



December 2024
Volume 1, Issue 1

HHIA Newsletter Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

Welcome to HHIA, we advocate on your behalf to shape the issues that impact the community of Hacienda Heights.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership renewal reminders were sent out at the end of August. Please note that the current year's annual memberships will expire on June 30, 2025. Starting this year, all members, both lifetime and annual, will be assigned unique membership numbers. A membership card with your number will be mailed soon.

We are also pleased to announce that we are reaching out to businesses in Hacienda Heights to explore potential discounts for HHIA members. This year, we welcome three new business members:

"We have 23 members who have renewed their annual memberships. We also have 3 businesses that have become members - 1-lifetime member (Discover Print Shop) and 3 annuals (7 Buy Store, Zhaihui Sun Realty, and Falcon Paint Outlet."

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, we are proud to share that Discover Print Shop has been recognized by Representative Lisa Calderon for its outstanding contributions. Congratulations to them!

\$25,000 REWARD – COPPER WIRE THIEVES

Hacienda Heights: Frontier Communications reported restoring some phone services, though Frontier's vice president of external affairs Doug McAllister told the neighborhood last month that thieves have been plaguing their repairs.

"We've had so much cable theft we're running out of copper," McAllister said. "What happens is when we get it shipped to us, we put it up, we turn our backs and it's gone again."

The company is offering a \$5,000 reward for anyone who provides information that leads to capturing the thieves. Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis is also offering a \$20,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of these criminals.

"I am committed to continue supporting our Sheriff's Department of its effort to solve these crimes," Solis said in a statement.

Next General Membership Meeting (Open to the public)

January 27, 7:00 p.m. sharp

Hacienda Heights
Community Center



1234 Valencia Ave
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745



Board of Directors



U.S. Mail
HHIA
P.O. Box 5235
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

General HHIA email
info@hhia.net

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Some days, it may still feel like summer, but as we move past the fall season into shorter days and now the holidays, we realize the year is coming to an end. As we look back, we adjust and reevaluate our path forward to complete the goals we have set for our association this year and beyond. We currently have an 11-member board; over half are first-time board members and are relatively new as HHIA members. All board members and members come together for the greater good of HHIA and Hacienda Heights. We welcome new members and ideas for the future of our community. In this community, we have many hard-working residents, along with public service workers, law enforcement, utility companies, grocery store workers, teachers, and other well-meaning folks who live, work, and contribute to our association and community. Thank you for all you do for your families, neighbors, and Hacienda Heights.

Sometimes, we get feedback from members and non-members about their concerns in their neighborhoods or Hacienda Heights as a whole, but we need more feedback. We need to hear more from you and our members. When we hear from you, we must listen to you and keep the association's vision and mission for Hacienda Heights aligned with the past but with the future momentum of where we are going. As we communicate with each other and the various organizations we interact with, it's obvious that we don't all speak with One Voice about every issue or circumstance. Yes, this is understandable; however, when it comes to those who directly fund HH and are responsible for our future, our family's safety, roads, beauty, business success, and so much more, we need more from them! Let's do our part to get their attention so they will stop ideas and actions we disagree with or help improve policies that directly affect us! All decisions made at the county level should improve the county and include each city or community governed by them fairly.

As a result of redistricting and gerrymandering our district, Hacienda Heights has had three supervisors in 7 years. Hilda Solis is our current supervisor, and her term will end in 2026, which will make 4 and possibly 5 supervisors within 10 years, pending the implementation of the November election results. This result may continue changes, redistricting, and Supervisor turnover by increasing the Supervisor board from 5 to 9 and installing a new Chair-CEO of Supervisors.

This lack of continuity makes gaining stability, insight, and cooperation more difficult as we help outline our journey together. Naturally, there are huge disparities at each level of government, including at the county level. I don't think our district gets its fair share of funds allotted per person, per district, under the Supervisor's guardianship and responsibility! Remember, outside sources, businesses, individuals, companies, and government play an important role in all we are and become. It matters, and political will is tantamount to creating effective change and getting our share of the funds for our community. We need to advocate for more funds as we are being mishandled, and the constituents need to speak up to all the Supervisors. It seems they only care about their district and not all the people who live, work, shop, and travel and represent the entire county.

We want to hear more from you, our members. We hope you can get more involved in what happens here in Hacienda Heights! We are requesting ideas on getting you, new members, and your neighbors involved in HHIA! Please reach out to us, your neighbors, and your friends who live in Hacienda Heights, along with the stores, services, and restaurants you visit here. We can all be better together with more ideas and new visions. We want safety and success for our community and those services we depend on daily. Many restaurants, stores, and services are closing around us, and with crime, higher costs, gas, water, and food, insurance risks rising no wonder businesses are barely surviving.

We need to help protect our community and work with the county, law enforcement, and other county services to provide those representatives with help, resources, and feedback.

We know many of you have talents and abilities that can be helpful to our association. Some involvement of volunteerism, meetings, and activities may require 2-5 hours per month, and others, 100 hours per year! Some of these activities include stuffing envelopes or helping register guests at an event. We can use help in many areas, including working on a computer, making a flyer for an event or a spreadsheet for attendees, or attending an important meeting and taking notes. Whatever the need, we want to know if you are willing to help HHIA. This association needs volunteers other than just the board members. We need your help attending community functions and your input on important matters.

We want to get to know you. How can we help you? You have skills and information that can be helpful to us and our community. By participating, we can all get to know each other and share our common interests and concerns for Hacienda Heights. You may also make friends along the way and become better neighbors by informing others about what is happening in our community. You may find others with common interests like gardening, crafts, martial arts, fine arts, and many other things. Just knowing that others may enjoy some of the same activities and ideas can connect and bring us together in a broader sense as neighbors, a community, and associations.

In light of the above, I'm reaching out to you to request your help and assistance in improving our community for all to enjoy and respect! We are the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association and must continually improve our community and Association.

I wish you all a full and wonderful Holiday Season, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! Thank you for your kind attention to the above. If you would like more information, please get in touch with me or any member of the Board. Thank you.



Phyllis Rokus



Picture of Hacienda Heights from Los Angeles Magazine

HACIENDA HEIGHTS COPPER THEFT LEAVES RESIDENTS WITHOUT INTERNET, PHONE SERVICE

Those affected voice frustrations with the problem and lack of communication by their service provider.

Copper wiring used for landlines and internet in Hacienda Heights has been stolen multiple times since April, bringing down phone and web services for the area, according to fed-up residents.

The problem was highlighted at a Nov. 18 meeting between members of the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association and Frontier Communications representatives including Douglas McAllister, Frontier Communications External Affairs Vice President.

"He got to hear very frustrated residents all voice their concerns and their frustrations with what's been happening," says Alitzah Wiener, HHIA board member and new media person. "We understand that the copper wire theft isn't Frontier's issue, right? But it's the lack of communication."

Wire theft has been an issue in the area since at least October according to meeting minutes, but Wiener says the problem started even earlier, in April.

Lt. Peter Gomez, a rep from the City of Industry's Sheriff Station, says the recent thefts and their effect on the community have moved the case to the department's Major Crimes Bureau. He adds that residents

Los Angeles also spoke to a detective from the Sheriff department's Major Crimes Bureau looking into the thefts as "crimes against infrastructure." He says they are addressing the thefts aggressively and putting the needed resources behind the investigation.

"I am putting forward a \$20,000 reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for these thefts in Hacienda Heights," says Hilda Solis, Los Angeles Supervisor for the first district, via written statement to Los Angeles magazine. "I am committed to continue supporting our Sheriff's Department in its effort to solve these crimes."

The statement also acknowledges the increase in copper wire theft in Hacienda Heights and its disruption of communication services. It adds that Solis' office set up the Nov. 18 meeting to address the problem.

Wiener says the area of Turnbull Canyon is more wilderness than other areas and landlines are essential for the city's large older population, like her dad Michael who has been affected by the lack of service in the area. He indicates his appointments for service never materialized and he was still being billed month after month for service he was not receiving, at least before the meeting.

Andrea Gordon, HHIA chair of the Public Safety committee and board member has had similar issues. She says her landline had been out since April, except for a brief period in May. After the Nov. 18 meeting, it was restored the next day. Both Gordon and Wiener cite Frontier's customer service as unhelpful. Missed appointments were never rescheduled and repairs have taken way too long.

"It doesn't take seven months," Gordon says. "Because they can restore service in hurricane areas and tornado areas, where whole towns are wiped out. They can do that in a few days. Why can't they do mine?"

Wiener notes that there have been three arrests in total since the October meeting, but that the area could still use more security. For its part, Frontier has announced a program to combat the wire theft, with a reward program offering \$5000 to any person with information leading to an arrest and conviction of those involved in the theft or damage of Frontier property.

"Copper theft is [a] recurring problem in Hacienda Heights that has resulted in service disruptions for some of our customers in the area," reads Frontier's statement. "We have been working closely with local law enforcement to address this issue and appreciate their support in raising awareness of its impact in the community. We will continue to listen to our customers' feedback and work quickly to respond to their concerns."

For further assistance and information, customers can go to Frontier's website or call 800-921-8101.

ELECTION INFORMATION

NEW BOARD MEMBERS ANNOUNCED / NO VALID VOTE

As announced at our September 16th Board meeting, we had a By-Laws requirement to elect five members of the Association as the Nominating Committee. There are five open seats eligible for the HHIA board. These four of the five vacancies were filled at the close of our November election process. By January 2025, we are hopeful the Nominating Committee will be able to nominate and fill all vacancies for the Board of Directors Term of Jan 25-Jan 2027. There were 3 Directors eligible for re-election, and they cannot serve on the Nominating Committee because it is a conflict of interest.

Any member in good standing could join the committee but cannot be a candid to Chair the Nominating committee. All participants and members can review and become familiar with By-Laws Article VII, Section 6 and Exhibits A, B, and C to these By-Laws.

Nominated 2025 - 2027 Board of Directors (No Elections)

Bio: Jenny Lin

I have been a part of this community for over 20 years and remain deeply committed to its growth and well-being. With a background in accounting, I bring strong organizational skills, meticulous attention to detail, and a dedication to ensuring projects and initiatives are carried out effectively. Beyond my professional experience, I am truly passionate about connecting with people, building meaningful relationships, and collaborating as a team to drive positive change.

I believe in the power of unity and am eager to contribute my time and efforts to fostering a stronger sense of togetherness within the community. I hope to help build a thriving organization that serves as a trusted resource for residents. My vision is for a community where collaboration, trust, and shared purpose lead to lasting growth and shared success.

Bio: Bala Venkataraman

A resident of Hacienda Heights for over 27 years

- Currently retired
- Worked as a Finance Manager in several large corporations
- Have advanced computer skills
- I have two master's degrees
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

Bio: Julie Tan

I came from Taiwan with my family 40 years ago to get a better education. My parents own a restaurant in Westwood called Sichuan Palace on Pico Blvd. I have 3 brothers, and my family is my spirit. I'm extremely lucky to have such wonderful parents.

My hobbies are traveling and flower arrangement. 18 years ago, I opened a flower shop on Colima Road in Rowland Heights with my friend Penny called Penny's Floral. We had lots of fun arranging different events, such as weddings, parties, graduations, birthdays... etc., but in the meantime, I still worked full-time.

As I got older, I could not lift heavy flower buckets and climb up & down with decorations for events; I sold the store to my partner & concentrated on my accountant career. I like to work from 9 to 5 because of a sense of identity, learning new skills, understanding the world better, and most importantly - work-life balance. I graduated from California State University of Northridge and majored in Finance. I'm independent, self-motivated, and relate easily to others; when I work, I like to work with a team, meet new people, and experience new things. I always try to give my best to other people & I try new and hard things for self-improvement and achievement.

Bio: Andy Guo

I am an active member of the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association (HHIA). I have lived in Hacienda Heights for 15 years; I am an engineer and I will bring my 20 years of experience in engineering to HHIA. I have played a key role in organizing local events, meetings, and community outreach programs. I will continue to work closely with local governments officials, residents, organizations and local businesses to address the needs and concerns of Hacienda Heights.

HHIA ANNUAL DINNER

77th Anniversary Celebration!

You're Invited!

Join us for an evening of community, celebration, and connection as we reflect on the past year and welcome a bright new year together!

When:

Wednesday, January 22nd, 2025

- Doors Open: 5:00 PM
- Dinner Served: 6:00 PM

Where:

Hacienda Heights Community Center
1234 Valencia Ave
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Admission:

- **FREE** for members
- Suggested **\$20 donation** for non-members

What to Expect:

- Delicious Dinner
- Community Highlights
- A Special Celebration of 77 Years

RSVP:

Text us at 626-494-0319 to confirm your attendance.

Questions?

Email: info@hhia.net

Let's come together and celebrate the heart of Hacienda Heights!

We can't wait to see you there! 🎉

IN MEMORY OF TWO MEMBERS



Sandra "Sandy" Keat and Martha House

HHIA lost two incredible women and community servants this year. Sandy and Martha were friends and served side by side with each other in many of the same community service organizations.

As individuals they were loving wives and mothers, to their husbands and children. They were dear friends and neighbors to many and we will miss them. May we continue to show our thanks and appreciations of lives well lived by our tributes of continued service.

Life-threatening emergencies **911**

Police

Industry Sheriff's Station

150 N Hudson Ave

Industry, CA91744

Phone: (626) 330-3322

Website: <http://shq.lasdnews.net>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LosAngelesCountySheriffsDepartment>

LosAngelesCountySheriffsDepartment

Fire

General Information:

(323) 881-2472

Website: <http://fire.lacounty.gov>

Station 43

921 S. Stimson Ave.

Hacienda Heights, CA 9174

Phone: (626) 968-1978

Station 91

2691 S. Turnbull Cyn. Rd.

Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Phone: (562) 696-8850

Station 118

17056 Gale Avenue

Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Phone: (626) 854-3488

Community Representatives

Ryan Serrano

Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis

1st District, LA County Board of Supervisors

rserrano@bos.lacounty.gov

(213) 359-8967

Yulissa Chavez

Office of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez

38th Congressional District

Yulissa.chavez@mail.house.gov

(562) 352-4587

Kyle Miller

Office of Senator Bob Archuleta

30th Senate District

Kyle.miller@sen.ca.gov

(562) 406-1001

Albert Ruiz

Office of Assemblymember Lisa Calderon

56th Assembly District

Albert.ruiz@asm.ca.gov

(562) 692-5858

Public Safety/Law Enforcement

Deputy Thomas Wilson

LA County Sheriff's Department Industry Station

(626) 330-3322 business line

(626) 934-3052 direct/voicemail

td1wilson@lasd.org

Officer/PIO Zachary Salazar

California Highway Patrol

Santa Fe Springs

(562) 868-0503

Zachary.Salazar@chp.ca.gov

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SERVICES

IMPORTANT AND HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Adult Protective Services/Elder Abuse

213 351-5401

877 477-646

Animal Control HQ

800 253-3555

Downey shelter

562 940-6898

Baldwin Park Shelter

626 962-3577

Athens Disposal Service

626 336-3636

Building & Safety/Permit Center

626 961-9611

Child Abuse/Child Protection

213 351-5507

Hotline 800 540-4000

Child Support

866 901-3212

Code Enforcement

213 974-6453/6483

Crisis/Suicide Hotline

988

Fire Department HQ

323 881-2411

Graffiti Hotline 24/7

800 675-4357

Habitat Authority MRCS

Rangers 562 698-1446

Helpline/County Services

888 924HELP/211

HH Library

626 968-9356

Highway Patrol Non Emergency

562 868-0503

HLPUSD

626 9335301

Household Hazardous Round-up

800 228-0173

Illegal Dumping

888 8Dumping

Public Works

General info 626 458-5100

24/7 Emergency/after hours 800 675-4357

Puente Hills MRF Recycle Center

562 908-4876

Regional Planning

213 974-6411

Registrar of Voters

800 815-2666

Recorder/Clerk's Office

800 201-8999

San Gabriel Valley Water

626 330-1628

Sanitation District

562 908-4288 ext 2300

562 699-7411

Sheriff's Station Business Line

626 330-3322

Shopping Cart Hotline

800 252-4613

Suburban Water

800 203-5430

Supervisor 1st District Hilda Solis

213 974-4111

El Monte Office

626 350-3500

SCAQMD

909 396-2000

800 288-7664

Valley Vista Trash

800 422-6464

Vector Control/Mosquitos

562 944-9656

Victim Services

800 380-3811

Weed Abatement

626 350-3500

Winter Homeless Shelters

800 548-6047

The Works app:

pw.lacounty.gov



Picture of Hacienda Heights from HHIA.net

PUBLIC SAFETY – ANDREA GORDON

HELITANK PROJECT DEDICATION WILL PROTECT THE ENTIRE OPEN SPACE AREA

The Helitank dedication ceremony was held last year on December 15, 2023. Several agencies came together to secure funding and make the construction happen to benefit all living near our open space areas. These areas are at severe risk of fire danger at all times of the year. The Helitank is a large tank that is usually empty when not needed. However, when needed, helicopter pilots heading towards the fire area use radio-controlled signals to activate the rapid fill feature of the tank. The helicopter will hover over the full tank, use its siphon mechanism to suck water up into the helicopter's water storage tank, and quickly fly off to make a water drop to extinguish the fire. This method is the best, considering the tank water fill feature does not require additional equipment or firefighter staff on the ground to assist with filling the tank. Locating these Helitanks in or near our open spaces ensures they are close to where our wildland fires occur. The cost of a Helitank varies depending on location, terrain, and the distance from existing water

The Helitank was designed, patented, and developed by a retired Los Angeles County Fire Fighter who used his expertise to determine what is needed to improve firefighting outcomes and how best to provide it. This Helitank project was the effort of several agencies and groups coming together several years ago, including the Habitat Authority, who made the land in La Habra Heights available through an easement/collaboration; others included the city of La Habra Heights, the La Habra Heights Fire Authority, Los Angeles County Fire Department, grant funding from Cal-Fire, Los Angeles County Fourth District Supervisor Janice Hahn, who formerly represented HH and currently represents La Habra Heights. HHIA provided a support letter for the grant funding and project, especially since its construction will benefit the entire area. The location of the placement of this tank was determined based on an analysis of where it is best to locate it strategically—not based on any rank order of financial contribution or ownership. It was truly a collaborative effort by all involved. This Helitank is the second one in the area; the first is near the Diamond Bar/Yorba Linda area, and another is being planned in the Whittier area. Helitanks are only used for firefighting helicopters. The famous yellow super scoopers are small fixed-wing aircraft that utilize lakes and reservoirs to fill their water tanks. For a fire in our area, super scoopers would typically fly north to the Santa Fe Dam reservoir or west to the lake at Whittier Narrows to access water nearby and then return to a fire in our hills. Firefighters also use DC 10s, dropping fire retardants (often seen as a pink substance) over houses or hills when a fire is burning toward those locations.

Our area regularly experiences wildland fires, which sometimes require the evacuation of some of our residents but are always scary for those affected. The county retains its air resources in Southern California but does not deploy them to Northern California or outside of our area. HHIA would like to thank all of our first responders for their efforts on our behalf. Specifically, we would like to thank our firefighters, LASD Sheriff's deputies, California Highway Patrol officers, LA County Public Works employees, and others, including the many inmate fire crews who risk their lives as the boots on the ground fighting wildland fires with picks, axes, shovels and chain saws... all of whom respond to the fire emergencies in our open space areas. Thank you.



HHIA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Payment by Check/Money Order or Zelle)

Please fill in the appropriate fields and mail to:

HHIA

P.O. Box 5235

Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Requirements: An eligible membership shall be adult residents or owners of a business in Hacienda Heights. Membership shall be defined as an individual, a married couple, or registered domestic partners. One vote per membership per household. However, multiple memberships can be purchased per household. Each membership equals one vote. Membership by a business in Hacienda Heights must be registered in the name of the owner in order to qualify for a vote. Businesses, Clubs and Associations are eligible to join as non-voting members. Annual membership term is July 1st through June 30th of the following year.

*** ** ** ** **

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Spouse Name (If applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State,

Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Landline: _____

Email Address (*Please Provide): _____

Meeting notices and updates are sent via email.

*** ** ** ** **

(For Zelle Payments, Complete 'Membership Application – Zelle Payments' on the HHIA Website: www.hhia.net)

Date of Payment: _____

(Check One)

☐ ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES\$40.00

☐ LIFE MEMBERSHIP DUES (One-Time payment).....\$150.00

☐ NEWSLETTER AND ADMINISTRATION DONATION\$10.00

☐ ADDITIONAL GIFT TO SUPPORT HHIA \$ _____

Enclosed is a check or money order for \$ _____ Payable to: HHIA.

☐ Renewal Membership or ☐ New Member

* Email addresses are for internal communication purposes only and will not be shared.

H.H.I.A. is an IRS 501 (c)(4) non-profit Social Welfare Organization. Membership and/or Donations are not tax deductible. They may be a business expense; consult a qualified tax advisor for more information

