

Board Meeting Agenda Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:00PM Toluca Lake Elementary School – Auditorium 4840 Cahuenga Blvd., North Hollywood CA 91601



Supporting documents available at GTLNC.org.

For public comments, please fill out a separate speaker card for each agendized item on which you wish to be heard. Up to two (2) minutes per speaker.

- 1. Call to Order. Roll call. Announcements.
- 2. Brown Act Public Comments on non-agenda items only. Please fill out a speaker card.
- 3. Updates from Community, City, Regional and State Representatives.
- 4. Todd Gilman, Esq., Deputy City Attorney, Municipal Branch, Community Law Corps, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, addresses the GTLNC Board on nuisance properties, party houses and what to do about them. Files 1 and 2 of 15
- 5. Approve May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes. File 3 of 15.
- 6. Committee Reports.

6.1 Treasurer's Report. File 4 and 15.	Federico Figus
6.2 Government Affairs.	Chair: Doug Hamblin
6.3 Outreach and Elections.	Chair: Kelly Cole
6.4 Public Safety.	Chair: Shawn Besharaty
6.5 Planning and Land Use.	Chair: Paul Hartel

- 7. Declaration of Commitment to Representative Government. Attachment 1.
- 8. Approve GTLNC 2025 / 2026 Fiscal Year Administrative Packet and Budget. This draft document may be updated at any time and is required by the Los Angeles City Clerk and its Neighborhood Council Funding Program to access GTLNC funds. File 5 of 15
- Proposed Conditional Use Beverage-Alcohol (<u>ZA-2025-1929-CUB</u>) permit at 4200 N. Lankershim Blvd. for the sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on-site sale in conjunction with a new restaurant. Related: Categorical Exemption pending (ENV-2025-1930-CE). Representative: Matthew Mello. Files 6 to 15 of 15 (9 files).

- 10. Security costs to taxpayers associated with FIFA (International Federation of Football Associations) World Cup 2026 and 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles. Related Council File <u>15-0989-S53</u> (McOsker, Park) 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games / Budget and Expenses / Cost Control / Revenue Capture / Civic Reinvestment. (Federico Figus)
- 11. Funding Proposals (all prices include tax and shipping).
  - 11.1 Up to \$200 for two folding hard plastic craft tables. Attachment 2
  - 11.2 Up to \$800 for two table cloths and two "throws" with GTLNC logo. Attachment 3
  - 11.3 Up to \$1,500 for 250 Sharpie S-Gel pens with GTLNC logo and 200 Veda 5 oz. Recycled Cotton and Jute Tote Bags with GTLNC logo. Attachment 4
- 12. Information item. GTLNC Monthly 2025 May Expenditure Report (MER) not available to meet Brown Act posting requirements for agenda inclusion and approval resolution.
- 13. Old Business.
  - 13.1 Burbank Airport noise mitigation, advocacy, next steps. (Federico Figus)
  - 13.2 Oppose Council File 22-1154-S1 (McOsker) Interactive Kiosks / Installation and Maintenance / Public Right-of-Way / Request for Proposal (RFP). Motion: GTLNC strongly opposes the installation of hundreds of two-sided giant smart-phone-like advertising screens on public sidewalks in neighborhoods citywide.
  - 13.3 Status update on William Mellenthin Birdhouse Apartments at 5922-5930 North Buffalo Avenue, Valley Glen, CA 91401 (CHC-2024-6156-HCM). GTLNC supported Historic-Cultural Monument designation of this site in a unanimous vote (12-0-0) on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025. (Jill Young Manson, Tess Taylor).
- 14. New Business.
- 15. Next meeting date TBA to include seating of new GTLNC Board, at 7:00PM at Toluca Lake Elementary School, Auditorium, at 4840 Cahuenga Boulevard, North Hollywood 91601.
- 16. Adjournment.

## **2025 GTLNC Meeting Schedule**

1st Monday at 6:00PM - Public Safety 1st Tuesday at 6:00PM - Government Affairs 2nd Monday at 7:00PM - Planning and Land Use 2nd Tuesday at 7:00PM - Outreach 3rd Tuesday at 7:00PM - Regular Board Meeting

#### **AGENDA: GTLNC Regular Board Meeting** Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

All meetings take place at Toluca Lake Elementary School at 4840 Cahuenga Blvd., N. Hollywood, CA 91601. Committee meetings in Room 17, regular board meeting in auditorium and may take place from time to time via Zoom. Check Web site for most current details. PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS: Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when respective item is considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during 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 presiding officer of the Board.

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS - GTLNC agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Discovery Store (Community Kiosk), at the Southeast corner of Forman Ave. and Riverside Dr.;
- <u>GTLNC.org;</u> or
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <a href="https://www.lacity.org/government/subscribe-agendasnotifications/neighborhood-councils">https://www.lacity.org/government/subscribe-agendasnotifications/neighborhood-councils</a>

**THE AMERICANS 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, assistive listening devices and 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 you wish to attend by contacting Board Secretary via email at media@gtlnc.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 <u>GTLNC.org</u> 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 Board Secretary via email at media@gtlnc.org

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

**SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION:** Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Secretary, o por correo electrónico at media@gtlnc.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

**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. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or <u>ethics.commission@lacity.org</u>

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** Every item on the Consent Calendar is considered bundled and voted on as a single item. If a Board Member or Stakeholder has an objection to an item being on the Consent Calendar or wishes to pull an item, they need to raise that objection to an item and ask to have that item or items considered separately. There will be no discussion or comment on the substance of any item unless it is removed from the Consent Calendar. Removed items will be moved to end of the agenda for consideration, or earlier within discretion of Chair.



Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council (GTLNC) Resolution



Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

# Declaration of Commitment to Representative Government

Having reviewed and considered the objections of two attorneys from the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office seeking to constrain its free speech and advocacy, GTLNC finds their arguments unconvincing and contrary to its independence and sovereignty, and to the representative capacity and fiduciary duty promised and owed to the stakeholders and People of Greater Toluca Lake.

While reaffirming and remaining true to the conditions and obligations of elected office, GTLNC objects to the attempt to interfere with and constrain the collective First Amendment and other rights of GTLNC, its Directors and Officers, and to abridge the communication of its resolutions and advocacy to any level of local, county, state or federal government relevant to and on behalf of its stakeholders, voters, residents and taxpayers under its own authorized, unique and unambiguous name, while avoiding the likelihood of confusion with the official positions of the City of Los Angeles by its policymakers and officers.

GTLNC further disagrees with the anonymous and unattributed opinions proclaimed in an unsigned memorandum entitled *The Role of Neighborhood Councils as Advisors to City Decision-Makers* dated August 2020, as a limitation on its protected expressions of opinion (Exhibit 1, attached).

As its own democratically constituted body, having been duly elected by the qualified registered stakeholder voters of Greater Toluca Lake, and operating in accordance with its obligations, and acceptable, reasonable and transparent parameters, GTLNC shall not allow its autonomy and self-determination to be interfered with or infringed upon, nor have its identity and independence sub-ordinated or subsumed.

GTLNC urges its fellow Neighborhood Councils to likewise reject the unjustified meddling and intrusions into its public interest services by City staff.

The Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council

by: \_

Tess Taylor President

# GTLNC BOARD ACTIONS AFFIRMING THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PROPOSED DECLARATION

At its Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, April  $22^{nd}$ , 2025, after hearing public testimony, deliberating, and over the objection of GTLNC's DONE representative, GLTNC passed a resolution by unanimous decision (10 / 0 / 0) to support the California Legislature's consideration of Entertainment Industry Bills which affect the economy of the City of Los Angeles and Greater Toluca Lake.

GTLNC voted likewise on state legislation and to oppose SB 79 (VOTE: 12 / 0 / 0) on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and voted to oppose then-current Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón Policies (VOTE: 9 / 0 / 0) on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

It should be noted that other Neighborhood Councils have appropriately advocated for their respective stakeholders both within the City of Los Angeles and to other agencies and levels of government where the interest of such stakeholders were actually or potentially affected.

# **OPINION ATTEMPTS TO LIMIT GTLNC FUNCTION AND ADVOCACY**

The City asserts it is improper for GTLNC – or any Neighborhood Council (NC) – to advocate to any agency or entity other than to the City itself and that this is outside the role of NCs. The City offers an unsigned memo captioned *The Role of Neighborhood Councils as Advisors to City Decision-Makers* dated August 2020 (the "Memo") (Exhibit 1) which is nowhere on the Web sites of the Los Angeles City Attorney, Los Angeles City Clerk or of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE). The only online copy can be found in one obscure location: the Northridge West NC's Web Site.

Los Angeles City Charter Section 900 (from Article IX, creating Department of Neighborhood Empowerment): "Purpose. To promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs, a citywide system of neighborhood councils, and a Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is created. Neighborhood councils shall include representatives of the many diverse interests in communities and *shall have an advisory role on issues of concern to the neighborhood* [emphasis added]."

GTLNC disagrees with this interpretation taken by the City, as nothing contained in the City Charter or Ordinances prohibit NCs from taking a position and advocating to noncity entities.

## **NO LIKELIHOOD OF CONFUSION**

GTLNC does not represent, nor purport to represent, the City of Los Angeles, and there is no credible evidence to the contrary. There is no likelihood of confusion between GTLNC and the City of Los Angeles, nor any of its departments or agencies. Any position GTLNC may take on behalf of its stakeholders is distinguished with this clear disclaimer:

## "GTLNC's position may not reflect the official position of the City of Los Angeles."

## **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS ARE VITAL COMMUNICATION HUBS**

GTLNC is relied upon as a central source by our elected representatives from all branches of government to communicate with people in Greater Toluca Lake via GTLNC regular board and committee meetings, its email newsletter and social media accounts. Is this intended to be one-way communication only? How counterintuitive is it that GTLNC can't express its collective view? GTLNC must have the unfettered right to advocate for the people who elected us.

## **DISPROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION**

The NC system was created in 1999 to address the San Fernando Valley's claim of the failure of representative democracy and its threat to secede from the City of Los Angeles. NCs are intended to be "the closest form of government to the people" according to DONE. NCs act as volunteer service providers and buffers for Los Angeles City Councilmembers, each of whom represent over a quarter of a million Angelenos. Compare the levels of representation provided by GTLNC with the disproportionate population concentrations of other elected officials:

Elected Body	<u>Population</u>
GTLNC	15,000 est.
Number of GTLNC Board of Directors / Board Members	15
High Concentration Counterparts City of Los Angeles Number of Los Angeles City Councilmembers	3,770,958 (2025) 15
County of Los Angeles	9,663,345 (2025)
Number County Board Supervisors	5
29 <sup>th</sup> US Congressional District: U.S. Representative Luz Rivas	719,359 (2023)
United States Senators: Alex Padilla and Adam Schiff	40,000,000 (2025)
27 <sup>th</sup> State Senate District: Senator Henry Stern	993,140 (2020)
44 <sup>th</sup> State Assembly District: Assemblymember Nick Schultz	514,564 (2020)

High Concentration Counterparts (cont.)	<u>Population</u>
5 <sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District: Supervisor Kathryn Barger	1,896,455 (2021)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Board of Equalization: Antonio Vazquez	10,000,000
City of Los Angeles Population	3,770,958 (2025)
City of Los Angeles Council District 2: Councilmember Adrin Nazarian	256,691 (2010)
LAUSD	520,000 Students
LAUSD-Board of Education 6 <sup>th</sup> District, Rep. Kelly Gonez	Approx.74,285
Metropolitan Water District of So. California	19,000,000
Greater L A County Vector Control	6,000,000
L A County Flood Control	2.1M Land Parcels

## **UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**

In its decision in <u>Supreme Court v. Floyd</u> (1966), the United States Supreme Court held (in part):

"[D]ebate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open." ... "Legislators do not forfeit their constitutional rights to speak out on public issues" Chief Justice Earl Warren reasoned that "while the State has an interest in requiring its legislators to swear to a belief in constitutional processes of government, surely the oath gives it no interest in limiting its legislators' capacity to discuss their views of local or national policy."

Warren's opinion provided broad free-speech protection for legislators' political speech. "The manifest function of the First Amendment in a representative government requires that legislators be given the widest latitude to express their views on issue of policy," Warren wrote. "Just as erroneous statements must be protected to give freedom of expression the breathing space it needs to survive, so statements criticizing public policy and the implementation of it must be similarly protected."

## **CONCLUSION:**

GTLNC and its 98 NC counterparts throughout Los Angeles contribute substantial and valuable volunteer time, labor, services and resources - often without even reimbursement of direct out-of-pocket expenses - for the benefit of the City and their respective communities, with zero or near-zero undesirable effects on the City of Los Angeles. NC Board members and Officers are probably the only institutionalized labor force in the City of Los Angeles which is completely unrepresented and uncompensated - and with no pension and medical benefits, and no sick leave or paid vacations.

It is a waste of taxpayer funds and a misapplication of precious resources to attempt to make controversial such petty and inconsequential matters as the ones raised. This is made more painfully obvious in the midst of recent disclosures about Councilmember bribery and staff corruption, management incompetence, squandered and missing public funds, disabled contractor tracking mechanisms, uncollected fees and fines, budget deficits and pending layoffs.

#### ###

Preliminary list of recipients, subject to confirmation and possible supplementation. This list is for information purposes only and is not part of the subject resolution itself.

To: Mayor Karen Bass

Marissa Bowman, Mayor's Office of Community Engagement Michelle Vergara, Director of Community Engagement Betsaira Aguilera, East Valley Area Representative Members of the Los Angeles City Council

# cc: Los Angeles City Attorney

Hydee Feldstein Soto, City Attorney Elise Ruden, Team Leader, Neighborhood Council Advice Department Ayelet Feiman, Neighborhood Council Advice Department

### **Department of Neighborhood Empowerment**

Carmen Chang, General Manager Erica Gatica Doughty, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Exhibit 1



# <u>THE ROLE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS AS</u> Advisors to city decision-makers

Los Angeles City Charter Section 900 specifies that neighborhood councils "shall have an advisory role on issues of concern to the neighborhood." Some neighborhood councils have suggested that this language allows their boards to communicate their positions directly with county, state, and/or federal legislators. However, this interpretation conflicts with the Mayor and City Council's role under the Charter.

The Charter vests the City Council with the power to establish the City's official position on local, state or federal legislation, rules, regulations and policies, subject to the Mayor's veto (Charter Section 254). Administrative Code Section 2.19 sets forth a detailed process the City must follow to take an official position. Pursuant to that Section, "No person or department affiliated with the City of Los Angeles may represent that the City of Los Angeles supports, opposes, seeks, wishes to amend or has any position regarding any legislation, rules, regulations or policies unless such position has been adopted as an official position of the City of Los Angeles." Further, the Charter confers on the Mayor the power to engage in and supervise intergovernmental relations (Charter Section 231(h)).

The Charter's specification of these roles ensures a system where the City speaks with one voice to avoid confusion on matters involving county, state or federal legislation and other issues. Neighborhood councils, in their advisory role, are permitted to send their board-approved positions to the City Council and Mayor. Also, neighborhood council board members may in their individual capacity advocate for or against county, state or federal issues as long as it is made clear that they are communicating in their private capacities and not using public resources to present their opinions. Board members may use their neighborhood council titles for identification purposes only.

Revised August 2020

## Exhibit 1 (continued)

Neighborhood councils serve an important role by weighing in on city business before decisions are made and are expected to bring issues of community concern to city departments and leaders. Thus, as advisory bodies by design, an effective neighborhood council can advise city decision-makers and present an important perspective upon which elected officials may rely. However, it is ultimately and exclusively within the elected officials' authority acting as collectively as the City Council and Mayor to determine and convey the City's position on legislation and similar policy issues.

Revised August 2020

# Attachment 2 (Item 11.1.)

Fund up to \$200 for two (2) folding hard plastic craft tables (includes tax and shipping).

Lifetime Commercial 6' Fold-in-Half Table, 2-pack Item 1391495 | Model 80799



#### Your Price

Shipping & Handling Included\* Item may be available in your local warehouse, prices may vary.

Features:

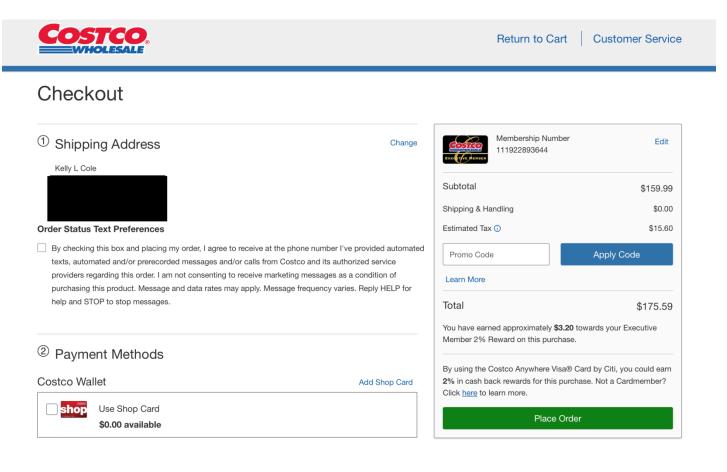
- Commercial Grade for Indoor/Outdoor Use
- UV-Protected High-Density Polyethylene Top
- Rust-Resistant Powder-Coated Steel Frame
- · Each Table Seats Six Comfortably
- 10-Year Limited Warranty

# **AGENDA: GTLNC Regular Board Meeting** Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

\$159.99

# Attachment 2 (Item 11.1. continued)

Fund up to \$200 for two (2) folding hard plastic craft tables (includes tax and shipping).



# Attachment 3 (Item 11.2.)

Fund up to \$800 for two (2) plain table cloths, and two (2) table cloths with GTLNC logo (price includes tax and shipping).

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Best Sellers		Bags & Totes Apparel Corporate Gifts	Drinkware Giveaways Trade Show Free Setup Pens	Eco-Friendly
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	8 ft Stain-Resistant 4-Sided Table Throw (Unimprinted) #124589	Estimated Ship Date: June 19 \$224.92 USD (i)	Order Summary	\$716.00
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	6 Foot Standard Table Throw - Full Color Front Panel #106590	Estimated Ship Date: June 23 \$392.38 USD ()	Complete your checkout to receive a free design proo Your credit card won't be charged until you approve the d	
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Up to \$1,500 for 250 Sharpie S-Gel pens with GTLNC logo and 200 Veda 5 oz. Recycled Cotton and Jute Tote Bags with GTLNC logo (price includes tax and shipping).

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Estimated Sales Tax	0	\$133.00
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