

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council

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President

Vacant
Vice President

Vacant
Secretary

David Harari
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Treasurer

Vacant
Parliamentarian

Pam Bingham
John Camera
Connor Chiu
Quirino de la Cuesta
Brian Edelman
Mindi Gonzalez
Ann Kalb
Dalilah Perez-Vigo
Derrick Spears
Francois Verin
Cyle Zezotarski



Van Nuys Neighborhood Council General Board Meeting AGENDA

Van Nuys
Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 3118
Van Nuys, CA 91407-3118

Email: info@vnnc.org
www.vnnc.org

Wednesday,
July 09, 2025 7:00PM

Conference room of the
Marvin Braude Constituents
Building, 6262 Van Nuys Blvd,
Van Nuys, CA 91401

818-357-2446

(SE corner of Van Nuys Blvd. and
Sylvan St.)

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.

The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council does not condone disrespectful and/or harmful speech. We apologize in advance to those attending this meeting who may hear such language during any public comment. We are obligated to uphold an individual's right to free speech. However, we want to be clear that all comments made at this meeting must be in the jurisdiction of this body, directed to this body as a whole, and, if made during any time other than General Public Comments, must be specific to an agenda item.

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. **Actual time for each comment will be recorded in 30 second increments (i.e., 30 sec., 1 min., 90 sec., 2 min.).**

Stakeholders are asked to respect the timekeeper when you are alerted that your time has expired.

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Board Members are reminded not to cut off, interrupt, or otherwise engage with Stakeholders during their allotted time for public comment.

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.

Speakers shall direct their comments to the Board (not to an individual).

Stakeholders are welcome to offer comments -- both during General Public Comment and Public Comments on specific agenda items -- but the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council requests that Stakeholders do not disrupt the meeting for other Stakeholders in attendance. We ask that Stakeholders refrain from calling out or participating in behavior that would disrupt the Board Meeting of the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council. Stakeholders will be given an initial warning. There may be two additional warnings before the stakeholder is asked to leave the meeting due to disruptions of the meeting.

All public comments must be made into the microphone at the lectern to facilitate the capture of a clear recording of the meeting.

1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

2. Reports from LAPD and LAFD

a. **Report from LAPD** Van Nuys Division - <https://vnnc.org/resource/>

b. **Report from LAFD**

3. Reports from other Government officials (2 min each)

- Council District 2
- Council District 4 – Taleen Keuroghlian taleen.keuroghlian@lacity.org
- Council District 6 – Paulina Alvarado paulina.alvarado@lacity.org
(818) 778-4999
- Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – John Darnell
john.darnell@lacity.org
- Mayor’s office – Betsaira Aguilera betsaira.aguilera@lacity.org (213) 257-0224
- LAUSD Board District 3, Scott Schmerelson scott.schmerelson@lausd.net
- Los Angeles County 3rd District (Lindsay Horvath) – Karen Dominguez
KDominguez@bos.lacounty.gov
- Assembly District 46 (Jesse Gabriel) – Clarissa Gomez
Clarissa.Gomez@asm.ca.gov
- Senate District 20 (Caroline Menjivar) –Alex De Leon Alex.deleon@sen.ca.gov

- California Congressional District 29 – Cynthia Becerra
Cynthia.Becerra@email.house.gov (818) 253-3535
- Metro staff: Construction updates regarding the ESFV Light Rail transit project – Joanna Amador (with special emphasis on closure of one traffic lane each direction and closure of parking lanes due to blocking off with K-rail of the east side of Van Nuys Blvd, from Gault St. (just south of Sherman Way) to Arminta (just north of the railroad overpass) for two years)
- Metro staff: Construction updates regarding construction in Van Nuys related to G Line Improvements – Rosalba Gonzalez

4. Installation of newly elected Board Members:

- John Camera, Religious Institution Representative
- Connor Chiu, Youth Representative
- Quirino de la Cuesta, At Large Representative Seat 2
- Brian Edelman, Resident Representative Zone 1
- Mindi Gonzalez, Resident Representative Zone 3
- David Harari, At-Large Resident Representative Seat 1
- Francois Verin, Senior Representative

5. Election of Officers for two-year terms:

- a. President
- b. Vice-President
- c. Treasurer
- d. Secretary
- e. May also elect a Parliamentarian

6. Discussion and possible action to make appointment to fill the vacant position of School Representative: Nina Caslavka

<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Nina-Caslavka-VNNC-Board-application.pdf>

7. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items – maximum of 2 min per stakeholder (Note that topics discussed must be within the jurisdiction of the VNNC.)

8. Board Reports

- VNNC was recognized verbally and on PowerPoint for contributing to help cover expenses of Budget Day (which took place on June 14).
- Next steps on LA Park Needs Assessment: Submit VNNC assessment. Monitor website. <https://needs.parks.lacity.gov/>
- From the LA Public Library: Take the Library's community survey to ensure that our future reflects the community's needs and aspirations.

Your responses will help us continue to grow in ways that reflect what matters most to you. Complete the survey for a chance to win a \$200 gift card: https://gensler.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9yOxduGYgGbEReu

- We were informed by the Asst. Principal of Van Nuys Elementary School that the handball court murals were completed “thanks to the generous grant from the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council. Please take a look here: https://www.instagram.com/p/DKNAbL0RqKi/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link”
- A printed copy of VNNC General Board Meeting agendas and linked files can be reviewed in a reference notebook that is located at the Van Nuys Branch Library.
- For information on upcoming local events and services, look under the Events list on the right side of the homepage of the vnnc.org website and on the calendar.

9. Consent agenda

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve minutes from the May 28th Special General Board Meeting.

https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/VNNC_05282025_SGBM_Draft_Minutes_Final_Corrected.pdf

10. Discussion and possible action to appoint Chairs and Members for the following Committees (see p. 8 for a list of Committees and responsibilities):

- a. Budget and Finance
 - chair: David Harari
 - current member: Kathy Schreiner
- b. Outreach
 - chair: open
 - current members: Quirino de la Questa, Ann Kalb
- c. PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management)
 - current chair: Quirino de la Questa
 - current members: Ann Kalb, Kathy Schreiner
- d. Public Safety, Human Services, and Animal Welfare
 - chair: open
 - tentative members: Brian Edelman, Dalilah Perez-Vigo

11. Discussion and possible action to appoint any members who want to be considered for open positions with Neighborhood Council coalitions, including 2 Budget Representatives, a Homeless Liaison, a Regional Grievance Panelist, and a representative to the NC Emergency Preparedness Alliance.

12. Budget & Finance Committee items that require a roll call vote.

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the April 2025 MER (Monthly Expenditure Report).

https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/VNNC_MER_April2025.pdf

- b. Discussion and possible action to approve the May 2025 MER

https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/VNNC_MER_May2025.pdf

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve submission of the preliminary Administrative Packet for FY 2025/26 with attached budget (see p. 9) and information items (see p. 10).

13. Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee actions that require a roll call vote and/or discussion.

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve sending a letter to City Planning stating that the VNNC Board supports Valley Presbyterian Hospital's application covering 6850, 6840 and 6844 Sepulveda Blvd to build a new central utility plant for the hospital. Project will involve demolition of an existing surface parking lot to allow for the construction of a new and relocated central utility plant for Valley Presbyterian Hospital. Case no: ZA-2024-5595

Digital copies of project documents can be found at:

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenumbr/ZA-2024-5595-ZV> (In box on top right of screen, click on "Initial Submittal Documents" to find links to documents related to application.)

- b. Discussion and possible action to approve sending a letter to City Planning stating that the VNNC Board supports the application of the Van Nuys Masonic Building Association for a Zoning Variance to permit the development of a community adult day care facility for 100 adults at 14750 Sherman Way (which would make use of building spaces Monday through Friday only).

Digital copies of project documents can be found at:

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/search/casenumbr/ZA-2025-1248-ZV> (In box on top right of screen, click on "Initial Submittal Documents" to find links to documents related to application.)

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve a narrative regarding park needs in Van Nuys that will be submitted to the LA Park Needs Assessment team and DONE. (See draft report on pp. 11-12.)
- 14. Discussion about how to support the East Valley Animal Shelter and Animal Services programs. (The Animal Services Department has notified the VNNC that they have terminated the virtual fostering program.)
- 15. Discussion about questions members would like to have answered regarding regulation of sidewalk vendors and how to report violations.
- 16. Update on unresolved topic.
 - a. Need to delay vote on SB 411 meeting option until can get 14 Board Members available to attend a meeting.
- 17. Announcements and identification of topics Board members would like to discuss at a future meeting.
- 18. 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, 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

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 por correo electrónico para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

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. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at <https://lacity.gov/government/subscribe-agendas>

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

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>

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

Neighborhood Council Board Member Oath

I 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.

VNNC Committees

Article VII of the VNNC Bylaws addresses Committees and Their Duties. It can be found on pages 15 - 17 at <https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/VNNC-Bylaws-Approved-05162022.pdf>

Each Board Member is required to be an active participating member of at least one Committee. (Article V Governing Board, Section 5 Duties and Powers, p. 8)

Standing Committees

Executive Committee

The Officers of the VNNC shall constitute the Executive Committee, which shall be responsible for the administration of the VNNC. The Executive Committee shall set the agenda for each VNNC meeting.

Budget and Finance Committee

Reviews financial reports. Creates annual budgets. Receives, reviews, and submits stakeholder grant applications to the Board for consideration.

Outreach Committee

Works to promote and inform the community about the activities of VNNC and encourage stakeholder participation. Develops and vets community outreach events, projects, and initiatives to participate in and support.

Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee

Oversees planning, zoning, and land use issues affecting the VNNC, including proposals for new developments, zoning and planning, land entitlements, conditional use permits, special uses, alcohol license, design and policy.

Additional Committee approved by Board

Public Safety, Human Services, and Animal Welfare Committee

Identify significant issues and needs of the Van Nuys community related to City services in the areas of public safety, homelessness and human services, and animal welfare. Make recommendations to the Board on policy positions to recommend to the City Council and on advocacy/requests to be submitted to Council Offices and/or City Departments.

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Annual Budget
for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

	Approved TBD	Proposed Changes	Revised Budget
Annual Budget Funds	\$25,000.00		\$25,000
Rollover Funds	\$0		\$0
Total Annual Budget Funds	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00
Office/Operational Funds			
Storage Locker (All Right Storage)	\$2,340		\$2,340
Printing and Photocopies for Meetings	\$1,100		\$1,100
Food, Refreshments for General Board Meetings	\$1,500		\$1,500
Zoom Licenses	\$400		\$400
Canva License	\$130		\$130
Note-taker for Meetings	\$3,000		\$3,000
Administrative Support/Bridgeway	\$3,000		\$3,000
Office Supplies	\$400		\$400
Web Hosting and Maintenance, E-blasts, Agenda-Posting (Moore Business Results)	\$7,000		\$7,000
GoDaddy web hosting, email addresses, and software utilities	\$1,350		\$1,350
Mailbox at Van Nuys USPS	\$310		\$310
Board Retreats	\$300		\$300
Councilmember Bus. Cards/Nameplates/ Nametags	\$100		\$100
Facility Rental for Meetings	\$0		\$0
Telephone service	\$600		\$600
Total Office and Operational Expenditures	\$21,530.00		\$21,530.00
Outreach Expenditure Category	\$1,470		\$1,470
Election Expenditures Category	\$0		\$0
Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) Expenditure Category	\$2,000		\$2,000
Community Improvement Project (CIP) Expenditure Category	\$0		\$0
Total Expenditures for the Fiscal Year	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00

Information for items to be included in the Administrative Packet

information in the FY 2024/25 Administrative Packet	Proposed information for first submittal of FY 2025/26 Administrative Packet (NOTE: can be updated by a vote at any Board meeting)
<u>Neighborhood Council Financial Officers</u>	
Treasurer: David Harari	Treasurer: David Harari
Second Signer: Myrra Bolla	Second Signer: Kathy Schreiner
Alternate Signer: Maduka Nkuku	Alternate Signer: _____ (leave blank until new Board is seated)
First Bank Cardholder: Kathy Schreiner	First Bank Cardholder: Kathy Schreiner
Second Bank Cardholder: Maduka Nkuku	Second Bank Cardholder: ____ (leave blank until new Board is seated)
<u>Meeting Locations</u>	
Braude Center (General Board Meeting)	Same
Van Nuys Branch Library (Committees)	Same
<u>Storage Facility</u>	
All Right Storage	Same
<u>P. O. Box</u>	
P. O. Box 3118, Van Nuys, CA 91407-3118	Same
<u>Website Services Provider</u>	
Moore Business Results, Inc. (webmaster, postings to website and social media, monthly eblasts)	Same
Go Daddy (website and email)	Same

Park Needs of the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Community

Van Nuys is a “park poor” area of the City

In the *Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park & Recreation Needs Assessment*, the Study Area Profile for the Van Nuys/N Sherman Oaks community (designated Area 44) covered a geographical area that included Van Nuys as well as areas just to the west and south of Van Nuys. The conclusion was that this area “has a very high park need.”

Specific statistics included:

- 0.2 park acres per 1000 people (vs. County average of 3.3 park acres per 1000 people).
- 17% of the population living within ½ mile of a park (vs. County average of 49%)

Within the geographic boundaries of the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council, there are only two relatively small Recreation Centers – Delano Recreation Center and Van Nuys Recreation Center. Each center has a small playground space for young children. Most of the space is devoted to structured recreation fields. The two centers have a limited capacity (in relation to the population of children in the community) to offer after-school programs and summer camp programs. The subsidized Play LA programs have been a bright spot – allowing families to pay \$10 per child for team sports. (However, this subsidy will only last until 2028.)

Recreation fields are made of artificial turf. Current science reveals that such fields get dangerously hot in the direct sun. In addition, these fields are composed of dangerous PFAS chemicals and have a lining that does not allow water to soak into the ground. (One of the artificial turf soccer fields at Van Nuys Recreation Center had a dangerous dip that filled with water and had potential for player injury. Park personnel asked for repairs. It took over a year to get a temporary fix.)

Amenities not available in Van Nuys include:

- No public swimming pool
- No dog park
- No walking trails.
- No parks with unstructured tree-shaded natural areas/green space for general enjoyment of the outdoors and/or exploration of nature.

A high percentage of Van Nuys residents are renters and live on properties with almost no significant outdoor green space. This makes it even more important to provide more park/natural green spaces for family gatherings, picnics, unstructured play, etc.

How might more park space be made available?

One concept would be designation of **Community School Parks** (shared use of the recreation space of local public schools on weekends and during summer break). While such parks have been opened in other areas of the City, we are not aware of any local school that is currently under consideration for this program.

Another concept is to develop **Pocket Parks** on vacant plots of land in family-oriented neighborhoods. The Kester Ridge Neighborhood Collective has identified a few locations that might be suitable to be developed into pocket parks.

Consideration could be given to providing free public transportation that would enable young people and their families to take advantage of the Sepulveda Basin and its amenities, including the LA River, the Wildlife Refuge, Lake Balboa, and a variety of specialized sports programs.

The section of the SE Valley Community Plan covering Van Nuys should try to identify opportunities for increasing green/natural spaces, as well as adding spaces for community gathering.