



# General Board Meeting

## Tuesday, December 17, 2024, 6:00 P.M.

### Agenda



Philip Armstrong, President | Ronee Reece, Vice President  
Lara Morrison, Treasurer | Hector Quezada, Secretary  
Quazi Huda, Community Interest Rep | Jennifer Quinones, At-Large Rep  
Shafi Ahmed, At-Large Rep | Amy Lee, Student Youth Rep  
Gaines Newborn, At-Large Rep | Vacant, At-Large Rep  
Vacant, At-Large Rep

Rampart Village Neighborhood Council  
St. Anne's, Anne Floto Classroom  
155 N. Occidental Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Philip Armstrong al 213.275.9322 o por correo electrónico: Philip.armstrongrvnc@gmail.com para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

If you require translation services, please notify the Neighborhood Council 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the event. Please contact Ronee Reece, Vice-President, at 323-774-3597 or by email at roneereecervnc@gmail.com to notify the Neighborhood Council.

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE OCTOBER 6, 2023 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 411 (PORTANTINO) AND LA CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL ON NOVEMBER 1, 2023, THE RAMPART VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.

#### Physical Meeting Access Information

If the gate to St. Anne's parking lot is not open when you arrive, please use the intercom to contact the building's gate opener to let you in. If the front door to St. Anne's is locked when you arrive, please use the intercom there to gain admission. Then, take the elevator or walk up the stairs to the second floor.

#### Zoom Meeting Access Information Online or By Telephone

Internet: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84399345554> | Telephone: 669.900.6833 | Mtg. ID: 843 9934 5554 (No Password Required)

Every person wishing to address the Board must dial 669.900.6833, and enter 843 9934 5554 and then press # to join the meeting. When prompted by the presiding officer, to provide public input at the Neighborhood Council meeting the public will be requested to dial \*9 or use the Raise Hand option, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered.

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

#### **SB 411 Updates:**

In the event of a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the eligible legislative body's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the eligible legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

(C) The eligible legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comments in real time.

(D) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the eligible legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(E) (i) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(ii) An eligible legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(iii) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

- I. **Call to Order, Welcoming Remarks, and Reading of RVNC’s Purpose** (0 Min.)
- II. **Roll Call and Adoption of Outstanding Minutes** (0 Min.)
- III. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (2 minutes per speaker)** (0 Min.)
- IV. **Reports:** (0 Min.)

- A. **Government Agencies, Elected Officials or their Rep, and Candidates for Office**
- B. **Community Organizations**
- C. **RVNC Officers**
- D. **RVNC Committee Chairs and Liaisons**

In accordance with the motion passed at the October 17, 2023, General Board meeting, all RVNC Committee Chairs are requested to report to the board:

1. **Who is on the committee;**
2. **What is the committee working on; and**
3. **When is the day of the month for regular committee meetings.**

**V. Presentations**

- A. **Debrief of our community cleanup of the Occidental Blvd parkways (between Beverly Blvd and 6th Street) on Saturday, December 7. The RVCN participated in the cleanup with Councilmembers Hugo Soto-Martinez and Eunisses Hernandez and we observed a need for green infrastructure improvements there. Diana Vicente, CD 1 Field Deputy, informed us at the time that she is looking for grant funding to replant those parkways.**
- B. **Aleigh Lewis, Program Manager at Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative, is collaborating with Alissa Walker to identify opportunities for green infrastructure improvements in our neighborhood, such as street trees, bioswales, and dry wells to help reduce flooding, improve water quality, and provide urban cooling. She is applying for a [Community Engagement Grant](#) through the Safe Clean Water Program, which would allow them to explore improvements in collaboration with the community. During the meeting, they’d like to present their ideas and gather input on whether these improvements align with our neighborhood’s needs and explore the possibility of partnering on this project if the grant is awarded.**

**VI. Announcements** (0 Min.)

- A. **The RVNC is seeking a Team Leader. At our May 21 General Board meeting, the RVNC board passed a motion to support the LAFDCERT Battalion 11 Coordinator in organizing a [Neighborhood Disaster Response Team](#). We are anticipating that he will help us to recruit and train a Team Leader to help our NC to develop our Emergency Plan and build our Neighborhood Team. For more information, please see the following link to the CERT**

participant manual:

[https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2019.CERT\\_Basic\\_PM\\_FINAL\\_508c.pdf](https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2019.CERT_Basic_PM_FINAL_508c.pdf)

VII. Discussion and Possible Action on the following Motions & Resolutions.

(0 Min.)

Old Business

- A. Discussion and possible board action to recommend one board member to serve as a panelist to sit on a Regional Grievance Panel. The following link connects to the Neighborhood Council grievance policy in Section 22.818, Article 3 of Chapter 28 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code: <https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Grievance-Policy.pdf>
- B. Discussion and possible action to nominate and approve the selection of any applicants to the Parks, Planning, Public Works and Land Use (PPPWLU) Committee. Hector and Gaines have been asked to reach out to the three most recent applicants to the PPPWLU Committee as their applications have to be approved by the board.
- C. Discussion and possible action as follow-up to the Central LA virtual community workshop to develop a community-driven action plan to improve walking and biking safety focusing on neighborhood schools of Commonwealth Avenue ES, Frank Del Olmo, and Lafayette Park PC. At LA Metro's presentation at our July 16 General Board meeting on the Vermont Transit Corridor Project, Philip asked Metro to consider a scramble crosswalk at 3rd Street and Vermont Avenue in their planning for the Bus Rapid Transit which has a proposed station at that intersection. On November 20, Neha Chawla, Senior Manager, Metro Transportation Planning, informed us that: 1) the MAT Program can only fund capital projects, so a study of 3rd Street and Vermont Avenue would not be eligible; 2) Metro will, however, be developing a First/Last Mile Plan for the Vermont Transit Corridor Project, and the area of 3rd Street and Vermont Avenue may be assessed for proposed improvements/projects; and 3) they are currently developing Metro's Street Safety Program, and this corridor may be included in their data assessments.
- D. Discussion and possible action to follow up on an action plan for the 100 block of S. Occidental Boulevard. At our March 19 General Board meeting, Diana Vicente, CD 1 Field Representative, told us that they want to bring to us a proposal for their Climate Fellows to plant native vegetation in the Occidental medians and they will convey this to CD 13. However, on November 4, 2024, Diana informed us that the climate fellows project received no funding to sustain the idea and the fellows are no longer with their office. In addition, Javier Solis, Superintendent of Recreation and Parks Maintenance Operations, 213-485-4809, informed us that the Occidental Parkways belong to Public Works/Bureau of Street Services/Urban Forestry Landscape Division. Please see the following link: <https://streetsla.lacity.org/urban-forestry-division>.
- E. Discussion and possible action to address resumption of PATH Neighborhood Watch Committee meetings. We will invite Zeke Sandoval of PATH to our meeting. In the meantime, Jennifer is attending the Community Police Advisory Board for the LAPD Rampart Division as the RVNC's liaison.

New Business

- F. APPROVE the Monthly Expenditure Report for November 2024.
- G. Discussion and possible action to approve BAC approving the expenditure, service and vendor for Genesis FXE to be entered into the Professional Service Agreement.
- H. Discussion and possible action: 1) to follow up on the updated project briefing by LA Metro on November 19 for the Vermont Transit Corridor Project; and 2) to approve another letter to LA Metro. On October 10, the RVNC sent a Letter of Support to LA Metro in which we also asked for a contact for the Metro Active Transportation Cycle 2 and whether a Metro bus/bike collision on July 30 was reported to LAPD. Following up our November 19 General Board meeting, on November 20, Neha Chawla, Senior Manager, Metro Transportation Planning, informed us that: 1) the MAT Program can only fund capital projects, so a study of the intersection at Vermont Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street would not be eligible; 2) Metro will, however, be developing a First/Last Mile Plan for the Vermont Transit Corridor Project, and that intersection may be assessed for proposed improvements/projects; and 3) they are currently developing Metro's Street Safety Program, and this corridor may be included in their data assessments. Regarding the July 30 collision, Martha Butler told us at the December 11 Vermont Transit Corridor Project public meeting that the bus operator did report the collision to Metro Operations. In addition, on December 12, Lt. David Koeh on behalf of Deputy Chief Donnie Graham of the LAPD Transit Services Bureau informed us that a Rampart Division patrol unit took a report for the incident.

- I. As recommended by the Public Safety, Housing & Transportation Committee, discussion and possible action to address the matter of a pedestrian thoroughway at 200 N Vermont Avenue. On November 20, Jane Choi, Principal City Planner, Central Project Planning at LA City Planning, told us they are happy to look into this issue for us. It may take a couple of weeks for her to get back to us. In a November 22 call, David Burkhead, Senior Building Inspector at LADBS, explained that: 1) the 200 N Vermont Avenue project has a temporary certificate of occupancy (issued 7/31/24) to move tenants in; 2) because they don't have a certificate of occupancy issued, it's still an open permit which allows him to conduct an inspection and issue a notice of correction to remove the gate or return to Plan Check to address the issue; and 3) the inspection results will show up under the Permit Application Status History on the LADBS.org website.
- J. As recommended by the Public Safety, Housing & Transportation Committee, discussion and possible action to address the assault on November 8 of a student and a community member at Bimini Place and Whitehouse Place. At our November 19 General Board meeting, Kylie Jansen of CD 13 said she would send an email to Mike, Laila, and herself asking them to help facilitate a conversation with LAUSD and/or the LAUSD Board of Education. They would have some more ideas about what would be possible in terms of their office helping us secure that space and definitely open to ideas for activating. Kylie said she will bring up to Laila as well the possibility of getting a crossing guard at that location.
- K. As recommended by the Public Safety, Housing & Transportation Committee, discussion and possible action regarding the HCID rollout of a database of all low-income housing created in projects using Density Bonus or Transit Oriented Communities (TOC) incentives. At our September 17 General Board meeting, we passed a motion to approve a community impact statement for [Council File 23-0426](#), Affordable Housing / Multilingual Online System / Search and Application. On November 9, Philip attended the PlanCheckNC meeting and connected with Saad Tariq. Mr. Tariq informed Philip that although permit data itself is not available as a standalone layer in their [new Atlas database](#), they will overlay the [Controller's covenant layer](#) with LADBS' address and parcel layers. This approach will allow users to identify parcels associated with the covenant layer, and from there, related permit information can be researched manually based on the identified location. For the slides from LAHD's April 19, 2022, presentation to the committee, please see the following link: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hpb4YXRvA0nfw\\_55Lxg6srQJgNnSDoGq/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hpb4YXRvA0nfw_55Lxg6srQJgNnSDoGq/view?usp=sharing)
- L. At our September 17 General Board meeting, we passed a motion to participate in the research study with the caveats that the RVNC acts as a conduit and does not take a major role or take the lead for hosting the workshop. As recommended by the Public Safety, Housing & Transportation Committee, discussion and possible action to approve RVNC participation in a research project and finding residents that will be willing to participate in these workshops, collaborators to help host a workshop, and a community center or another local venue they could use with the following caveats. The RVNC acts as a conduit and does not take a major role or take the lead for hosting the workshop. With the passage of this motion, the RVNC is participating in a research project funded by the National Science Foundation studying the risks associated with concrete buildings in Los Angeles constructed prior to modern seismic building codes. Purdue University wants us to help them organize a community workshop at Rampart Village where they have identified a high density of concrete buildings constructed prior to modern seismic building codes. The project goal is to understand:
1. the value of retrofits that would allow buildings to be immediately reoccupied and minimize disruptions to public services after a major earthquake;
  2. how these benefits vary depending on the building's function, like whether the building is residential, an office, a school or a grocery store;
  3. how people interact with structures, and the impacts a community would experience if different buildings were damaged in an earthquake; and
  4. how seismic retrofits should be evaluated and prioritized to develop guidance for public officials.
- On November 5, Philip spoke to Sandra Bonneville of Central City Neighborhood Partners (CCNP) who said she just met with Dr. Johnson and the plan is to do not community workshops but survey style meetings and to schedule them in conjunction with CCNP's food distribution on Thursdays in January 2025. During her report under Item IV.B at the November 19 General Board meeting, Sandra Bonneville said she spoke to Dr. Johnson recently. On a Thursday in mid-January 2025, the research team will come on site to do the surveys during CCNP's food distribution.
- M. As recommended by the PSHT Committee, discussion and possible action on the establishment of a Park Advisory Board (PAB) and, if indicated, a letter of support to CD 10 and

the Department of Parks and Recreation. They will be reaching out to interested patrons and community members and then holding interviews to see if the PAB is a good fit all around. Ana Valdez presented her plans to the RVNC General Board on October 15. On November 25, Ana shared with us the information she received from Anna Apostolos at LANI about the 2019 community visioning exercises, including the two community meetings held on June 22 and July 13, 2019. This information may be found in the supporting documents folder for this meeting which may be accessed at <https://www.rvnc.org/> Based on that information, she asked the RVNC for support regarding: 1) getting picnic benches and tables installed under the trees next to the basketball court; and 2) improving planting/landscaping in front of the tennis courts to stop encampments there. Please see the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners Report No. 24-064, Shatto Recreation Center Park Renovation Project, at the following link: <https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2024/apr04/24-064.pdf>

- N. Discussion and possible action to recommend approval of a community impact statement regarding [Council File 23-1134](#), Economic Roundtable / Economic Study / Annual Rent Increase / Rent Stabilization Ordinance (RSO) / Sole-Source Contract. According to a September 21 email from Councilmember Hugo, this motion called for an independent study of our rent control policies in LA so we can make changes to help working Angelenos. Recently, the Economic Roundtable released their independent report, highlighting how, for decades, LA's rent control policies have favored landlords at the expense of working families. CD 13 says they support a policy proposal from tenants aimed at creating a more balanced policy for renters while still allowing landlords to turn a profit. Stay tuned: In the coming weeks, the Housing Department will present their report to City Council, where the Housing & Homelessness Committee will recommend exact policies for the full City Council to vote on.
- O. Discussion and possible action to approve a community impact statement regarding the draft ordinance and design guidelines or clarifications to implement Measure HLA. This community impact statement will address three council files related to implementation of Measure HLA: Council File [15-0719-S26](#), Council File [24-0131](#), and Council File [24-0173](#). Council File 15-0719-S26 began as an effort to pre-empt the proposed Healthy Streets LA Ballot Measure and has evolved with the passage of Measure HLA into the proposed mechanism to allow City Departments to implement Measure HLA. Council File 24-0131 requests a list of corridors that would necessitate the removal of parking spaces and vehicle travel lanes to implement Measure HLA. Council File 24-0173 advocates a three-prong implementation approach for Measure HLA: 1) Adopting a City implementation ordinance to clarify decision-making processes, promote thoughtful project planning, and minimize legal exposure related to noncompliance with the Measure's requirements; 2) Aggressively pursuing the development of a 5-year Capital Infrastructure Plan (CIP) to better align resources with projects that would achieve the City's policy goals; and 3) Aligning maintenance programs with policy goals and Measure HLA requirements.
- P. Discussion and possible action to approve a community impact statement for Council File [23-1027](#) regarding City Charter Reform, currently in the Ad Hoc Committee on City Governance Reform. Ronee, as our LANCC representative, said he would review what LANCC has done on this and Lorenzo told us he will check with his leadership on whether DONE currently has the capacity to directly provide administrative support to Neighborhood Councils or whether they would want to ask for that authority through the Charter Reform. Another possible item for the community impact statement is who should be responsible for assessing and championing the needs of the Neighborhood Councils for funding and resources sufficient to enable them to accomplish their purpose. According to DONE's [About Neighborhood Councils](#) webpage, Neighborhood Councils gather, vet, debate, and come to a consensus on matters that impact City life and policy, and deliver their official stance on these issues in letters called "Community Impact Statements" (CIS), which are shared with City decision-makers, such as the Mayor, City Council, or City Departments such as City Planning. However, there has been no effort to assess or furnish the necessary resources and funding to accomplish this.
- Q. Discussion and possible action to approve a community impact statement regarding Council File [21-1230-S8](#), Citywide Code Amendment (CA) / Environmental Clearance (EIR) / Resident Protections Ordinance (Los Angeles City Planning Commission): Introduced October 17, 2024 and referred to Planning and Land Use Management Committee. Los Angeles City Planning Commission report is relative to the Citywide Code Amendment and Environmental Clearance for the proposed [Resident Protections Ordinance](#).
- R. Discussion and possible action approve a community impact statement regarding Council File 24-1341, Distinction in Rules / Remodel / Major Renovation / Demolition Project / Los Angeles Municipal Code (Blumenfield – Price): Introduced October 25, 2024 and referred to Planning and Land Use Management Committee. Motion is instructing the Department of Building and

Safety, with the assistance of the Planning Department, the Bureau of Engineering, in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare a report with recommendations that explains the differences between a remodel; major renovation, and a demolition project, and which reviews the existing practices and ordinances of other cities in Los Angeles County; and enforcement/compliance with the existing provisions in Municipal code Section 12.23 (Non-Conforming Building and Uses), which already requires that remodels maintain at least 50 percent of an original structure's footprint to maintain any non-conforming rights, improve notification requirements to neighbors, and review all applicable building loopholes in the City's Municipal Code (Zoning and Building Codes). This council file is related to Council File [18-0406](#) regarding which the RVNC submitted a community impact statement on August 30, 2024.

- S. As a standing agenda item, collect feedback at the end of each meeting as to what worked well and what needed improvement.
- T. Consider whether any of the items on the Board meeting agenda (such as the minutes and MER) could be added to the consent calendar.

## VIII. Adjournment

**THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT** As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS** – In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: [rvnc.org](http://rvnc.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Philip Armstrong at [Philip.armstrongrvnc@gmail.com](mailto:Philip.armstrongrvnc@gmail.com)

Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Agenda is posted for public review at: 1) LA Eco-Village, 117 Bimini Pl, 90004; 2) RVNC Bulletin Board, Suite #236, 155 N. Occidental Blvd, 90026; 3) [www.rvnc.org](http://www.rvnc.org); and 4) [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org).

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### GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

**PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS** – Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- 1) LA Eco-Village, 117 Bimini Pl, 90004;
- 2) RVNC Bulletin Board, Suite #236, 155 N. Occidental Blvd, 90026;
- 3) [www.rvnc.org](http://www.rvnc.org); and
- 4) You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

### Notice to Paid Representatives -

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)

**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS** - For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website [www.rvnc.org](http://www.rvnc.org)