to having you part of our family.

It is only \$25 a year for an *entire household* to belong to WHHO, and your membership helps to sustain us by covering taxes, insurance and other legally required fees.

Help us help you!

WHHO SURVEY

We'd love to hear your thoughts about the future of Woodland Hills. The WHHO is dedicated to strengthening our community, and your input plays a key role in guiding our efforts. By sharing your ideas, concerns, and hopes, you'll help us focus on what really matters and work toward meaningful improvements. Please take a few minutes to complete our survey here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfXXAUeO4xtooXDyZg2Z5CVV7z9cb7Y5f2xDWI6Nnr_b0oDTA/viewform

Feel free to share the survey with friends, family, and neighbors so everyone's voice can be included who live within Woodland Hills. Each response makes a real difference.

Thank you for your commitment to making Woodland Hills a wonderful place to live. Together, we can shape the future of our community.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE POTHoles – WALK AND LOOK AND CALL THEM IN

We reminded you in our last Newsletter, but please keep looking and calling them in.

Potholes – while you taking that Spring walk in your neighborhood, keep an eye out for those pesky potholes. If you find one, dial 311 and tell them the location. Better yet, download the app **MyLA411** from the app store (its free). You can do many things here like report a "Service Request" that includes things like bulky items, containers, illegal

dumping pickup, animal complaints, loose animals, dead animal removal requests, nuisance barking dogs, park homelessness and security, homeless encampments, private property violations, graffiti removal, or even pay a DWP bill here and get news from City Hall. If you do not have it, get it.



It is a must to report problems in your area.

Oh, yes and there is a section for Pothole – small asphalt repair section too. So, when you are out on a walk, please use the MyLA311 App and report the potholes so our roads are safer. It is easy, you give them the location (address is the best), some details and take a photo and upload it. There are dropdown menus to assist in the notification. Help us all by getting these potholes repaired.

WHHO Officers & Directors for 2025:

President: John Walker - (818) 719-9181
Vice-President: Dennis DiBiase - (818) 346-9567
Vice-President: Marty Lipkin - (818) 999-4340
Treasurer: Shelly Schwartz - (818) 404-1945
Secretary: Nancy Porter - (818) 347-8869

Directors-at-Large:

Ari Coine
Scott Silverstein
Colleen Schwab

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Co-Founder (In Memorium): Herb Madsen

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