



“Accountability”  
Glendale’s Watchdog

**More GPD Issues**

The four stages of Vanguardians “**First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win.**” Mahatma Gandhi describing the stages of establishment resistance to a winning strategy of nonviolent activism

**When WE are complacent THEY win!**



Issues in Montrose: A Merchant was denied a booth at the Harvest Festival by Jeff Decker of the Montrose Shopping Park Association (MSPA). Possible Civil Rights violation when Glendale City Streets are involved. Local curmedgeon accused of vandalism while MSPA seeks to have him banned from the weekly Harvest festival. Analysis: MSPA will soon be known as the People’s Republic wanting to curtail civil rights.

City removes Civil Suit against the CoG and three police officers to Federal Court. The suit claims that the three officers violated Plaintiff’s civil rights under the color of law. Plaintiff alleges he was locked up for 8 months while the police refused to review exculpatory evidense showing the plaintiff was elsewhere when the crime was committed. The crime took place in November 2005 and according to Plaintiff [the police wanted a quick closure](#). Original suit (BC379937) was filed in Superior Court in October 2007. Ovasapyan is represented by Geragos & Geragos

<b>Plaintiff:</b>	Edmond Ovasapyan
<b>Defendant:</b>	City of Glendale, Arthur Frank, Ian Grimes, Matthew Irvine and Does 1 through 25
<b>Case Number:</b>	2:2008cv00194
<b>Filed:</b>	January 11, 2008
<b>Court:</b>	California Central District Court
<b>Office:</b>	Western Division - Los Angeles Office [ <a href="#">Court Info</a> ]
<b>County:</b>	Los Angeles
<b>Presiding Judge:</b>	Christina A. Snyder
<b>Referring Judge:</b>	Jeffrey W. Johnson
<b>Nature of Suit:</b>	Civil Rights - Other Civil Rights
<b>Cause:</b>	28:1441 Notice of Removal - Civil Rights Act
<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Federal Question
<b>Jury Demanded By:</b>	Both

News Press Editor Ben Demers left his lofty job for greener pastures. Interim City Editor is Paul Anderson borrowed from the Costa Mesa Daily Pilot publication of the Times Community Newspapers. Anderson reports to Managing Editor Danette Goulet.

Lexington Kentucky has a strong local government accountability movement under the leadership of Eric Patrick Marr. Vanguardians is providing support for them.

**ANNOUNCEMENT from Vanguardians...**  
Coming soon ... the Vanguardians Weekly Breakfast Club -- while breaking bread the attendees will be able to network, discuss issues of the City and meet city officials & candidates for public office.  
**RESTAURANTS AND BANQUET HALLS wanted to host – Contact Barry Allen for details 818 243 1502**

[November 4 election: presidential, state, county and special districts](#)

**City Council candidates:** Vanguardians will share any public records we obtain. Please make your request to Barry Allen at 818 243 1502. As a 501(c)3 we are prohibited from either supporting or opposing any candidate for public office.

**All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good women & men to do nothing**

They came first for the agitators, And I didn't speak up because I wasn't an agitator;  
 And then they came for the activists, And I didn't speak up because I wasn't an activist;  
 And then they came for the advocates, And I didn't speak up because I wasn't an advocate;  
 And then they came for the journalists, And I didn't speak up because I wasn't a journalist;  
 And then . . . they came for me . . . And by that time there was no one left to speak up.  
 Adapted from Pastor Martin Niemoller

**If you have issues** with the City and you fear retaliation, bring them to Vanguardians and we'll share them with the appropriate department assuring your anonymity.

**City Council**

Council	9-16-08	Cum	Contact info
Drayman	B	B	<a href="mailto:jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us">jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;
Najarian	C	B	<a href="mailto:anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us">anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;
Quintero	C	B	<a href="mailto:fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us">fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;
Weaver	C	C	<a href="mailto:dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us">dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;
Yousefian	B	B	<a href="mailto:byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us">byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;



Said Ara Najarian about the Swimming Pool vs. Aquatic Center. Mayor John has only been here for 1 1/2 years and he gets the Drayman Center for the Drayman Voters with his name and everything and I get squat even though I was here two years longer. Quintero's comment was, 'it's all about the kids so let's go with the City Manager and issue a large bond so the kids can play in it today and pay for it later. Weaver took his own counsel and said he'll wrestle with it.

Najarian spent his comment time saying that at any cost Metrolink would make sure crashes like that would never happen again. On his watch the Board said no to the cost of Positive Safety investment. Najarian was also the one that went on record saying...not our fault when the Metrolink PIO accepted responsibility for the crash.

Yousefian brought reason to the Council when he cast his vote for the second story addition relying on the law even though the decision was unpopular with some residents. It was a shame Najarian pandered to the audience rather than follow the laws he passed and preaches about.

Quintero and Yousefian raised some very significant questions about the parking situation at Glendale High.

**TIP:** Let's do away with all the anecdotes and reduce the verbosity of the Mayor and keep Weaver focused on Glendale issues, not the parking problems of USC.



**Firefighters in San Diego sue the City for requiring them to participate in a gay pride parade. Would this Fire Company not go to a rescue of a gay medical emergency?**

**The last few weeks we have posted what happened at the fatal incident on Loraine. Station 26 is the same station that wasn't aware of a motorist in distress delivering a baby with help from a passerby and the Glendale Police. Maybe that Station needs more motivation to assist the public during sleeping hours...like a night watch and TV**

**cameras.**

**Vanguard** is published independently by Vanguardians; Advocating for Accountability– Our vision is to live in a community where all people, regardless of geography, background or economic status, can enjoy accountability, integrity, effectiveness and responsiveness from our elected officials and each of the city's departments, through grass roots involvement, engagement and advocacy.

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1



You may agree or disagree with the views below. Feel free to comment on them.

A Fairfield City Council member was shot to death. [The assailants have been arrested.](#) We await the motive and reason for this tragedy. In our City the Council has added City Police to the evening City Council meetings and to make sure the Council members get safely to their cars. Recent rumors had it that an elected official was threatened by a constituent that was against further development in Montrose. Our digging came up with a different answer...that the individual in question defaced a bus bench and criminal charges were filed against him a month ago. It was rumored that the Montrose Shopping Park Association wanted this person to be barred from that Sunday Harvest Festival that takes place on a City Street that is subject to constitutionally protected and guaranteed Civil Rights. Maybe the time has come for City Management to take superintending control over the entities that use public streets to make money.

Let's also have them open their books to the public to make certain the income obtained is used for the public benefit. From the MSPA website showing the charges in items 1-5

1. Public Service Booths: No Charge
2. Antique/Collectible/Memorabilia Vendors: \$35 Per 10'x10' Space
3. Artisans Making Crafts in Their Booths: \$35 Per 10'x10' Space
4. MSPA Members: \$25 Per 10'x10' Space
5. Fine Artists Painting With Oils or Watercolors: No Charge
6. We understand from those who have paid that the food vendors pay 10% of their sales.

## WE NEED YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE [HELP](#) TODAY

The only way to make sure people you agree with can speak is to support the rights of people you don't agree with.

[ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON](#)

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Bring more life to your life!  
 If you or someone you know is struggling with something in life,  
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## TAKE ACTION – GET INVOLVED – BE INFORMED – SHARE VANGUARD -- VOLUNTEER

Moral cowardice that keeps us from speaking our minds is as dangerous to this country as irresponsible talk. The right way is not always the popular and easy way. Standing for right when it is unpopular is a true test of moral character. [Margaret Chase Smith](#)

2



**Potpourri** ED – Letters published do not necessarily express the opinion of Vanguardians, this publication, the

organization or Barry Allen. Names are used only when requested. Initials are used as there are people, believe it or not, who are concerned with retaliation or have issues before a legislative body. Letters will not be published that aren't signed and/or are hate oriented.



I am very happy to read that Vanguardians is setting up a land use committee. My fear is that Glendale will become a '[Stepford](#)' community with each house the copy of its neighbor, a clone, without its own identity. CCM Quintero spoke about 'single story over lay' zones. Someone else wants to restrict FAR (Floor Area Ratio). Next these same people will want to make sure everyone looks alike, dresses alike and votes the same way. Actually that is what the Nazi party tried to do in Glendale and Hitler in Germany. Dave Weaver once said that all buildings are alike because there are just so many shapes that can be used. It looks like every building going up in the downtown area will have a helipad to make them even more alike. This really scares me. Where is the individual expression? Will we be treated as school children with uniforms? Please stop this! GV

It will be interesting to look at and compare the deals and costs for administering Glendale's BIDs. What are there, two--Adams Square and the MSPA? Just curious about that and the overall performance and fiscal health of the BID ([Business Improvement Districts](#)) entities. How are the BIDs faring in the tough economy?

I've run a small business in one of the BIDs and I remember the City took a tax of 2% on the annual gross sales. If sales are down it would seem a good time for a little relief for the small business owners in the BIDs--if the contracts permit of course.

Wait a minute; I just realized I suggested a local tax cut for the middle class. That'll never fly in Glendale-- don't even try to run it up the flagpole. Who did I think I was? Rick Caruso? By the way, how's the Americana metric? Is anyone really buying those high-priced condos? WG

**Ara Najarian** [GNP article] said that the Metrolink spokeswoman jumped the gun and shouldn't have admitted liability for the Metrolink crash. She cleared the message with her boss and worked toward rebuilding consumer confidence. The real responsibility for the crash lies with Najarian and the other Metrolink Board Members for not funding the positive safety system that would have prevented that crash. Maybe it is time for each of those members to feel the heat of being personally drawn into a lawsuit for their failure to put safety into the operation. Meanwhile, the public can see Najarian's thought process that leads to deniability of everything and then watches as the City loses lawsuit after lawsuit that should have been settled. Maybe in April Najarian should be voted out so he can spend more time practicing. MS

**I want to weigh in on uses for Rockhaven** before the City spends \$250,000 on consultants and study groups to decide the best use. Here are things I would suggest: BK

- Move the Sunday Farmers Market there to keep Honolulu available for regular vehicle traffic;
- make it an artists' colony;
- a sanctuary for the homeless;
- a rehabilitation center for those with addictions;
- a half-way house for those returning to society;
- a safe house for abused women and children

**The person that spoke** on the almost 600 current foreclosures in Glendale [Christian Arbid] maybe didn't realize that the ratio of 60% renters may increase and this may be the time for Glendale to require Fire and Police personnel to live in the City by providing affordable housing for them. [ED I spoke with Christian and found out that the City could buy housing from \$250,000 and lease it to employees then we could get back some of the wealth bestowed on them.] JR

**Congratulations to Bruce Philpott** for his recent Character and Ethics award! His having championed the cause of fire department accountability has certainly been noticed. Good for him. And good for the committee bestowing this honor upon him. I found this especially interesting because the President of the Character and Ethics Committee is a fire manager is he not? This certainly sends an interesting message! CN



**We get calls:** I miss the cartoon with the Council Clowns. Who are the two in the back row? [ED We are told they represent the City Manager and the City Attorney]

Watch how quickly issues are placed on the agenda to avoid the new campaign finance ordinance restricting the money given to CCM within 90 days of the issue coming before the Council.

Quintero wins and Najarian loses over a community pool vs. an aquatic center. [ED call was based on a GNP article.] Voters will see Najarian as an elitist wanting his 8 lane Aquatic Center but not willing to get community consensus while Quintero is perceived as wetting his finger, holding it to the wind and looking like a leader as he follows the crowd.

Here is a suggestion to the Arts & Culture Commission – buy group tickets for performances at Disney for the Philharmonic and the Music Center and provide luxury coaches to take us there and return us to the Orange Street garage where we would have free parking. [ED – Suggest that to the Commission by attending and speaking during Oral Communications.]



The answer to last week's question about Home Owners Associations is that they have compliance requirements under the [Davis-Stirling Act](#) as amended or [Civil Code Section 1350](#). The Dept of Real Estate regulates HOAs before they are turned over to the residents by the developer.



**The People's Vanguard of Davis Newsletter --- Morning Update September 15, 2008**  
[Should Firefighters Be Paid to Sleep: Questioning the 24-hour Firefighter Shift](#)

Firefighters work 24 hour shifts. This is a complicated process and increasingly it has become controversial with many groups and organizations now questioning the wisdom of paying firefighters while they sleep on their shifts.

[Pa. state university system snuffs out all smoking](#) By MARTHA RAFFAELE Associated Press Writer  
HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) - With virtually no warning, smoking at 14 of Pennsylvania's state-owned universities has been banned anywhere on campus - even outdoors.

[Doug McIntyre writing in the Daily News.](#) Transfer the location to Glendale and think GFFA. While the country is going through a [credit](#) crisis after a decade-long spending bender, you have to hand it to Los Angeles politicians. They're strictly cash and carry - no dealer financing, no easy terms necessary. In Los Angeles, our politicians are pay to play all the way, which leaves the homeowner and garden-variety taxpayer stiffed again. Unions are important parts of a diverse economy. I belong to one or two. But when unions and developers become kingmakers, the taxpayers are left voiceless, yet on the hook for all the deals they didn't make.

**LINKS** [Click here for Vanguard Archives by Hal Weber-- Open Government Guide](#) [www.vanguardians.org](#) [Check Zip Code Demographics](#) [Global Incident Map updated every 5 minutes](#) Piglet Book 2008 . -- [ZIPskinny - Get the Skinny on that ZIP](#) [Vanguard in the Daily News](#) [The Glendale California 100K Club](#) [2009 City Council Campaign Contributions through 06-30-08](#) ["Glendale Mayor Drayman and his acolytes" by vanmguardians](#)



Click to view the agenda [City Council](#) [Housing Authority](#) [Redevelopment Agency](#)

**Monday, September 22**

Transportation & Parking Commission – 6:00 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-3960

**Tuesday, September 23**

2:30 pm Housing Authority -- Redevelopment Agency **Joint Meeting** –City Council/ Redevelopment Agency RE: Love Ride  
6:00 pm Glendale City Council -- City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844

**Wednesday, September 24**

Zoning Administrator's Hearing -- 9:30 am, Municipal Services Building, Room 105, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140  
Civil Service Commission -- 5:00 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2110

**Thursday, September 25**

Glendale Design Review Board #2 -- 5:00 pm, Municipal Services Building, Room 105, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140

**Tuesday, September 30 the smoking ordinance** is scheduled to return to the City Council at 6:00PM If you have questions and or comments please contact Steven Koszis, Administrative Analyst (818)548-4802

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3



**Public Information**

[Recent court decisions transform legal tools for protecting free speech into an instrument for the suppression of the public's speech and access rights](#) By James Chadwick

Recent decisions by two California Courts of Appeal have turned California's anti-SLAPP law into a legal Frankenstein's monster. In doing so, they have turned a law designed to protect the public's exercise of free speech and petition rights into a tool for government suppression of those rights.

The decisions in *Holbrook v. City of Santa Monica* and *Californians Aware v. Orange Unified School District* both arise from the efforts of members of government bodies to challenge practices of the agencies they served. In *Holbrook*, two members of the Santa Monica City Council challenged the Council's practice of postponing the public comment period at Council meetings until the end of the meeting, when most members of the public—exhausted by interminable discussions and hearings—had left and gone home.

In *Californians Aware*, a dissident member of a school board and a public interest group challenged the board's conduct in censuring the member for publicly opposing an action, taken in a closed session, that he believed should have been taken in public. (In an Orwellian pronouncement, the board censured him for disclosing matters discussed in closed session, even though he did not even attend the closed session.) [\[Read More\]](#)

**Vallejo Times Herald** [City manager admits order to block Times-Herald site](#)

In a sharp departure from his earlier explanation, Vallejo's city manager said that the recent choice of Web sites to

block was his, not a city staff member. Joseph Tanner said he asked his staff to deny city employee's access to three local Web sites this week because the employees were engaging in inappropriate "political blogging" on duty.

**The City Council required the residents at 3612 Linda Vista to pay \$10,000 to remove the candlesticks and put in warning signs even though the City has tort immunity. Sun v. City of Oakland, No. A118434**

In a personal injury action claiming that victim's death was caused by a dangerous condition of public property, grant of summary judgment in favor of defendant-city is affirmed where: 1) there was no triable issues of material fact with respect to the existence of a dangerous condition; 2) the intersection did not constitute a dangerous condition of public property as a matter of law; and 3) even if it did, defendant-city is immune from liability. [Read more...](#) [PDF version](#)

## 4 *Vanguardians*

### California Shield Law

Cal. Const. art. I, § 2(b). This provision was enacted by an overwhelming majority of California voters (4,340,108 to 1,575,486). As the pamphlet that accompanied this proposed amendment explained:

The free flow of information to the public is one of the most fundamental cornerstones assuring freedom in America. Guarantees must be provided so that information to the people is not inhibited. However, that flow is currently being threatened by actions of some members of the California Judiciary. They have created exceptions to the current Newsman's Shield Law, which protects the confidentiality of reporters' news sources. And the use of confidential sources is critical to the gathering of news. *Unfortunately, if this right is not protected, the real losers will be all Californians who rely on the unrestrained dissemination of information by the news media.*

This amendment merely places into the state's Constitution protection already afforded journalists by statute. That law, enacted in 1935, in clear and straightforward language, provides that reporters cannot be held in contempt of court for refusing to reveal confidential sources of information. At least six reporters in California in recent years have spent time in jail rather than disclose their sources to a judge. By giving existing law constitutional status, judges will have to give the protection greater weight before attempting to compel reporters to breach their pledges of confidentiality.

A reporter's job, of course, is not to withhold information, but to convey it to the public. In most cases, a reporter is able to reveal corruption and malfeasance within government only with the help of an honest employee. If such an individual feels that a reporters' pledge of confidentiality may be broken under the threat of jail, that person simply will not come forward with his or her information.

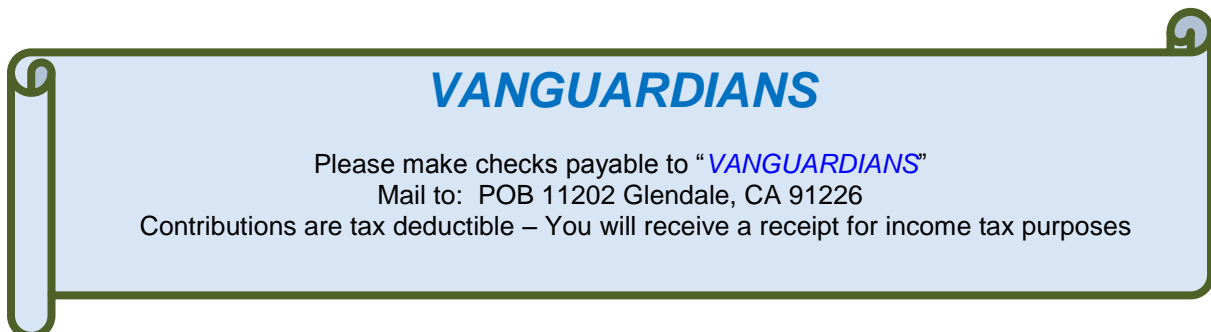
If our democratic form of government -- of the people, by the people, for the people -- is to survive, citizens must be informed. *A free press protects our basic liberties by serving as the watchdogs of our nation.* Citizens may agree or disagree with reports in the media, but they have been informed, and the final choice is made by the individual.

**To jail a journalist because he protected his source is an assault not only on the press but on all Californians as well.**

**Volunteers wanted:** for the Vanguardians Glendale Land Use Committee. We are looking for people that want to participate in discussions of the use of property: residential, retail, commercial and industrial; and to appear before Boards, Commissions and Council to share their knowledge and expertise. Contact Barry Allen at 818 243 1502

**VOLUNTEERMATCH** Volunteers for reporters living in the Glendale area...please contact Barry Allen about assignments to write reports on the Commissions and Boards for Vanguard.

Vanguardians Speakers Bureau can spice up and titillate your next meeting. Our knowledgeable presenters are available for your organization, service club, homeowners or neighborhood associations. Call Vanguardians 818 243 1502 or email us at [info@vanguardians.org](mailto:info@vanguardians.org) to book them.



**VANGUARDIANS**

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[Vanguard1@charter.net](mailto:Vanguard1@charter.net) to subscribe to the Weekly News on issues that impact Glendale. **The media with a voice; the organization that gets results you want; we encourage and support advocacy, involvement and engagement with government.**

# 5 the Insider is a digest of information from city employees that care about the way the City is run.

As they are concerned about retaliation, Vanguard provides them the opportunity to have this forum. Their identities are kept confidential. The comments are their own.

Vanguardians was way ahead of Mr. Abkarian's letter to the New Press. City staff is laughing really hard at his comments about the Commission looking out for the employees. Although most staff doubted the integrity of the Commission before, a public example of their kangaroo court in the open hearing's of Lee and Bear, which were attended by their fellow employees, has convinced most that the process is controlled by a corrupt management and just rubber stamped by the commission. Commissioner Gantus is known as the employee assassin and the City Attorney's office is just the City Manager's Mafia Lieutenants. Why would the City Manager and the City Attorney ever give up control of the existing situation, especially when they have the Mayor in their back pocket?

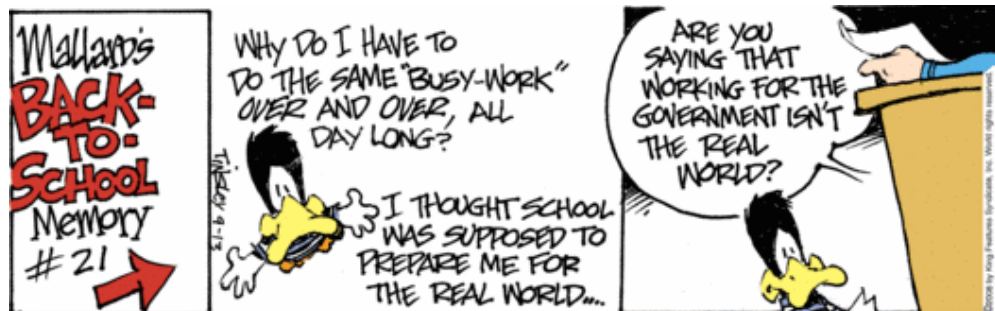
A management crisis is in the works around the City. As the executives keep huddling around themselves to pat each other's back and attend "executive retreats" they are getting more and more isolated from the staff trying to help the public. Frustrated at being ignored and beat up, staff is becoming unmotivated like their "County" counterparts. But don't worry; the executive motto of "the beating will continue until morale improves" will be in full force.

The City's Senior Investigator, Nancy Horgan, spoke at the GCEA meeting this past week and basically confirmed that she is there to lie and make up stories about employees to "convict" them and that it is up to employees to protect themselves from management. It was scary and is making a lot of employees nervous.

# 6 Humor

## THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

The real reason that we can't have the Ten Commandments posted in City Hall is this: You can't post 'Thou Shalt Not Steal,' 'Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery,' and 'Thou Shall Not Lie' in a building full of lawyers, managers and politicians...It creates a hostile work environment.



# 7 The Jump Page

November 4 election: presidential, state, county and special districts

Key dates and deadlines:

Sept. 25: Mailing of sample ballots begins  
Oct. 6: First day to apply for vote-by-mail ballot  
Oct. 20: Last day to register  
Oct. 28: Last day to apply for vote-by-mail ballot  
Nov. 4: Election Day  
Dec. 15: Electoral College convenes

### November 4 ballot (in most of Los Angeles)

#### California ballot measures:

**Proposition 1A:** "[Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century](#)." Authorizes issuance of \$9.95 billion of general obligation bonds to create a high-speed passenger train network beginning with a line between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

"The California High Speed Rail Proposal: A Due Diligence Report" can be found at <http://www.reason.org/ps370/>

**Proposition 2:** "[California Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act](#)." Prohibits confinement of farm animals in a manner that does not allow them to turn around freely, lie down, stand up, or fully extend their limbs.

**Proposition 3:** "[Children's Hospital Bond Act](#)." Authorizes issuance of \$980 million in bonds to build, renovate and equip children's hospitals.

**Proposition 4:** "[Sarah's Law: the Child and Teen Safety and Stop Predators Act](#)." Requires parental notification prior to minors' abortions.

**Proposition 5:** "[Nonviolent Offender Rehabilitation Act of 2008](#)." Establishes a California secretary of rehabilitation and parole and other departments, offices and programs intended to provide rehabilitation and alternative sentencing for drug defendants.

**Proposition 6:** "[Safe Neighborhoods Act](#)." Establishes an Office of Public Safety Education and Information and appropriates \$12.5 million annually to pay for it and other programs; establishes a California Early Intervention, Rehabilitation and Accountability Commission to evaluate publicly funded anti-crime programs and sets standards for such programs; appropriates \$92.5 million annually to help counties house juvenile offenders; appropriates \$50 million for a Juvenile Probation Facility and Supervision Fund; broadens the admissibility of hearsay evidence; establishes a Crimestopper Reward Reimbursement Fund and appropriates \$10 million annually to fund it; stiffens penalties for threatening judges and witnesses and for various gang-related crimes; broadens civil actions against gangs; and establishes other programs and laws intended to protect crime victims and more effectively deter crime and punish criminals.

**Proposition 7:** "[The Solar and Clean Energy Act of 2008](#)." Establishes mandatory renewable energy threshold for the L.A. Department of Water and Power and other government utilities.

**Proposition 8:** "[California Marriage Protection Act](#)." Outlaws same-sex marriage by adding the following words to the state Constitution: "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."

**Proposition 9:** "[Marsy's Law: the Victims' Bill of Rights Act of 2008](#)." Broadens role of victims and victims' families in parole hearings and restricts frequency of hearing.

**Proposition 10:** "[The California Renewable Energy and Clean Alternative Fuel Act](#)." Authorizes \$5 billion in bonds (\$9.8 billion with interest), much of which would provide rebates to buyers of hybrids and other alternative-fuel cars and fund research.

**Proposition 11:** "[Voters FIRST Act](#)." Redistricting Constitutional Amendment and Statute. Would transfer the power to re-draw Assembly, state Senate, and Board of Equalization district lines, once every 10 years after census data come in, from the political parties and elected officials to a 14-member citizens' commission.

**Proposition 12:** "[California Veterans Bond](#)." Would extend the current Cal-Vet program which helps veterans buy homes and farms with lower interest rates. Veterans' payments historically have covered the cost of servicing the state bonds, but if they don't, lenders are repaid from the state's general fund. The Cal-Vet program began in 1921 and currently is available only to veterans who served before 1977. The measure would allow those who have served since then to take advantage of the program.

#### Other regional and local measures:

**Measure R: Sales tax.** Metropolitan Transportation Authority 1/2-cent sales tax to fund transportation.

**Measure U: Utility users tax.** Los Angeles County measure to extend the utility user tax in unincorporated county areas to telecommunications equipment not covered by the present telephone tax, while reducing the rate from 5% to 4.5%.

8 c



Ignorance is bliss--Dangerous. The Sunshine laws; Are Homeowners paying their fair share? Forcing development out only reduces revenue. Payback is a b---- when you give honest testimony as a police officer. Scorecard comparing former Mayor Najarian and current Mayor Drayman; How to tell CCM apart; Redistribution of our wealth