

A Look Back at 2007

A Look Forward to 2008

2007

- **The 1883 Comstock Project negotiations succeeded.** The perseverance of local residents and hard work by Tract 7260 convinced a developer to scale back its multi-family dwelling to a single-family dwelling, preserving the neighborhood.
- **The Recall of Jack Weiss** collected 21,000 of the 23,000 signatures needed: Close, but just short. The 21,000 collected was more than half the number who voted in 2005 and 70% of those who voted for Weiss. It should be noted that no HOA, including Tract No. 7260 was allowed to take a position on the recall.
- **The Pico/Olympic One-Way Plan** was proposed and then faded under intense public scrutiny. It came back in a new form as a “done deal” at a surprise press conference from Jack Weiss and the Mayor. The public was told that a revised plan was going through – no matter what voters wanted. Residents and small businesses have joined forces to challenge the new plan which would force Century City drivers to go to Crenshaw to go east on the 10 and to Centinela to go west.
- **Westwood Rec. was allocated needed funding** thanks to the community-based park advisory board in association with the Tract No. 7260 and WSSM presidents. Over \$400,000 was secured.
- **Battery-operated jaws-of-life** were purchased for our fire stations using settlement money secured by Tract No. 7260 and WSSM. The WNC approved the public safety expenditures.
- **Four license-plate reading cameras** were purchased for WLAPD. These high-tech crime-fighting cameras were purchased using the same settlement money.
- **Tract No. 7260 sued the city** over approval of the JMB project.

- **Act4Education.Org continued** to work to improve Emerson Middle School and make it more attractive to local residents.
- **Santa Monica Boulevard was completed!** The long, drawn-out multi-year process that was Santa Monica Blvd. finally ended. Tract No. 7260 along with other HOAs secured critical plan modifications that preserved communities all along the project.
- **The Expo Light Rail Line inched forward** with Tract No. 7260 joining fellow HOAs CHHA and WOW to make sure the line does not gridlock the community by blocking Overland at Overland Elementary.
- **The Westside Neighborhood Council** donated tens of thousands of dollars to local schools, parks, libraries, police and fire. Sidewalk repair was also included.
- **350+ attended the Tract No. 7260 annual meeting** and heard both Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky and Assemblyman Mike Feuer speak about transportation, the VA/FBI projects and other issues.
- **The FBI expansion project was scrapped** due to the leadership of Laura Lake and Jackie Friedman’s community-based Coalition for Veterans Land.
- **Anti-mansionization moved closer to approval.** The controversial plan, which would severely limit the size of single-family homes, moved to the City Council.
- **Zev Yaroslavsky, in a damning assessment of City planning,** said: “Planning is not being done by the city but by the developer interests.”
- **A Zero Parking “Plan”** was introduced and is quietly making its way through the City. The plan would eliminate/reduce parking requirements for residential projects in the hopes that eliminating parking would force people to abandon their cars (somewhere) and take public transit (which doesn’t exist.)
- **KNBC aired a segment on “Laundered Elections.”** The story disclosed that several elected officials, including Jack Weiss, failed to return illegal contributions

and public matching funds based on the illegal contributions. In response, an Ethics Complaint was filed against Weiss.

- **Westwood Charter experienced more overcrowding** brought on by ever-increasing development being allowed by the City and our elected officials. **7260 and other HOAs** secured an agreement with a Century City developer to put millions of dollars to work for schools, parks, libraries, police and fire.
- **Tract No. 7260 joined other community groups and sent a letter to the City** demanding that the City produce its annual report *Growth and Infrastructure*. The “annual” report hasn’t been prepared since 1998.
- **The Subway funding ban,** which was issued, in part, after methane explosions years ago, was finally lifted, clearing the way for decades more planning. The good news: It looks like Century City will get a subway stop at Westfield/Century City.
- **Supervisor Yaroslavsky predicted the loss of affordable housing.** He said: “... *the density bonus ... will likely reduce rather than increase the supply of affordable housing in the City of Los Angeles, exactly the opposite of the stated intent of the law.*” He couldn’t have been more right. The Bellwood developer is seeking an affordable housing density bonus despite the fact that over 90 affordable units will be lost.

2008

- **Tract 7260 will continue to work with fellow HOAs** to improve our community.
- **The Bellwood Project** will move forward through the approval process with Tract No. 7260 opposing it at every stage.
- **The Pico/Olympic plan will be pushed through the system by its proponents Jack Weiss and Mayor Villaraigosa.** Residents and small businesses along Pico & Olympic will join forces to oppose the “half-baked” plan.

(2008 continued)

- **Local elementary schools will receive over \$34,000 each** from a settlement negotiated by Tract No. 7260 and three other HOAs. The facilities will receive contributions from the fund every year.
- **Westfield's expansion plans for Century City** will be detailed in a soon-to-be-released environmental impact report.
- **Related Co.'s new 40-story condo project** will continue to rise with little impact thanks to an involved community and a community-friendly developer.
- **VA lands were protected** from commercial development by legislation pushed by the Coalition for Veterans Land. Congressman Waxman, Senator Feinstein and Supervisor Yaroslavsky really came through with sustained efforts on our behalf. The CFVL believes the land should only be used for direct services to veterans.
- **The proposed route for the Expo light rail** should be disclosed in a closely-watched environmental impact report.
- **2008 will be chock full of politics** due to February presidential primaries, November national elections and May 2009 City elections. A 2009 CD5 race means we will see in 2008 who wants to replace Jack Weiss in 2009.

Resident

Neighborhood Emergency Awareness & Response Meeting (NEAR) Earthquake Preparation Meeting *(From Susan Silver)*

Come learn how you and your neighbors can survive a major quake or other emergency at the kickoff meeting of NEAR (Neighborhood Emergency Awareness & Response)—a grassroots network of neighbors helping neighbors. This meeting will focus on Tract No. 7260 between Olympic and Pico and Beverly Glen and Fox Hills Dr.

Wed., Jan. 30, 7-9 pm,
at Temple Isaiah on Pico
Please RSVP: NEARnetwork@gmail.com.

Tract No. 7260 No. 7260 Association, Inc.
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www.Tract7260.Org has
updated neighborhood
news and information.

Tract No. 7260
Homeowner's
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Neighborhood Update

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