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## Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



## Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Special Joint Board & Government Affairs and Bylaws Committee Meeting

### AGENDA

Monday, November 21, 2022  
6:30PM

Zoom meeting online or by telephone  
Please click the link below  
to join the Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86455548541>

Dial **(669) 900-6833** to join the meeting  
Enter Meeting ID **864 5554 8541**  
Press#

877 853 5257 US Toll-free  
888 475 4499 US Toll-free

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In Conformity With The September 16, 2021 Enactment Of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) And Due To Concerns Over Covid-19, **Special Joint Board & Government Affairs and Bylaws Committee Meeting** Of Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Will Be Conducted Telephonically And Internet Based Via Zoom.

This meeting is noticed as a Special Joint Meeting of the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council and the **Government Affairs and Bylaws Committee Meeting**

called by the President, because there may be a majority of neighborhood council board members present in a number sufficient to take board action. Any action taken at this meeting will only be an action of the **Government Affairs and Bylaws Committee** present and not an action of the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council as a body.

Members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting or participate in public comment to the Committee via telephone should call (669) 900-6833 or one of the following Toll-Free Telephone Numbers: (833) 548 0282, (888) 475 4499 use Meeting **ID No. 864 5554 8541** then press #. Press # again when prompted for participant ID. When you have a question for the Host, you can Raise Hand by pressing \*9, when called on to talk, you can mute/unmute by pressing \*6.

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS** The public is requested to dial \*9 if participating by phone or "Raise Hand" if participating by computer, when prompted by the presiding

officer, 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 a maximum of 2 minutes per speaker per item with a maximum of 10 minutes total per meeting, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board. Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to the item on the agenda. The Chair may rule that the speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to the item under consideration. **Public Comment for the Outreach Committee meeting: Two (2) minutes for general public comment on Outreach Committee related issues not on the agenda; One (1) minute public comment on agenda items.**

1. **Roll Call – Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **General Public Comment on Bylaws COMMITTEE Non-Agenda Items (2 min per stakeholder)**
3. **Discussion and possible actions to address racism among Los Angeles City Council members, redistricting, and the City charter (council size, oath of office etc.)**  
<https://www.myvalleyvillage.com/event/board-meeting-2022-10-26/>

Background: On November 1st, City Council passed a motion authored by Nithya Raman (CF 22-1917) for the City Council to convene a new Ad Hoc Committee on City Governance Reform, “which will be charged with implementing reforms to increase transparency, limit corruption, and make City leadership more representative of our communities-with the aim of restoring the faith of the people of Los Angeles in their city government.”

**Council File 23-0002-S1** Independent Redistricting Process / New Commission / New Redistricting Maps / City of Los Angeles / April 2023 Special Election (Rodriguez - Price) -- requests that the City's include in s include in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SPONSORSHIP and SUPPORT of any legislation that could authorize an independent redistricting commission be established and complete its work prior to the April 23<sup>rd</sup> Special Election (requires State action, so am doubtful that timeframe will be possible).

The Palms Neighborhood Council urges the City Council to work with the Ethics Commission to improve this motion before a committee or Council vote. Specifically, we’d like to see the motion amended as follows to include these recommendations from the Ethics Commission. PLEASE MAKE THESE CHANGES (BELOW) The Ethics Commission must be responsible for accepting and vetting applications for seats on the Commission rather than the current process that allows this process to be completed by Los Angeles elected officials for whom the Commission is intended to provide oversight.. Additional restrictions for who may serve on the ethics commission must be defined including, but not limited to, the exclusion of any bidder, contractor, developer, or people with a direct

financial interest in working for the City; recent candidates for elected offices in the City of Los Angeles; former elected Los Angeles office-holders; any people who have donated or raised campaign funds above a to-be-defined threshold for City positions. Increase the number of elected officials required to initiate removal of a Commissioner and reduce the threshold to initiate removal to a majority vote. Require a 2/3 vote of the Council to remove an Ethics Commissioner. Increase the maximum ethics violation penalty to \$20,000 per violation. Set the Ethics Commission budget to a minimum of \$4.5 million and tie its continuing budget to increases/decreases in the Consumer Price Index. This would allow the Commission to increase expenditures for things like engaging outside council. Also, if the size of the City Council is expanded, the Ethics Commission budget must be increased to keep pace.

#### **4. Other committee items**

#### **5. Adjournment**

**AB 361 Updates** -Public comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting, only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

**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, 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 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting VNNC by via email at: [info@vnnc.org](mailto:info@vnnc.org)

**PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS** – VNNC agendas are posted publicly near the front door to the conference room of the Marvin Braude Constituents Building, 6262 Van Nuys Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91401 and also online at [www.vnnc.org](http://www.vnnc.org). You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

**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, 6262 Van Nuys Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91401, at our website: <http://www.vnnc.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 via email: [info@vnnc.org](mailto:info@vnnc.org)

**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS** - For information on the VNNC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the VNNC By-laws. The By-laws are available at our Board meetings and our website <http://www.vnnc.org>

**SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION** - Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 72 horas antes del evento. Por favor contacte a [info@vnnc.org](mailto:info@vnnc.org) por correo electrónico 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 §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at <https://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)

### **Neighborhood Council Board Member Oath**

We pledge to represent my neighborhood with dignity, integrity, and pride. I will encourage other points of view, even when they differ from my own. I will respect, value, and consider everyone's opinion. I will find the good in my neighborhood and praise it and promote it. To my neighbors, and to neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles, I pledge to do this to the best of my ability.

