

Sherman Oaks  
Neighborhood Council

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



**Government Affairs Committee**  
Lindsay Imber, Chair  
Wesley Garris  
Howard Katchen  
Tom Materna  
Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger



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## Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

### **Government Affairs Committee Meeting Agenda**

Thursday, December 28, 2023, 6:30 pm

#### **Virtual Meeting**

Zoom Meeting Online or by Telephone

Webinar ID: **811 6894 3092**

Cut and Paste: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81168943092>

Telephone: 1-669-900-6833, enter **811 6894 3092 #**

**Public Comments:** Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered, and prior to voting. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during this General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future meeting. Public comment is limited to one minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Committee.

**Making Public Comments During This Virtual Meeting:** When prompted by the Presiding Officer, press "Raise Hand" (if on Zoom) or \*9 (if on a telephone) to indicate a desire to address the committee. If you are on Zoom, you will see a timer graphic indicating your time remaining to speak. If you are on a telephone, you will be told when 10 seconds remain in your allotted time. Public comment for this meeting will be heard during each eligible agenda item.

**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.\*

*(See the final page of this agenda for relevant text of 54953.8)*

*The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, composed of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.*

See the following page(s) for items of business for this meeting.

1. **Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call**
  - Welcome and Call to Order by the Chair.
  - Roll Call and the Establishment of Quorum.
2. **Administrative Motions**
  - a. **Motion to approve Gov't Affairs Meeting minutes for Prior Meeting**
3. **Comments by Elected or Appointed Officials, City Agencies, and Staff**
4. **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items Within Committee Jurisdiction**
5. **Chair's Report**
6. **Committee Business and Discussion, Potential Motions**
  - a. **LAPD Helicopter Audit and Low Altitude Air Traffic Concerns.**  
*Presented by Lindsay Imber.*  
[CF 23-1422](#). Air Support Division / Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Audit.

*Draft Motion:* Although the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) makes no comment on what the Controller's Office in its report defines as "high priority crime" nor Air Support's \$46.6 million annual cost, SONC does note the Controller's finding that "helicopters can have a negative quality of life impact on the lives of residents who live in communities with frequent helicopter activity."

SONC's concern with the large scope of LAPD Air Support is thus borne from our long-standing concern for our constituents' wellbeing relative to air traffic, namely low-flying air traffic in the skies over Sherman Oaks, which our Council is intimately familiar with due to our experiences with the Van Nuys (VNY) and Burbank (BUR) airports. This concern includes LAPD air operations.

Helicopters regularly fly at altitudes lower than jet aircraft and according to the Controller's audit, burn nearly 50 gallons of fuel per hour. Atmospheric dispersion modeling indicates this low altitude—often less than 1,000 feet above ground level, especially in elevated portions of Sherman Oaks—simply isn't high enough for significant dispersion of fuel, aircraft, and other flight-related toxins, which in turn rain down in harmful, undiluted quantities on communities below.

Therefore, SONC supports, in part, the Controller's QOL findings but offers no opinion on the issue of only 39% of flight time dedicated to "high priority crime".

SONC urges City Council, LAPD, or any other relative agency, to modify standard procedures for LAPD Air Support, such as assigning helicopters to take *established aerial corridors* (e.g., I-405 and US-101 freeways) to traverse Sherman Oaks when not involved in priority incidents, and to decrease unneeded operations of less than 1,500 feet above ground level (AGL), which should be noted is more than 2,500 above mean sea level (MSL) in the Sherman Oaks hills.

b. **General Public Comment Period at City Hall**

*Presented by Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger.*

*Draft Motion:* Whereas rule 7 in Chapter II of Rules of The Los Angeles City Council states: During each regular meeting, the council shall provide a member of the public the opportunity to address the Council on any issue within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. This shall be referred to as “General Public Comment,” which generally shall be taken up at or near the beginning of each regular meeting.

And whereas members of the public often comment on agenda items during General Public Comment period; in particular, those who are unable to attend meetings in-person and use remote telephonic comment offered exclusively during regular council meetings,

And whereas members of the public generally have limited available free time during regular business hours,

And whereas members of the public have vocalized a general consensus opposing new meeting schedules placing general public comment after all agenda items have been considered,

Therefore the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) respectfully asks Council Member Nithya Raman (District 4) and Council President Paul Krekorian (District 2) to acknowledge and affirm rule 7 in Chapter II, and rules 76 & 77 in Chapter XII of The Rules of The Los Angeles City Council, which state that General Public Comment shall be heard at or near the beginning of meetings, and that an affirmative two-thirds vote of all members of the Council is required to suspend or amend council rules, respectively;

And henceforth maintain stringent adherence to The Rules of The Los Angeles City Council as adopted December 1986, as amended January 2019.

c. **Burbank Airport Environmental Assessment**

*Presented by Tom Materna.*

Discussion and potential motion concerning Burbank Airport flight dispersion.

d. Announcements from Committee Members.

7. **Adjournment**

### **THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)**

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 Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

### **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).

### **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: [www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.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 email: [stacey.segarrabohlinger@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.segarrabohlinger@gmail.com).

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

- Sherman Oaks Public Library, 14245 Moorpark St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.
- [www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org)
- Via e-mail subscription with L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS** -- For information on the NC's process for 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 website, [www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org).

### **\*SB411 / SECTION 54953.8 DISCLAIMER FOR VIRTUAL MEETINGS**

(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.