



Dear Neighbors,

As promised, here is the list of questions asked at the June 14th Annual Meeting. I think it is important for you to know what the MCA board can do as a voluntary neighborhood association:

- Beautify the canyon through the creation of pocket parks and the split-rail fence program
- Make the canyon safer through awareness notices about brush clearance and emergency preparedness (this includes the People's Path)
- Increase surveillance through the security cameras in an effort to reduce auto and home burglary
- Provide limited maintenance of areas on City property

And here is what we cannot do:

- Control traffic violators (call the police 310-444-0741)
- Remove bicyclists from the streets (the law states that we share the roadways)
- Force neighbors to cut down trees because they block a view (it's private property)
- Control our neighbor's construction project if they are working within City codes. (All building permits are a matter of public record. You can locate permits by address on the Department of Building and Safety website. If a neighbor is in violation, you should contact the Field Deputy for Brentwood, Noah Fleishman at: noah.fleishman@lacity.org). If he cannot help you can contact the Call the Deputy City Attorney for the Westside, Veronica de la Cruz).

If all else fails, dial 311

Q: What to do about neighbor's home that looks empty and is poorly maintained . It is an invitation to having burglars in the neighborhood

A: [Look at Building and Safety website and find out the status of the project. If it looks like a fire hazard contact Brush Clearance.](#)

Q: Can a house be under construction for 8 years without any recourse for the neighbors? What is the maximum number of cars that can be parked in a driveway/shared road?

A: [Carrie Ring: Look at Building and Safety website and see if they have current permits. If not, call Noah.](#)

Q: Anyone else interested in getting improved cell service for Mandeville and Westridge? It might only require adding 3 or 4 more towers. Communication and safety interests would be well-served; the telcos might pay the costs.

A: [David Wallace: Just a hunch—Call Verizon or Sprint. They seem to have the greatest number of towers in the canyon at this time and may be interested in boosting their coverage.](#)

Q: Please update us on developments on the bridal trail

A: [Douglas Schreier: Do you mean the Rockingham Trail? There is no Bridal Trail.](#)

Q: What can be done to slow down the speeding on Mandeville Canyon Road? I am worried about many close calls with cars nearly running over bikers and pedestrians.

A: [Cynthia Torres: Call the Westside LAPD desk. We are in touch with LAPD and intermittently request that they spend more time in the canyon addressing cars and bikes that are speeding and/or violating the traffic rules.](#)

Q: Need street sweepers for Banyan sludge

A: Charley Morgan: Banyan and Arbutus will be cleaned the first Saturday of each month by a gardener hired by MCA. We encourage all neighbors on the north side of the street to move their cars between 8am and noon.

Q: 1) Will MCA honor its promise to answer questions about its plan to open the Peoples Path to vehicular traffic during an emergency? 2) Will MCA share its original bylaws and provide full financial disclosure? 3) Will MCA answer all neighbor emails?

A: 1) There is and never has been any plan to open People's Path to vehicular traffic. The areas where a path exists will serve as a soft shoulder if needed during an emergency. It is recommended that neighbors not decorate this area with boulders or other obstructions. Should we need to push a stalled car off the road during an evacuation the People's Path may be a lifesaver.

2) MCA will not be sharing its original By-laws. They are out of date and are currently being revised by a team of neighborhood volunteers. There is no constructive purpose in publishing a document that no longer serves our needs as a community.

3) MCA shares both its financials and the minutes of Board of Directors meetings on the website: the MCA.org. If you are an active member, meaning that you are current in your dues, you are entitled to see both. Just click on the "members" tab. The Association provides value to every resident of this canyon. Our split-rail fences, holiday lights, pocket parks are admired by those in the know on the Westside—ask any realtor. We hope that every homeowner will join MCA so that we can continue to improve the beauty and safety of our neighborhood.

Q: When will known access thru BCE be granted in case of fire ? What have they done to make sure LA call actually works in case of fire / earthquake / etc. ? What is response to homeless in the Canyon ? What response to increased auto / home burglar.

A: 1. We have been promised that LAFD can go through any property—private or otherwise—in an emergency. Therefore, the Estates will open the gates and let us go up and through to the Kenter Canyon fire road should the need arise. This will be supervised by LAPD.

2. Supposedly the WEA system is already in place. The WEA system sends emergency text messages and an alert tone to all compatible mobile devices located in a predetermined area. Mandeville Canyon is one such area. I imagine that Emergency Management will be testing it soon. I have heard a rumor that it will be in the fall, but that is just a rumor.

3. When people see a homeless person attempting to camp out in the hillsides they are encouraged to report it immediately to the police. We also have the added layer of Palisades Patrol. Your MCA dues pays for this service.

4. Our security cameras have been very helpful to the police in apprehending auto and home burglaries. Again, paid for by your MCA dues.

Q: Are there any statutes or rules in place that address trees that block a neighbors view

A: No, there are not.