

- BRENTWOOD - DEL REY -  
- MAR VISTA - MARINA PENINSULA -  
- PACIFIC PALISADES -

@MIKEBONIN  
#NEIGHBORHOODSFIRST



- PLAYA DEL REY - PLAYA VISTA -  
- SANTA MONICA CANYON - WEST LA -  
- WESTCHESTER - VENICE

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# NEWSLETTER

## *Neighborhoods First*

**August 2016**

Welcome to the August issue of Mike Bonin's "Neighborhoods First Newsletter"!

[Use this link](#) to read this issue on our website or share it with your friends on social media.

You can find out more [about Mike](#), [meet your CD11 staff](#) and [see the latest videos](#) and updates from the Westside on our website at [www.11thdistrict.com](http://www.11thdistrict.com). And remember to [like Mike's Facebook page](#) and [follow him on Twitter](#) to always see the latest news about your neighborhood.

### **Safer Streets in Brentwood**



Mike's office is working with neighbors and the LAPD to make streets safer in Brentwood. After receiving concerns from neighbors and the Brentwood Homeowners Association about speeding traffic cutting through the neighborhood, Mike's staff helped coordinate a meeting between residents and the Los Angeles Police Department's West LA Division to discuss solutions to the dangerous situation. In addition to adding speed notification signs (like the one pictured above), LAPD traffic officers have increased focus on the area and have issued tickets to speeding motorists on Canyon View, Gretna Green and near Kenter Canyon School.

# COMBATING HOMELESSNESS

## Weigh-In on Mike's Homelessness Plan in Venice



Homelessness is a tremendous crisis in Los Angeles, especially in the Westside neighborhood of Venice, and Mike has offered a comprehensive 18-point plan to address both short and long-term issues caused by homelessness. You can read Mike's plan for Venice here: [http://www.11thdistrict.com/venice\\_homelessness\\_plan](http://www.11thdistrict.com/venice_homelessness_plan).

The steps Mike is calling for include some controversial elements, but as Mike has often said, "in a crisis, controversy is better than inaction." To address concerns he has been hearing from neighbors and in an effort to seek input to help improve the proposals for Venice, Mike will host a community meeting on September 8 at Westminster Elementary School (1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd.) to continue working with neighbors in Venice to craft solutions that will give people alternatives to living on the street. You can find out more and RSVP for the September 8 meeting at [http://www.11thdistrict.com/venice\\_mtg\\_9\\_8\\_16](http://www.11thdistrict.com/venice_mtg_9_8_16).

After that meeting, there will be another community meeting hosted by Chrysalis, the nonprofit service provider who will be operating the new storage facility at the former Westminster Senior Center. The goal of this meeting will be for neighbors to have a constructive conversation about ground rules (such as hours of operation) that will make the storage facility a better fit in at the location. This second meeting will also be at Westminster Elementary School (1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd.) and will be held on September 15 at 6:30pm.

## Proposition "H" for Housing for the Homeless



This November, voters in Los Angeles will be asked an important question - do they want to help fund long-term solutions to homelessness, in the form of a bond to build permanent supportive housing for people currently living on the street. The ballot measure - which has been labeled Proposition H by the City Clerk - will require two-thirds support to be approved, and will raise \$1.2 billion to acquire land and build housing for the homeless throughout Los Angeles.

### H.O.P.E. Team On the Job in the Westside



This month, a new LAPD team was launched to help improve the Department's response to homelessness on the Westside. The H.O.P.E. (Homeless Outreach Proactive Engagement) Team is modeled after the successful program in the LAPD's Valley Bureau.

West Bureau's team will significantly expand LAPD's ability to respond to homeless-related concerns on the Westside and the team will work with LAHSA, DMH, local service providers, and other agencies to help move people into housing.

Sergeant Michael Fox, who was previously based out of Venice Beach, will head the team and will be joined by 10 other officers from across the Bureau who were already focused on dealing with homeless-related issues.

The team is headquartered in Pacific Division which serves Venice, Mar Vista, Playa Vista, Playa del Rey, Westchester, and Del Rey, and is also available to the West LA Division, including Brentwood, Pacific Palisades, and West Los Angeles.

## Venice Forward Success Story: Safe Place for Youth



In October of 2015, Luke came to [Safe Place for Youth](#) (SPY), struggling with anger issues and had an incredible pessimistic outlook. Luke's goal was to gain control over his anger to become a peacemaker.

With help from staff, Luke was able to gain control over his anger, and went from being the kid in fights, to the one that broke them up, and on multiple occasions, he voluntarily stepped in to resolve problems at SPY. He worked with a team of staff from SPY, St. Joseph Center, and Daniel's Place to get the resources he needed to gain employment, secure housing, and to become the positive role model he wanted to be for his child.

Luke's change in attitude and drive has led him to gain employment and housing, and he will be moved into his new apartment in July. He received a voucher for subsidized housing from a local social service agency, move-in assistance from St. Joseph Center, and on-going case management from SPY. He now has what he needs to confidently work toward for partial custody of his child and be the father his child can look up to. Luke is incredibly grateful for the support he receives at SPY and wants to pay it forward. He is hoping to be able to come back to SPY as a volunteer and help others see the potential in themselves that SPY saw in him.

# M MOVING FORWARD: TRANSPORTATION

## Real-Time Information Coming to Bus Stops in LA



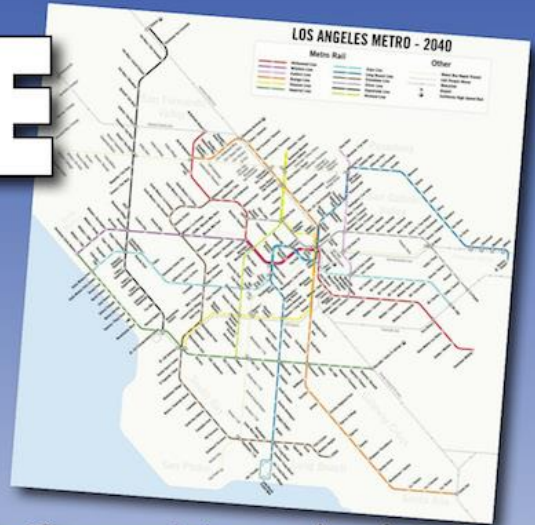
Traveling by bus in Los Angeles is about to get a lot simpler and more convenient, thanks to the work Mike and his colleagues on the Metro Board of Directors are doing to bring real-time arrival information to bus stops throughout the region. Last month, Metro announced that 300 signs displaying real-time arrival information and alerts will be installed at the busiest bus stops in the county. Many of the signs will be powered with solar panels and the digital displays will also feature audio for visually-impaired riders.

This is a big win in Mike's ongoing work for increased passenger convenience.

"Live bus arrival times and service alerts remain out of reach for the 62% of Metro passengers who don't own smartphones," said Mike. "Bringing real-time information to the bus stop is a common sense technology solution to an age-old problem, and it will improve the transit experience for all."

Measure "M" for Metro and for Mobility

# MEASURE



*Ballot Measure Could Create Exciting Future for Transportation in Los Angeles*

The opportunity for a dramatic expansion of public transportation will be on the November 8 ballot, as voters will be asked if they support a sales tax increase to fund traffic-alleviating projects throughout the region. "Measure M," as the Board of Supervisors have officially designated the ballot measure (which was formerly known as the "Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan") promises to fund exciting new projects including a rail connection between the San Fernando Valley and LAX, as well as extensions of existing rail and bus rapid transit lines. Find out more about what the future of transportation in Los Angeles could look like if voters approve Measure M at <http://theplan.metro.net/#howlong> and below, check out a GIF created by Adam Linder, which compares what Los Angeles' transit system looks like now, and what it could be become if Measure M is approved.



Mike Bonin's Neighborhoods First Newsletter

# LAX UPDATE

Agreement Rescinds North Runway Move! Big Win for Westchester and Playa del Rey!



Mike was enormously proud to announce a groundbreaking and carefully negotiated settlement between neighborhood advocates and airport officials that will allow for community improvements and modernization projects to continue - without needing to move the north runways!

The settlement between neighborhood advocates with the Alliance for a Regional Solution to Airport Congestion (ARSAC) and airport officials was ratified by the City Council, and it will officially stop the project that would have moved the north runways 260 feet closer to homes in Westchester and Playa del Rey. It will replace the runway move with immediate and significant airfield safety improvements and an exciting and comprehensive program to finally modernize, but not expand, LAX. With this agreement, we are fulfilling the promise of "LAX Modernization Yes, Expansion NO!"

Read more about the agreement in Mike's message to neighbors here: [http://www.11thdistrict.com/north\\_runway\\_agreement](http://www.11thdistrict.com/north_runway_agreement).

Delta Terminal Relocation Lease Approved



This month, Delta Air Lines received approval from City Council on an agreement to relocate operations to LAX's Terminal 2 and 3. This project is a giant leap forward in the modernization of our LAX terminals and will dramatically improve the passenger experience at our airport by making it quicker and more convenient for people to check-in and transfer flights at LAX. Mike was also excited that this project was so broadly supported by neighbors, workers and business groups, and that it continues the promise to make LAX a world-class airport and a first-class neighbor.

Mike Bonin's Neighborhoods First Newsletter

# NEIGHBORHOODS FIRST PLANNING

Rezoning in Neighborhoods to Prevent Unwanted Mansionization



Responding to concerns about mansionization in neighborhoods, the City's Planning Department is currently working on two separate, but related, programs to address concerns about the size of houses in the City's single-family (R1) neighborhoods.



Those programs include: (1) amending the Citywide ordinances (BMO and BHO) that regulate the development of single-family homes, and (2) adopting new single-family zone options that will be applied to neighborhoods currently subject to Interim Control Ordinances (ICOs), including Mar Vista, East Venice and the Kentwood area of Westchester. At Mike's request, the Planning Department recognized that the Pacific Palisades should also be considered for rezoning at this time, even though it is not currently covered by an ICO. The Planning Department agreed to rezone the areas of the Pacific Palisades that wanted regulations different than proposed amendments to the Citywide BMO and BHO would provide.

This can be a very confusing and complicated topic, and in order to help neighbors understand what is going on, Mike has set up a page on his website to offer more information and answer some likely questions about what is happening, how it will affect you, and how you can get engaged in the process ahead. Please visit one of the links below to find out more.

Kentwood: [http://www.11thdistrict.com/planning\\_mansionization\\_kentwood](http://www.11thdistrict.com/planning_mansionization_kentwood)

East Venice: [http://www.11thdistrict.com/planning\\_mansionization\\_east\\_venice](http://www.11thdistrict.com/planning_mansionization_east_venice)

Mar Vista: [http://www.11thdistrict.com/planning\\_mansionization\\_mar\\_vista](http://www.11thdistrict.com/planning_mansionization_mar_vista)

Pacific Palisades: [http://www.11thdistrict.com/planning\\_mansionization\\_palisades](http://www.11thdistrict.com/planning_mansionization_palisades)

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### Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance Update



# SMALL LOT SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE *Update*

More than a decade ago, the City Council approved planning rules to allow "small lot subdivisions" - clusters or detached townhomes built on a single parcel of land. While small lot subdivisions can help add needed new housing opportunities to communities, insufficient rules for where they are allowed and how they are designed has created tension with neighbors who are seeing the character of their communities change rapidly.

Mike and his colleagues on the City Council are working to refine the rules for small lot subdivisions, and last month, the City Planning Commission unanimously approved a new ordinance for small lot subdivisions that will limit subdivisions to neighborhoods where density is appropriate and will additionally require design guidelines that make them a better fit in the neighborhoods where they are built. Now that the Planning Commission has approved the ordinance, it will be considered by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee and then by the full City Council.

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## Battling Billboard Blight: Update



Mike has worked with neighbors in communities throughout the Westside to reduce visual blight and restrict the overwhelming prevalence of billboards in our neighborhoods. Citywide efforts to revise where signs are allowed and to increase the City's ability to enforce its rules limiting billboards are currently being considered by the City Council's Planning and Land Use Management Committee. The committee is considering a series of options for both enhanced enforcement (which Mike strongly supports), as well as for ways to allow new signs outside of established "sign districts" (which Mike strongly opposes). The committee has not yet made its recommendations, but once it does, the revised rules will need to be considered by the full City Council, which will allow Mike an opportunity to make sure neighborhoods are being put first in any new sign rules.

## Martin Expo Town Center Moves to Committee Hearing



Martin Expo Town Center, a proposed development at the corner of Olympic Boulevard and Bundy Drive in West LA, will be considered by the City Council's Planning, Land Use and Management Committee on September 13. The mixed-use development proposal includes residential units, office space and retail stores where the Martin Cadillac dealership currently sits near the recently-opened Expo station at Olympic and Bundy. Importantly, the proposal includes more than 20% affordable housing - a higher percentage of affordable housing than any other project that has signed a development agreement in the history of Los Angeles, as well as pedestrian amenities such as a large public courtyard, green space and outdoor seating. Neighbors are encouraged to attend the upcoming committee hearing, which will be held at City Hall (200 N. Spring St.) at 2pm on September 13.

# LEGISLATION

*Find Out More About the City Council's Work to Put Neighborhoods First*

**Herbicide Motion Approved - RAP Investigating Alternatives**



## PROTECTING NEIGHBORHOODS FROM HERBICIDE

*Mike's Legislation Approved by Council*

Protecting the health and safety of people in the neighborhoods he represents is Mike's top priority, and earlier in the Summer, Mike authored legislation calling on the Department of Recreation and Parks to report to the Council on the use of the herbicide Roundup after reports about the chemical being sprayed in neighborhoods. Roundup is a potentially hazardous chemical that has been linked to some types of cancer and other diseases, and Mike's colleagues on the City Council unanimously approved his motion. The next steps will be for the Department of Rec and Parks to complete its investigation into alternatives to Roundup and to report to the Council on better ways to eliminate weeds - without jeopardizing public health!

# SMALL BUSINESS CORNER

## August Small Business Spotlights

Local small businesses provide more than jobs for people on the Westside - they are part of what make neighborhoods great. Each week, Mike chooses a local Mom and Pop business to feature on social media in his "[Small Business Spotlight](#)."

### Alfred Coffee - Brentwood



The graphic features a blue background on the left and a teal background on the right. On the left, there is a circular portrait of Mike Bonin with the text "MIKE BONIN LA CITY COUNCILMEMBER" below it. Below the portrait, the words "SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT" are written in large, stylized, white letters with a blue outline. At the bottom left, a dark blue box contains the text "CREATING JOBS, BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND PUTTING NEIGHBORHOODS FIRST" in white. On the right, the "Brentwood" logo is in a blue box above the word "ALFRED" in large, black, serif font, with "COFFEE & KITCHEN" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it. The website "www.alfredcoffee.com" is written in white. Two photos are included: one of the exterior of the coffee shop and another of the interior showing a menu board with the text "BUT FIRST, COFFEE" and a striped wall.

This local coffee shop on San Vicente Boulevard in Brentwood is relatively new to the neighborhood, but has quickly become a community favorite. The neighbor who nominated Alfred Coffee for the Spotlight lauded the shop's "great coffee, light fare and relaxed atmosphere where you can hang out." Check out Alfred Coffee in Brentwood at 11908 San Vicente Blvd. or check out some of the cool items for sale in the shop at [alfredcoffee.com](http://alfredcoffee.com).

[Do you have a favorite business you want to nominate to be featured in Mike's Small Business Spotlight? You can make a nomination for the "Small Business Spotlight" at this link.](#)

Mike Bonin's Neighborhoods First Newsletter

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Find out about just some of the events happening in your neighborhood in the next month!

- **9th Annual Venice Vintage Motorcycle Rally**
  - **When:** September 17; 9am
  - **Where:** 150 Dell Ave., Venice, CA 90291
- **Coastal Cleanup Day - Sponsored by the Bay Foundation and Heal the Bay**
  - **When:** September 17; 9am - 12pm
  - **Where:** LAX Coastal Dunes

Have an event you would like listed? Email updates@11thdistrict.com to submit events.

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**Thank you for reading the August issue of Mike Bonin's Neighborhoods First Newsletter.**

**For more about Mike and Council District 11, please visit [www.11thdistrict.com](http://www.11thdistrict.com).**

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