



# MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING

## Crescenta Valley Town Council

CRESCENTA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

2900 Community Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214

Council Mailing Address: Post Office Box 8676, La Crescenta, CA 91224-0676

[www.crescentavalleytowncouncil.org](http://www.crescentavalleytowncouncil.org)

May 21, 2009

1. Call to Order & Welcome @ 6:31 p.m. President Steve Pierce
2. Flag Salute CVHS Jr. ROTC
3. Invocation Rev. Paige Eaves, CV United Methodist Church
4. Roll Call Council Recording Secretary Cheryl Davis
  - Present: Council members Andrus, Arnold, Beyt, Davis, Erickson, Goldsworthy, van Bremen, and President Pierce. Councilmember Battles arrived 7:27 p.m. and Councilmember Thomas arrived 8:14 p.m.
  - Absent: Council members Beatty and Lauterback.
5. Approval of April 16th Council Minutes – Motion by Councilmember Erickson, seconded by Councilmember Goldsworthy. Approved, none opposed.
6. CV Town Council Treasurer's Report – Council Treasurer Dennis van Bremen
7. Council Correspondence – Council Corresponding Secretary Liz Arnold
  - Letter from the Crescenta Valley Town Council to Jim Schumaker and Walgreens regarding use of native rock at the Walgreens site on Foothill Blvd.
  - Councilmember Andrus read a letter from Jim Nabus regarding Walgreens
8. Council Committee Reports
  - Land Use Councilmember Andrus
    - Cell tower issue on Foothill will be heard by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on May 28. The Council previously took a position that we were not in favor of it. There are 106 signatures on the Council's online cell tower petition and U.S. Congressman David Dreier's office is going to work with the Council on this issue.
  - Banner Committee Councilmember Erickson
    - Still working on getting a banner up for Nick Steinbacher in front of Pickens Canyon Park
  - Committee Events Councilmember Erickson
    - Memorial Day ceremonies at Two Strike Park and at the Montrose War memorial, both at 8:00 a.m.

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- Finance & Fundraising                      Council members van Bremen & Beyt
    - Silent auction of helicopter flights will be on our website
    - Saturday October 10 will be the pancake breakfast fundraiser at CV High School
  - Flag Committee                                  President Pierce
    - 2x3 and 4x5 flags - \$20 of the small flag will go toward any organization that you designate and \$25 for each flag will be donated for the 4x5 flags
  - Parks
    - The Fire Safety Council will be having a Fire Expo on Sunday, May 31, at Two Strike Park from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.
  - Public Relations                                  Councilmember Arnold
    - Latest version of the Council's newsletter is available on the Council's Website
  - Streets Roads & Public Safety Councilmember Goldsworthy
    - Northbound La Crescenta at Prospect will be restriped for a left turn pocket onto westbound Prospect
    - There will be a left turn signal installed at Ramsdell to turn onto westbound Foothill
    - Three additional traffic issues have been identified near Monte Vista
  - CV Clean & Green                                  Paul Rabinov
    - The Mormon Church has allowed us to place trash cans on their property and use their dumpster
    - Rosemont Wall – Boy Scout Johnny Blood will be landscaping and beautifying the area for his Eagle Scout award
    - Met with the Principal of at Monte Vista to discuss being a pilot school to bring the outreach into the community
  - Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy          Paul Rabinov
    - \$10.5M going to the SMMC so the study regarding the Rim of the World Trails will continue
    - State Parks – There is a Public Beach Club at 415 PCH. See [friendsof415.org](http://friendsof415.org)
    - A Trails Committee has been formed. Paul Rabinov submitted an abbreviated version of the report submitted to Supervisor Antonovich's office.
  - Scholarships    Councilmember Beyt
9. Introduction and Presentation of Certificates to Student Scholarship Recipients – Councilman Beyt
- Cameron Smyth's office & Steve Johnson from Assemblyman Anthony Adams' office
  - 4 scholarships were awarded:
    - Carlotta Pham – Going to UC Irvine. Runs track.
    - Vaughn Lawrence – Involved in Youth & Government, going to Glendale Community College
    - Kayla Duarte – Will be attending USC and studying environmental science
    - Anika Ranman – Plays soccer and is involved with Valley View daycare. Hopes to get her Masters in Business

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- Lucille Seeley Scholarship – Lindsay Walter will be attending UC Berkeley and hopes to become a lawyer in environmental law

10. Break – 10 minutes to allow for photos of Scholarship Recipients

#### 11. Community Forum

- Present: Don Voss (Mayor Pro tem of La Canada); Captain Dave Silversparre; Officer Matt Zakarian; Roger Young (CV Fire Safe Council); Allen Loomis and Glendale Planning Team members Laura Stotler & Hasan Hagani; Stephanie English (LA County Fire) and Battalion Chief Mike Singer; Jean Maluccio (CV Chamber); Jane Kane (Montrose/Verdugo City Chamber); John Klose (CV DOGS); Robin Goldsworthy (CV Sun); Glendale Councilmember John Drayman; Dennis Erdman (CVWD); and Glendale Councilmember Ara Najarian
- Glendale City Planning – North Glendale/La Crescenta Plan
  - Two upcoming workshops Monday, June 1 & Wednesday, June 3, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Clark Magnet High School
  - They will then be going back to the Glendale City Council to put together an advisory committee to develop a set of recommendations
  - [www.ci.glendale.ca.us/planning/northglendalecommunityplan.asp](http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us/planning/northglendalecommunityplan.asp)
  - Thank you to Mike Lawler and Jean Maluccio for helping to meet various community members and hold meetings
  - Would like people who have attended previous meetings to attend again
  - Question about the Cumberland GOAC? The Glendale City Council directed city staff to come up with a moratorium on cell towers, and Planning and other departments are working with the city attorney to draft a new ordinance regarding future cell towers
- Stephanie English and Chief Singer from LA County Fire
  - Residents must be involved - Know your neighbors, develop a phone tree, get involved in CERT training, join the Fire Safe Council.
  - July 18, 2009 will be the “Ready, Set, Go, Living in the Fire Zone Expo.”
  - Discussion about what happens during a fire – It depends where a fire starts, as a good evacuation takes 4 hours. Preparation is the key, including brush clearance. The Sheriff’s Department manages the evacuation.
  - The Fire Dept handles the firefighting and rescues people. The Sheriff evacuates, contains, provides security, and develops the plan to allow people to return to their homes. There is unified command to develop a single, unified approach to handle the situation.
  - What is the plan to evacuate people from Briggs Terrace? We are going to have a drill. There are zones and trigger points where if the fire hits a point, we will evacuate these areas. Evacuation will be prioritized.
  - They all work closely with Animal Control in Baldwin Park, including equine rescue groups, for evacuated animals and pets.
  - Question about controlled burns
  - STOPP Program – Call Deputy Jorge Valdivia to report driving safety concerns.
- Caltrans SR-710 Tunnel Technical Study
  - Objective of the Exploration Program

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- Exploration Plan Zones
- Key Factors Influencing Tunneling
- Boring Activities
- Seismic Reflection Testing
- Surface Wave Testing
- Summary
- Exploration Program Schedule – Plan submitted to Caltrans and Metro end of September
- Preliminary Findings – Tunnel is expected to be 200’ below the surface
- Superfund Site Locations
- Current Activities
- Summary of Public Outreach Activities
- Public Outreach and Notification Program
- SR-710 Community Facilitation
- Upcoming Meetings – Extended Presentation May 27, at the Glendale Central Library
- For more information: (877) 710-INFO or call (323) 222-1710 or visit <http://www.710tunnelstudy.info>. The address to write Caltrans is 3412 North Eastern Avenue
- Los Angeles, CA 90032.
- Caltrans is not sure about the route, as this study is not route-specific
- Are zones 4 and 5 going to be excluded due to superfund site locations? Validation has not yet been done on the superfund sites.
- Where are the zones 4 and 5 meetings? Presentation to SCAG, San Gabriel, etc. to be scheduled
- So far, Caltrans has spent \$10M (\$5.2M on the technical study, \$1M on outreach and \$2-3M more to be spent). Congressman Adam Schiff gave \$2.5M.
- How long will it take from start to finish if it goes from the 710 at Valley to California? It depends on how long the tunnel will be, but as an example, Caltrans is building a tunnel in Pacifica, where the tunnel is a little over a mile and it’s a 3 year construction project. 2020 was mentioned at a previous Glendale City Council meeting.
- The next step would an EIR, then a Public Scoping meeting for the community to voice their concerns. The EIR must address the traffic.
- Suggestion that the Community Outreach seems uni-direction as we are being told what is happening, but we are not given the opportunity to voice our opinions. Caltrans noted that comments are being recorded and will be taken to the Steering Committee meetings. The next Steering Committee meeting is June 25<sup>th</sup> at the South Pasadena Public Library.
- There will be a “no-build” alternative during the environmental phase.
- Nat Read, Glendale resident and Head of the 710 Coalition, a coalition of business organizations, Chambers, etc. addressed why we should build this. Our grid of freeways doesn’t work without this piece of missing 4 miles. An MTA study shows the completion of this project will relieve traffic congestion more than any other. SCAG models show it will reduce pollution more than any other project. A decision regarding trucks has not yet been made, but when it was going to be a surface route, it was going to exclude trucks, it was not opposed.
- 10 years ago Supervisor Antonovich came up with a plan to avoid this – only 25% of the containers unloaded in port of LA stay in California, while the rest go all over the US. Why not unload the containers onto the rail, go out to Lancaster/Palmdale and let it go by air, rail, and trucks? Mr. Read doesn’t know about that proposal and the 710 Coalition is currently looking at alternatives besides trucks.
- There was an environmental study done on the 710 surface route.

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- Concern about an increase in the number of serious truck accidents, just since the extension of the 210 freeway to the 15 freeway.
- Discussion that in 10 years, trucks might not be the desired method of transportation any more. We should not be supporting and funding developments of this size.
- Suggestion to write to the Governor to find ways to save money and cut this project out.
- Suggestion to spend funds on other supported projects like the Gold line or light rail?
- Suggestion to contact all of our elected officials and representatives, in addition to Adam Schiff.

#### 12. Items For and From Council

- Letter to Walgreens previously read – Motion to approve by Councilmember Andrus and seconded by Councilmember van Bremen – approved, none opposed
- Letter on 710 tunnel written a few years ago to be updated- Councilmember Andrus will draft a letter to Councilmember Arnold for review. Motion by Councilmember van Bremen and seconded by Councilmember Andrus. Approved, none opposed.
  - Address to Caltrans, include Huff,
- Suggestion to put together another petition and put it on the Council's Web site
- Beverly Hills Chihuahua will be shown Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Memorial Park for Fiesta Days
- Pedestrian Flags - Councilmember Battles met with Sussy Nemer, LA County, and the Public Works Department and it's in the hands of County Counsel if they are willing to accept the liability. It was suggested that we use our community in unincorporated LA County for a pilot program. GUSD and the City of Glendale is all over this and Councilmember Battles is on the Traffic Safety Committee. Councilmember Battles would like permission to go to the unincorporated County elementary schools and Public Works, as the GUSD's programs are going through the Glendale PD. How do we get buy-in from not just the parents and PTA, but also the neighbors and the businesses? We need to work with the CHP and Sheriff.
- The Council would like feedback on this meeting, the format, how it went, etc. There is always room for improvement and the purpose is to hear what the community says.
  - Sometimes structured meetings are boring. It was appreciated that people got to say what they felt.
  - People don't like not being able to address things on the agenda because sometimes it gets moved. Felt this was a good change.
  - Inquiry about the status of the "Welcome to La Crescenta sign." There will not be a sign on the La Crescenta off-ramp.
  - The ability to jump in with a comment is much appreciated
  - One comment was that we should have discussed the 710 project earlier in the evening, but due to first responders and scholarship recipients, it would have been a waste of their time.

13. Executive Meeting scheduled Thursday. June 4<sup>th</sup> CVWD Boardroom

14. Adjournment at 9:33 p.m.

**Approved June 18, 2009**