



FIRST NEIGHBORHOOD PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

March 2016

Dear Neighbors,

Over the past few months the Association has received numerous complaints regarding loose dogs on the Greenbelt. These incidents have resulted in residents being bitten or knocked down, small dogs being attacked, sustaining severe injuries, and neighbors who are either afraid of dogs or in some cases are allergic to dogs that no longer feel that they can freely walk on our Greenbelt. The First Neighborhood Board of Directors wishes to address this situation by reminding everyone that the Greenbelt is a shared common space not a neighborhood dog park. It is incumbent upon all of us to follow the law and keep all dogs leashed at all times.

We want to remind everyone that the leash law is a county wide ordinance. Failure to obey leaves you personally and financially liable should your dog cause injury or property damage. Please read the following information very carefully. Be advised, if your dog damages property or injures an adult, a child, or another dog you are personally liable whether your dog was acting maliciously or just playing. The law does not consider the intent of your dog. Lawsuits from dog related actions have resulted in thousands of dollar settlements. Should a judge deem that someone knowingly let a vicious animal run loose, jail time has been levied.

There are two enforcement methods available. LA County Animal Control regularly patrols the greenbelts and streets. The Association has rules and can enforce as well.

LA COUNTY LEASH LAW (10.32.010)

Prohibits dogs from running at large on any public street, park or other public areas or upon private property other than that of the dog owner. A dog must be restrained by a substantial leash not exceeding six feet and be in the control of a competent person when off property.

There is a financial penalty for failing to follow the dog leash law. It varies as per the discretion of the Judge, but they generally start at around \$180.00 and increase with subsequent violations. The dog owner may also be required to appear in court.

FIRST NEIGHBORHOOD

CC&R's. Summary as they pertain to dogs

- 1) As required by County and City ordinances, dogs must be kept on a leash or confined within the homeowner's property. If any pets become a general nuisance (e.g. barking dogs), restrictive action will be taken.
- 2) The pet owner is responsible for the behavior of the pet, for immediate cleanup of animal waste products in common areas, parkways, etc., and for any damage to shrubbery or lawn, etc.

- 3) No animal shall be allowed to make an unreasonable amount of noise or otherwise to become a nuisance. Upon the request of any owner the board shall determine, in its sole discretion, whether a particular animal shall be considered to be a nuisance.

ENFORCEMENT OF GOVERNING DOCUMENTS SUMMARY

Each violation of the First Neighborhood Property Owners Association Governing Documents is an infringement on the rights of all other residents of the community. Some infringements are minimal in the breadth or scope of their impacts. Others are very serious.

Subject to the hearing procedures, violations by an owner or the owner's family, tenants, guests, agents, employees, licensees, servants, or invitees may result in a fine being levied against the owner. Such fines are due within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the ruling. Depending on the severity and frequency of the violation, fines will be levied as follows.

First Notice:	Written Warning
Second Notice:	Not to Exceed \$250 per violation
Third Notice:	Not to Exceed \$500 per violation
Each Notice thereafter:	\$500 per violation

Please respect the rights of all of your neighbors and keep your dog leashed so that everyone can enjoy the Greenbelt.

Thank you,

The First Neighborhood Board of Directors