

Topanga Canyon Boulevard Roadside Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2014
Topanga Library

APPROVED WITH CHANGES

Standing Members in Attendance:

Susan Nissman, Yaroslavsky, Third Supervisorial District
Kara Seward, Pavley, SD27
Zuhey Espinoza, Yaroslavsky, Third Supervisorial District
Fiona Nagle, Caltrans
Lauren Wonder, Caltrans
Ed Siribodhii, Caltrans
Patrick Chandler, Caltrans
Jim Fowler, Caltrans
Kevin Johnson, LA County Fire Department
Stacy Sledge, Topanga Town Council (TTC)
James Grasso, Topanga Coalition for Emergency Preparedness (T-CEP)
Beth Burnam, North Topanga Canyon Fire Safe Council (NTCFSC)
Joseph Rosendo, Topanga Chamber of Commerce
Ben Allanoff, Topanga Creek Watershed Committee (TCWC)
Roger Pugliese, Topanga Assc. for a Scenic Community (TASC)
Carrie Carrier, TCWC

- I. Welcome and Approval of Minutes:** Co-chairs Kara Seward and Susan Nissman called the meeting to order. The minutes were approved.
- II. Issues/Reports**
 - A. Updated Projected Weather and Fire Season Impacts (Chief Johnson)**
 - B. Implementation Plan Subcommittees**
 - **Communication Subcommittee,**
Prepare press release for Topanga Messenger re brochure drop.

Review of TCBRC content, e.g. minutes, agendas, membership contact information to be placed on OneTopanga.com. Committee; members need to confirm contact info with Stacy Sledge/Topanga Town Council. It was agreed that a public and/or private forum for this committee on OneTopanga was unnecessary—email was the preferred method of communication.
 - **BMP Subcommittee (Allanoff):**
The subcommittee completed a drive-thru inspection of the pilot BMPs. The BMP assessment was that the mulch is doing well, but the slope mower areas

needed attention; 10ft needed for slope mower for fire safety; tumbleweeds an issue.

An discussion of the mulch used to verify pesticide/herbicide free. Per the co-founder of MulchMaster, the mulch contains no pesticides/herbicides. Mulch used is certified, tested every 2 months for contaminants. The Committee is interested in testing for toxics, have growers used pesticides/herbicides on trees that become mulch.

A discussion of weedmats pointed out that they are currently in use on SR23 in Thousand Oaks center median and on the 118 at Sycamore Ave WB. Samples were distributed to the committee. Color needs to blend into local environment, not stand out. Caltrans confirmed that the Committee request has been submitted for future funding. Funding would not be granted until 2016.

- **Mapping Subcommittee:**
No report. Will meet on as-needed basis.

III. Action Items

IV. Next quarterly meeting scheduled for February 11, 2015