



*Sunset at Barrington looking west on a Sunday morning.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE • Ray Klein

The Brentwood Homeowners Association is 70 years old this year! Our primary mission has always been to protect the quality of life for the 3,200 single-family homes in our territory.

The BHA is kept busy reacting to projects that ask for excessive development that would increase traffic and congestion. This past year, our 16 Directors decided that we would also initiate more positive activities to enhance our lives and our neighborhood.

One of our Directors, Bruce Jugan, got involved with a program to increase busing and car pooling at Paul Revere Middle School. Private schools need permits to operate and, in connection with the approval process, we get a chance to ask for restrictions to mitigate their traffic impacts. But public schools are not required to seek approval or go through a permit process to operate. Thus, this voluntary program at Paul Revere (with its substantial enrollment) has a huge potential to make a difference on our streets.

We had our first annual picnic where members were able to get to know each other in a relaxed, park setting. Our Director, David Wilson, worked on the preparations. The food, including Pinks Hot Dogs, and drinks were free, and the kids enjoyed a show with turtles, snakes, and other creepy crawlers by the Reptile Family.

There was a large turnout for a seminar we sponsored about how to control, and co-exist, with backyard wildlife such as deer, coyotes, rabbits and rodents. Two of our Directors, Erica Broido and Robin Stevens, arranged for the venue, the speakers and a free spread of fantastic desserts. Officers from the National Park Service and City Animal Services presented a great slide show.





*Next on the improvement agenda, this wall on Sunset at Saltair will hopefully soon be painted dark green and a creeping fig planted to cover it in green leaves.*

On our stretch of Sunset Blvd, the grass and weeds often get overgrown and unsightly. Our beautification committee of Directors Marc Fishman and Rod Liber, arranged to hire landscapers and improve our view as we sit in traffic. This work is ongoing, as budgets permit.

Every weekend, we email an update of timely and very useful information. We get ideas from current events and issues, and homeowners who write in often inspire stories.

At the same time, it was necessary to react to several projects that had the potential to aggravate our worst issue - traffic congestion on Sunset. Both commercial and institutional applicants ask the City for more growth than they need and more than they expect to get. This forces the community to push back, study thousands of pages of plans, write letters, testify at hearings, and negotiate a compromise. The City of Los Angeles has a problematic tendency to approve over-development beyond what the City's infrastructure can handle, and ordinary citizens feel less empowered than ever. Many of our volunteer Directors, including Adam Braun, Bruce Jugan and Thelma Waxman have spent hundreds - yes *hundreds* - of hours urging the City to reduce the adverse impacts. Their efforts have resulted in agreements that obligate the entities to reduce the impacts *far beyond what the City would require*. We wish we could use all of your dues for things like more coral trees and fun events, but we know that you expect us to engage in this City process on your behalf, and you need to know that your dues enable us to retain the lawyers, traffic engineers, and other professionals necessary to carry on this fight, when necessary.

Please come to the Annual Meeting on February 29 where we will describe what we have done, and continue to do, regarding Brentwood School, Archer School, Mount Saint Mary's, Martin Cadillac at Bundy & Olympic, the VA, Airbnb type rentals, and mega-mansions. Come learn your essential role in helping your Board keep these projects within reason. Thank you for your support and for being Members of the Brentwood Homeowners Association. We couldn't do it without you.





## **BURGLARY PREVENTION TIPS**

### **LANDSCAPING**

Large hedges and bushes can offer privacy, but they also provide cover for potential burglars. Evaluate your front and rear landscaping and cut back areas that are overgrown near windows and doors. Make sure decorative lattices don't give easy access to second story balconies and windows.

### **LIGHTING**

Darkness also provides cover for potential prowlers. Motion sensor lights are a good idea for the sides of your house. If you have them, check that the bulbs are working and they are functioning as desired. At least minimal front and back yard lighting is recommended also. LED and CFL bulbs draw little energy and timer switches can turn them off and on at desired times.

### **CAMERAS**

New technologies enable a homeowner or handyman to install cheap and easy cameras that will allow you to see who's at your door, whether your home or not, on your phone or computer. Most also record to the "cloud" and give you access to the footage for up to thirty days from home or a remote location. Think about installing two to cover both your front door and your front yard.

### **LOCK IT**

This may sound silly, but many burglars still enter homes through unlocked doors and windows. Make sure your locks and deadbolts are sturdy and functioning properly. For fire safety, DO NOT install a deadbolt which needs a key on the inside, unless you and your family have a key that never moves in a spot right next to the door.

### **ALARM**

Use it. Having an alarm and not using it will make you feel foolish if you ever fall victim to a burglary. When you're on vacation, have the alarm company do drive-bys.

### **NEIGHBORS**

Get to know them! There is no better protection than having a cohesive environment with watchful neighbors. Let them know when you're away and have them pick up your mail and newspapers.

**See something? Say something!**

**Report suspicious vehicles or activity to 877-ASK-LAPD  
If you think you see an active crime or you feel in danger, call 911.**

For more information, go to [brentwoodhomeowners.org](http://brentwoodhomeowners.org) and search "burglary".



## EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

- ❑ Teach children how to call 911 and communicate a problem. Practice it.
- ❑ Pick a meeting place outside your home and in your neighborhood.
- ❑ Determine a communication method, including one with a good friend who lives in another state. Family members may be able to contact them when they can't contact you. Try and communicate via phone, text and email in the first moments before lines may be jammed.
- ❑ Organize important documents in one place. Think about a copy at another safe location outside your home.
- ❑ Inventory and photograph your valuables.
- ❑ Keep lots of flashlights and batteries in accessible places. Night lights that go on in the dark are a good idea. A fire extinguisher can help put out small fires.
- ❑ A large supply of bottled drinking water in an accessible area. If water supply is cut off, swimming pool water can be poured into the toilet tank (not the bowl) after each flush to keep them functioning. Do not drink pool water!
- ❑ Buy a battery-powered cell phone charger in case the power goes out.
- ❑ Enroll your whole family in a basic CPR and First Aid lesson.

### Basic Emergency Preparedness Kit

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Cash                     | • Cell Phone Charger     |
| • Prescription Medications | • Nutrition Bars         |
| • Eyeglasses               | • Boxed juices           |
| • Flashlights              | • Rain Poncho            |
| • Work Gloves              | • Warm Blanket           |
| • Light Sticks             | • Plastic Sheeting       |
| • Water                    | • Drinking Water!        |
| • Pet Food                 | • Battery Operated Radio |
| • First Aid Kit            | • Can Opener             |
| • Duct Tape                | • Utility Knife/Tool     |
| • Whistle                  | • Backpack               |

For a more complete list, go to [brentwoodhomeowners.org](http://brentwoodhomeowners.org) and search "Earthquake".

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

### U.S. Senate

Senator Barbara Boxer  
[boxer.senate.gov](http://boxer.senate.gov)

Senator Dianne Feinstein  
[feinstein.senate.gov](http://feinstein.senate.gov)

### U.S. Congress, 33<sup>rd</sup> District

Congressman Ted Lieu  
[lieu.house.gov](http://lieu.house.gov)

### State Senate, 26<sup>th</sup> District

Senator Ben Allen  
[sd26.senate.ca.gov](http://sd26.senate.ca.gov)

### State Assembly, 50<sup>th</sup> District

Assemblymember Richard Bloom  
[asmdc.org/members/a50](http://asmdc.org/members/a50)

### Los Angeles City Mayor

Mayor Eric Garcetti  
[lamayor.org](http://lamayor.org)

### Los Angeles City Council, 11th District

Councilman Mike Bonin  
[11thdistrict.com](http://11thdistrict.com)

### Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 3

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl  
[supervisorkuehl.com](http://supervisorkuehl.com)

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Traffic on Sunset is intolerable and the problem has been getting incrementally worse for decades – but I refuse to believe we can't make it better. On February 6, I am hosting a **Sunset Traffic Solutions Community Workshop** at Paul Revere Middle School (1450 Allenford Ave.) so members of the Brentwood community can evaluate proposed solutions to gridlock on Sunset Boulevard, and suggest their own. *This is going to be an interactive, solutions-focused workshop.*

We will begin by hearing about proposed solutions from traffic engineers and transportation experts, but we will also workshop different ideas in small groups. I am open to any idea that could help -- big and small, general or intersection-specific - *and nothing is off the table for discussion*. Please RSVP at [www.11thdistrict.com](http://www.11thdistrict.com) and join me on February 6.



COUNCILMAN MIKE BONIN



## **CITY SERVICES REFERENCE GUIDE**

### **MyLA 311**

Register at [myla311.lacity.org](http://myla311.lacity.org) to request help with services such as:

- Bulky Items
- Containers
- Graffiti Removal
- Illegal Dumping Pickup
- Metal/Household Appliances
- Electronic Waste
- Dead Animal Removal
- Pothole - Small Asphalt Repair
- Building and Safety Inspection Scheduling
- Building Inspection
- Parking Enforcement
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Property Violation Complaints
- Blocked Driveways

### **LA Department of Building and Safety**

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

Click on "Online Services" for help with property code violations and information.

### **ZIMAS**

[www.zimas.lacity.org](http://www.zimas.lacity.org)

Search for Lot and Parcel Information

### **Bureau of Street Lighting**

[www.bsl.lacity.org](http://www.bsl.lacity.org)

Report a burned out street lamp

### **Los Angeles Department of Transportation**

[www.ladot.lacity.org](http://www.ladot.lacity.org)

Report broken traffic lights or parking meters.

### **Live Traffic**

[www.trafficinfo.lacity.org](http://www.trafficinfo.lacity.org)

Get up to the minute traffic conditions to help with your drive

### **LAPD**

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

Non emergency 1-877-ASK-LAPD

Stay informed with email updates from the LAPD. Sign up at [www.lapdepolicing.org](http://www.lapdepolicing.org)

### **Los Angeles Fire Department**

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

They have a Twitter feed which gives up to the minute reports on current activities.





## ANNUAL MEETING

# APOCALYPSE NOW ?

With new developments breaking ground next year, and giant commercial construction projects proposed, is Brentwood about to reach its tipping point?

Separate *fact from fiction* and find out what we have done to *protect* our homeowners and find balance in the community. Learn what *you* can do to help restore our quality of life.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29 \* 7:00 PM**

University Synagogue at Saltair & Sunset

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM FOR FOOD AND DRINKS BY CORAL TREE CAFE

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: COUNCILMAN MIKE BONIN**

**YOU MUST RSVP AT:  
BRENTWOODHOMEOWNERS.ORG**



PO Box 49427  
Los Angeles, CA 90049-0427

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MGC

[brentwoodhomeowners.org](http://brentwoodhomeowners.org)

*Please let us know about any name or address corrections*

***RSVP ON OUR WEBSITE FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING ON FEB 29. SEATS ARE LIMITED.***



*San Vicente Blvd looking west across Montana in the 1970s*