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THE WEATHER, BEVERLY HILLS

	Friday	74° 62°
	Saturday	75° 62°
	Sunday	72° 61°
	Monday	69° 59°
	Tuesday	71° 60°
	Wednesday	78° 63°
	Thursday	79° 63°

Beverly Hills Fire Department Adjusts to COVID-19

BY SAMUEL BRASLOW



Beverly Hills Fire Department Chief Greg Barton (left) and Captain Brad McHenry at station
Photo by Samuel Braslow

The first hint of real trouble for the Beverly Hills Fire Department came in February, when one of the firefighters shared that their child’s school had been canceled due to COVID-19. The next day, Battalion Chief

Scott Stevens received the same news about his child’s school. “Then the next morning, it was my [child’s] school,” recalled Captain Brad McHenry.
As essential workers, firefighters didn’t

have the option of returning home to help spouses cope with the extra workload. Instead, the members of the 95-year-old department had to reconfigure routines, implement new protocols, and adjust to a strange new world of firefighting in the era of COVID-19.

The Courier obtained inside access to the day-to-day workings of the Beverly Hills Fire Department, as it continues to cope with life during the pandemic.
Call Load Changes

After the stay-at-home order went out, “our call load went down as well, because you weren’t getting as many traffic accidents [and] fire alarms weren’t going off,” Beverly Hills Fire Chief Greg Barton told the Courier during a visit to the station June 23. In fact, calls went down by around 30 percent. “But now we’re starting to see that go back up because people are coming back to work and traffic is increasing,” he added.

The majority of the calls that the fire department receives are medical related, not fire. About half of the crew are trained paramedics. The coronavirus has necessitated a slightly more cautious approach in responding to emergency calls, although Stevens stressed that they are no slower for it.
(Fire Department continues on page 13)

City Council to Consider Mixed-Use Ordinance

BY LAURA COLEMAN

While it is unlikely to happen this year, portions of Beverly Hills have the potential to significantly change as developers begin to avail themselves to the City’s first-ever mixed-use ordinance. That is, if the City Council votes to approve one.
Following the Planning Commission’s unanimous vote on June 19 in support of a draft ordinance to create a mixed-use overlay zone in certain commercially zoned areas of the City, the Council will now consider signing the ordinance into law. The term “mixed use” is most commonly used to refer to a building or development that includes

a mix of commercial and residential uses, with housing units generally located on the upper floors of a building.
Per the resolution, the ordinance will “establish uniform standards for mixed-use developments in the City with the goals of providing flexibility for property owners who wish to build housing and commercial space, respecting adjacent residential communities, encouraging a mix of housing types in the city, and revitalizing commercial corridors in the City, especially those near transit.”
(City Council continues on page 13)

Metro Purple Line On Track to Open in Beverly Hills in 2023

BY LAURA COLEMAN

The Purple Line Extension continues to make headway in connecting the Eastside and Westside, with Beverly Hills’ first subway station at Wilshire/La Cienega on track to open in 2023.
(Metro Purple continues on page 11)

We Salute Our First Responders

BEVERLY HILLS *COURIER*

Beverly Hills Poised To Add Two New Landmarks by Master Architects

BY LAURA COLEMAN



MCA/Litton Headquarters Complex

The Beverly Hills Cultural Heritage Commission has voted to add two iconic buildings to its local Registrar of Historic Properties. The commission unanimously voted 5-0 at Special Meeting on June 18 to pass resolutions designating the “MCA/Litton Headquarters Complex” by architect Paul Revere Williams and “The Pendleton - Evans Residence” by architect John Elgin Woolf as local landmarks. The City Council will need to approve the commission’s recommendations for the properties, both of which were designed by men listed on the City’s List of Master Architects.

“We have some of the best historic resources in Beverly Hills,” Cultural Heritage Commission Chair Noah Furie told the Courier. “Both of the properties are iconic and will be outstanding additions to the Register of Historic Properties.”

In the eight years since its creation, the Cultural Heritage Commission has already helped 42 properties receive an historic property designation.

The 78-year-old Pendleton - Evans Residence at 1033 Woodland Dr. is a single-family residence located in the City's Hillside Area on a 1.4-acre through lot spanning from North Beverly Drive to Woodland Drive. Originally built for prominent interior designer and art dealer James Pendleton and his wife Mary Frances, the home was most recently owned by motion picture producer Robert Evans ("Chinatown") from the 1960s until his death in 2019.

David and Pam Zaslav subsequently acquired the Woodland estate and have stated that they intend to fully restore the property.

“We’re excited about the opportunity to preserve and restore this extraordinary property,” said David Zaslav, the president and CEO of Discovery Inc. “You get a sense that the house is alive.”

The custom home was designed in Woolf's signature Hollywood Regency architectural style. Populated with gardens, fountains, potted plants, and a wealth of

Set back at the intersections of North Crescent Drive, Santa Monica Boulevard, and North Rexford Drive, the two-acre site was heralded as a way to upgrade the area when the original north complex was constructed in 1937 as the headquarters for the Music Corporation of America (MCA). Williams also later designed the south building in the same Georgian Revival style, constructed in 1968, when the site became the headquarters for Litton Industries. Today the complex is the

headquarters for Platinum Equity.

"It is very unusual to have all four corners with landmarks as we will have at City Hall," said Furie, who will be leaving the commission at the end of this month having served on it since its foundation in 2012. "Our Historic Preservation Ordinance has allowed the City to protect and safeguard the most important historic resources in our City." ●



Pendleton-Evans Residence

Next stop: more subway.

PURPLE LINE EXTENSION TRANSIT PROJECT

Section 2 – Beverly Hills






Thank You

Thank you, City of Beverly Hills, for approving an expansion of the work zone during these unprecedented times, allowing the contractor to accomplish this level of construction and reducing the overall impacts to the community.

As part of the federal government's Coronavirus Guidance for America, transportation infrastructure is considered an "Essential Critical Infrastructure." Metro is committed to delivering you this project according to schedule.

Construction is dynamic and is subject to change.

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