

EPIAn *ways*

LOTUS FESTIVAL SPECIAL ISSUE

echo park
improvement association

Summer 2014 • Volume 21 Issue 2

Echo Park neighborhood issues overview

Andrew Garsten, EPIA President

The EPIA Neighborhood Issues Committee (NIC) is the “activist” arm of the EPIA. On the 3rd Wednesday of every month, nine volunteers with many years of experience report on, or discuss issues concerning schools, special events, land use, parks and public works issues that impact our community.

When appropriate, NIC will formulate recommendations to be brought to the general membership at our monthly town hall meetings for approval. The recommendations are then directed to the relevant politicians and/or decision-making authorities.

Here’s a list of issues that NIC is weighing in on, or continuing to monitor:

Barlow Hospital-Proposed Entitlements and Development - Monitoring

Morton Village complex - Monitoring

Filming Issues - No activity at this time

SB1818 Letter - Work in progress

Lot adjacent to Laguna Stairs - Monitoring

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Keep Scott Gate to Dodger Stadium closed

At the start of the baseball season this year, Dodger Stadium announced the opening of the Scott Avenue Gate to incoming traffic (egress has been allowed for a few years now). After hosting special meetings and many discussions with local government and the Dodgers, the EPIA submitted the follow letter of recommendations to Councilmembers Cedillo and O’Farrell:

The EPIA wishes to make the following recommendations regarding the status if the Scott Avenue Gate to Dodger Stadium:

The EPIA recommends that the Dodger Stadium Scott Avenue Gate remain closed to stadium entry, as it has over almost 10 years. We believe that opening the gate will cause many

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Upcoming Echo Park Events

Small Lot Subdivision Informational Workshop

Tuesday, July 15, 2014 at 6:30 pm

Holy Virgin Mary Cathedral at 650 Micheltorena Street

How to Start a Business in LA workshop

Wednesday July 16 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Edendale Branch Library. RSVP at bit.ly/smallbizLA

CD13 Community Cleanup

Saturday, July 19, 2014 from 9:00 am - 12 noon

Morton and Academy in Echo Park

CD1 Community Cleanup

Saturday, July 19 from 9:00am-1:00pm

Frank Hotchkin Memorial Center, 1700 Stadium Way

RSVP to: (323) 550-1538

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Cont.: Dodger Stadium gate opened on Scott Ave.

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unintended problems with the neighborhood and will not change stadium entry times in any way sufficient to justify the cost both in money and community good will. The EPIA also recommends that the gate be open for exit purposes only in games and events with attendance greater than 40,000, again, as has been the practice in the past.



The stated purpose from the Dodgers of opening the Scott Avenue Gate was to relieve traffic from Sunset at the Elysian Gate. If the Dodgers wish to move forward with opening the Scott Avenue Gate for entry to the stadium, we propose the following:

1. We request that the Dodgers immediately produce statistical data on what past stadium entry metrics have been without the Scott Avenue Gate being open, and that this be done before the season opens and the Scott Gate is allowed to open. This data should be provided to the City Council Offices, community leadership, and relevant departments of the City of Los Angeles.
2. 30 Days after the first month of opening the gate to entry, the Dodgers will host an Evaluation Meeting with Council Offices, community leadership, and relevant city departments where the “before” and “after” metrics can be discussed, as well as any other related issues.
3. Additional Recommendations:
 - a. The Dodgers will open any and all gates regardless of time before game when traffic is backed up to the point where it will cause gridlock at the nearest intersection

- b. The Dodgers will consistently and as much as is reasonably possible take care of Boylston and Solano Residents to mitigate impact on their lives.

4. Additional Ideas for Dodgers to consider:

- a. Do not rename gates – e.g. Scott gate called Stadium Way Gate.
- b. Utilize Metro FastPass for parking fees
- c. Change to an Exit Toll instead of Entry booths, with automated gates. Allow parking to be paid at automated parking kiosks inside of stadium as well at stadium concession stands.

Echo Park Security Association

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323-860-9914

www.echoparksecurity.com
epsa@echoparksecurity.com

Select Patrol

“A Safer Echo Park for Everyone”

*Elysian Heights Elementary School***Growing as a Community One Step at Time**

Article from ElysianHeightsElementary.com

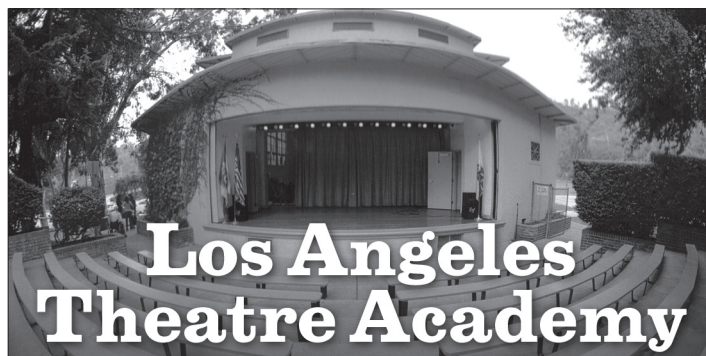
On Saturday, May 3, 2014 Elysian Heights Elementary School hosted its first ever Elysian Heights 5K. On the surface the event was a robust activity to fundraise essential funds for classroom technology and student enrichment materials. However, the event served a greater purpose in building community and providing children and their families an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful landscape and views of Elysian Heights.

In today's fast paced society, neighbors are people we greet in passing and our interactions with our children involve taking them to a place they can play with friends or with their siblings. At Elysian Heights, we believe a community school should promote opportunities for all neighbors to come together and share in a positive experience. Where families and neighbors inspire each other to forge ahead on a challenging run in Elysian Heights Park.

This year the 5K had over 200 participants from students, parents, neighbors, police officers, local business owners,

and teachers. Although the event was free, participants who donated received a shirt, medal, and official bib number as a gift for their generosity. All of the participants did a phenomenal job with a rigorous run in the streets and park of Elysian. The event netted \$6,400.00 thanks to both major donors (Swimmingpool.com, Blue Rooster Art Supplies, Urban Hillside Realty, Stericycle Specialty Waste, Arey Jones, Dodgers, and Councilman Mitch O'Farrell's Office) and local community members. The funds are being used to purchase technology and enrichment materials to ensure we are providing students a 21st Century Educational experience.

We are excited to continue the Elysian Heights 5K on an annual basis. We believe our school should be at the center of promoting positive communal experiences that enhance both the learning experience of students and the living experience of our neighbors. We look forward to sharing our experience with more members of the Elysian Heights family next year on Saturday, February 21, 2015!



July & August Enrollment still open!

Theatre Summer Camp 2014

Spanish Immersion Summer Camp

Acting classes in Spanish on Saturdays

Theatre in Spanish and English on Weekends

Movie nights ... and more!

Elysian Recreation Center

929 Academy Rd. | Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 373-LATA

www.latheatreacademy.com

501(C) 3 non profit organization since 2008



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Cont.: NIC overview

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Senior Fish CUB - Letter of recommendations sent. Appeal was withdrawn by Neighborhood Council

Sunset/Everett Street Project – Letter recommending approval with conditions

Planet Home Bruce Court SF Development - Monitoring

Rosebud SFR project – Waiting for developer to come back with more info

Button Mash CUB: Letter recommending support with conditions

Echo Park Lake Restoration Project – continuing to monitor

Elysian Park 18 Acres Elysian Park Expansion Public Safety Issues – continuing to monitor

Northeast Little League Facilities – Letter recommending support

Route 2 Terminus Improvement Project – monitoring

Mural Documentation Project – Work in progress

Dodgers Issues – continuing to monitor

Sunset Streetscape Project – continuing to monitor

Academy Cut Clean Up – Work in progress

Farmer's Market Wall Mural - Work in progress

The NIC invites anyone who is interested in issues impacting Echo Park and/or their quality of life, whether on this list or not, to come join us at our monthly meetings every third Wednesday at 7:00 pm, in Williams Hall at Barlow Hospital.

Masa **of echo park**
Bakery & Café

1800 W. Sunset Blvd (213) 989-1558 www.MasaofEchoPark.com

Join the Echo Park Business Family

The Echo Park Chamber of Commerce is active and accepting applications for membership!

The Echo Park Chamber of Commerce exists for the sole purpose of serving the business people and the residents of Echo Park. They promote economic growth and increase communications among all members of the community.

Why become a member?

The Chamber is the eyes, ears and voice of the business community. We work with local and regional government to protect business interests - your business interests - and to keep the community vibrant through a lively commercial sector.

Supporting the Echo Park Chamber of Commerce with a membership investment means supporting the total community. Echo Park's Chamber is a major catalyst in the community, keeping it prosperous, safe and affordable. They are there for business as well as your customers.

To view meeting minutes, calendar, sign up for email announcements, or to join as a member, visit www.EPCC.la

Cont.: Echo Park events

(Continued from page 1)

Echo Park Rising

August 15-17, 2014

Free! Music, Art, Fun & Food

www.epr.la

LIBRARY EVENTS

Lego Club

Edendale Branch Library

Saturday, July 19 from 10am-12:00 noon

Computer Class for Beginners in English and Spanish

Echo Park Branch Library

Every Friday from 3:00 pm to 5:15 pm

GED Glass

Edendale Branch Library

Every Tuesday from 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm