

Kathy Schreiner
kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org
President

Pam Bingham
pam.bingham@vnnc.org
Vice President

Brian Edelman
brian.edelman@vnnc.org
Secretary

David Harari
david.harari@vnnc.org
Treasurer

Cyle Zezotarski
cyle.zezotarski@vnnc.org
Parliamentarian

John Camera
Connor Chiu
Quirino de la Cuesta
Mindi Gonzalez
Brandon Gruzen
Ann Kalb
Ray Mndarino
Dalilah Perez-Vigo
Priscilla Ramos
Derrick Spears
Francois Verin

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



Van Nuys Neighborhood Council General Board Meeting AGENDA

Wednesday,
April 8, 2026 7:00PM

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

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



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

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

818-357-2446

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 (approximately 2 min each)

- a. Council District 2 – Abkar Kalantarians abkar.kalantarians@lacity.org
(213) 951 2191
- b. Council District 4 – Taleen Keuroghlian taleen.keuroghlian@lacity.org
- c. Council District 6 – Paulina Alvarado paulina.alvarado@lacity.org (818) 778-4999
- d. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – John Darnell
john.darnell@lacity.org
- e. Mayor’s office – Genesis Discus genesis.discua@lacity.org
- f. LAUSD Board District 3, Scott Schmerelson scott.schmerelson@lausd.net
- g. Los Angeles County 3rd District (Lindsay Horvath) – Karen Dominguez
KDominguez@bos.lacounty.gov
- h. Assembly District 46 (Jesse Gabriel) – Clarissa Gomez Clarissa.Gomez@asm.ca.gov
- i. Senate District 20 (Caroline Menjivar) – Star Resendez Star.Resendez@sen.ca.gov
(818) 901-5588
- j. California Congressional District 29 – Cynthia Becerra
Cynthia.Becerra@email.house.gov (818) 253-3535
- k. Metro staff: Construction updates regarding the ESFV Light Rail transit project –
Joanna Amador AmadorJo@metro.net

- l. Metro staff: Construction updates regarding construction in Van Nuys related to G Line Improvements – Jessica Legaspi LegaspiJ@metro.net
 - m. Other government agency representatives
4. **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.)
5. **Board Officer Reports**
- a. President
 - (1) Report on CD 6 Cleanup on March 21.
 - (2) Participation in May 18 One Generation Senior Symposium.
 - (3) Hope to have a presentation by ICON at the May 13 meeting regarding economic development services and street vendor training.
 - (4) How to report a RECYCLA dumpster left on the street in between pickups.
 - (5) Is there interest in having VNNC host a workshop with Animal Services on what residents should know about coyotes?
 - (6) 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.
 - (7) For information on upcoming local events and activities, look under the Events list on the right side of the homepage of the vnnc.org website and on the calendar.
 - b. Vice President/Budget Advocate
 - c. Other Officer Reports
6. Consent agenda
- a. Approve minutes from February 11 meeting. https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/VNNC_02112026_GBM_Draft_Minutes_Final.pdf
7. Discussion and possible action to approve modifications to the VNNC Bylaws in order to reduce the total number of Board seats from 21 to 19 and to reduce the quorum required to conduct business from 11 to 10. These changes are proposed in order to improve the Board’s chances to have a quorum present at regular Board Meetings.
- NOTE: Once approved by the VNNC, bylaws will also have to be approved by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) because a change is being made to the number of Board seats.
- See page 7 for specific changes to be made.
8. **Budget and Finance Committee items that require a roll call vote.**
- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the February 2026 MER. https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/VNNC_MER_Feb2026.pdf

Beginning Balance	Total Spent	Remaining Balance	Outstanding	Commitments	Net Available
\$27,944.78	\$1,601.14	\$26,343.64	\$4,276.28	\$1,000.00	\$21,067.36

- b. **Discussion and possible action to approve a revised Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) Application from Project Breaking Barriers for \$2,500 to support three one-week sessions of their IGNITE programs for 2026.** NOTE: In February, the VNNC approved an NPG for this program. However, the City Clerk’s office notified us that they were declining our approval because the expense for liability insurance was not an authorized use of NPG funds. The agency was invited to submit a revised budget for an NPG. They are now requesting that \$1,250 be allocated to Meals and Beverages and \$1,250 be allocated to Transportation, for a total of \$2,500. <https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Revised-Project-Breaking-Barriers-VNNC-Application-03.18.2026.pdf>
 - c. **Discussion and possible action to allocate \$500 from Outreach funding to support the Neighborhood Council Budget Day on June 27 (sponsored by the Budget Advocates).**
 - d. **Discussion and possible action to allocate \$1000 from Outreach funding to support the Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods to be held in the fall.** (Note: Funding of \$1000 would lead to the VNNC being recognized at the event as a Gold Sponsor and given a half-page ad in the program book. “Gold Sponsor” is a category designated for donors of an amount from \$1000 to 4999.)
 - e. **Discussion and possible action to adopt a revised FY 2025/26 Budget for the VNNC** to make minor changes in order to cover higher costs in specific line items. See revised budget on page 8.
 - f. **Discussion and possible action to approve submission of a CIS (Community Impact Statement) regarding Council File 26-0600, the proposed City Budget for FY 2026/27.** See page 9 for proposed CIS
9. **Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee Items that require a roll call vote.**
- a. **Discussion and possible action: VNNC will vote to approve a letter and attachments that identify 9 (nine) priority sites for potential park creation and improvements across Van Nuys, developed through collaboration with residents and neighborhood groups and Parks Reassessment Program for more parks and open space in the Van Nuys community.** See pages 10-12 for the draft letter designing nine priority sites and page 13-19 for a brief that provides more detailed information on each site.
 - b. **Discussion and possible action to approve submission of a CIS (Community Impact Statement) regarding Council File 25-1083 regarding impacts of SB 79 and implementation options.** See pages 20-22 for the draft CIS and pages 23-26 for a brief regarding general issues to be considered.

- c. **Discussion and possible action to support Comments to be submitted to the City Planning Department regarding the most recent draft of the Orange Line Transit Neighborhood Plan (OLTNP).** See pages 27-30 for suggested comments.

10. **Discussion and possible action to allocate a maximum of \$600 from Outreach Funds to purchase 500 aluminum bottle/can openers for use as a promotional item to be given out at the upcoming Senior Symposium and other Outreach activities of the VNNC.** (Cost of 92 cents per item, plus setup for artwork and shipping. Well-received in the past.)

11. Announcements and identification of topics Board members would like to discuss at a future meeting.

12. 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)

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.

Proposed Changes to be Made to VNNC Bylaws

The primary changes being proposed are to **reduce the total number of Board Members from 21 to 19** and to **reduce the quorum required to conduct business from 11 to 10**. (Note that a quorum of 10 will be more than a majority of the total of 19 Board Members.) These changes are being made to improve the Board's chances to have a quorum present at regular Board Meetings.

In order to change the total number of Board Seats from 21 to 19, it is **proposed that the 4 seats currently allocated to business representatives be reduced to 2 seats**. (Note that only one of the 4 business seats – a commercial seat -- is filled at this time). This change will be accomplished by **replacing the 2 Industrial Business seats and 2 Commercial Business seats with 2 At-Large Business Owner or Employee Representative Seats**.

A current version of the Bylaws can be found at the following weblink:

<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/VNNC-Bylaws-Approved-05162022.pdf>

Specific sections of the Bylaws to be amended are as follows:

Amend Article V, Governing Board, in Sections 1, 2, and 4 as follows:

- Amend Section 1, Composition.
 - ✓ Change the number of members of the Board from 21 to 19.
 - ✓ Delete current item G specifying “2 at-large industrial business owners or employees” seats and item H specifying “2 at-large commercial business owners or employees” seats and create a new item G specifying “2 at-large business owners or employees” seats
 - ✓ Revise the letters before the remaining itemized Board seats to start with “H” and continue through M
- Amend Section 2, Quorum, to change quorum from 11 Directors to 10 Directors. The revised section shall read as follows:

“A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board shall consist of ten (10) Directors. No floating quorums are allowed.”
- Amend Section 4, Terms and Term Limits, as follows:
 - ✓ Under Group A (2027), delete “At-Large Industrial Business Owner or Employee Representative Seat 2” and “At-Large Commercial Business Owner or Employee Representative Seat 2” and replace with one “At-Large Business Owner or Employee Representative Seat 2.”
 - ✓ Under Group B (2025), delete “At-Large Industrial Business Owner or Employee Representative Seat 1” and “At-Large Commercial Business Owner or Employee Representative Seat 1” and replace with one “At-Large Business Owner or Employee Representative Seat 1.”

Amend Attachment B, Governing Board Structure and Voting, to make the same changes to seats on the Board as are made to Section 4.

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	\$0.00	\$9,964.87	\$9,964.87
Total Annual Budget Funds	\$25,000.00	9,964.87	\$34,964.87
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	+125	\$525
Canva License	\$130		\$130
Note-taker for Meetings	\$3,000		\$3,000
Administrative Support/Bridgegap	\$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	+10	\$320
Board Retreats	\$300	-135	\$165
Councilmember Bus. Cards/Nameplates/Nametags	\$100.00		\$100.00
Facility Rental for Meetings	\$0.00		\$0.00
Telephone service	\$600		\$600
Total Office and Operational Expenditures	\$21,530.00		\$21,530.00
Outreach Expenditure Category	\$1,470.00	\$2,530.00	\$4,000.00
Election Expenditures Category	\$0.00		\$0.00
Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) Expenditure Category	\$2,000	\$7,434.87	\$9,434.87
Community Improvement Project (CIP) Expenditure Category	\$0.00		\$0
Total Expenditures for the Fiscal Year	\$25,000.00	\$9,964.87	\$34,964.87

Community impact Statement
From Van Nuys Neighborhood Council
Regarding Council File 26-0600
Budget Proposal Fiscal Year 2026/27

The VNNC makes two requests with respect to the City's budget for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026:

1. Restore the funding for each Neighborhood Council to \$40,000.

The reduction of annual NC funding to \$25,000 in the past fiscal year has limited funds available to support community projects. Most of the funds are needed to cover administrative costs (such as meeting expenses for food and materials, minute taker, webmaster, website fees, storage space, phone line, postal box, etc.).

2. Ensure that the City Clerk's budget includes the level of funds needed to run elections in 2027 that include options for both voting in person and voting by mail for every Neighborhood Council that is required by bylaws to have elections every two years.

It is our understanding that the City Clerk did not include funds in the budget the office submitted to the Mayor to run Neighborhood Council elections and recommended that current Neighborhood Council members have their current terms extended two more years. This is absolutely unacceptable.

The bylaws of each Neighborhood Council specify the terms of members. The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council bylaws specify four-year terms for members, with half of the seats to be filled by election every two years. This system of staggered terms helps preserve expertise while also welcoming new members. The City should support these bylaws.

In addition, we request that in-person voting be supported by the City Clerk's office. By limiting the 2025 election to mail only, the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council had a very small number of people who made the effort required to sign up online for a ballot and then submit a ballot by mail.

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council

Kathy Schreiner
kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org
President

Pam Bingham
pam.bingham@vnnc.org
Vice President

Brian Edelman
brian.edelman@vnnc.org
Secretary

David Harari
david.harari@vnnc.org
Treasurer

Cyle Zezotarski
cyle.zezotarski@vnnc.org
Parliamentarian



John Camera
Connor Chiu
Quirino de la Cuesta
Mindi Gonzalez
Brandon Gruzen
Ann Kalb
Ray Mandarin
Dalilah Perez-Vigo
Priscilla Ramos
Derrick Spears
Francois Verin



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

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

818-357-2446

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Priority List for RAP - Park Assessment Program

(Draft updated: April 3, 2026)

9 Priority Project List of Potential Sites for New and Improved Parks in Van Nuys

Program Overview.

The **Park Assessment Program** is intended to identify and advance site-specific park and recreation projects located in different areas of Van Nuys. These priority projects are envisioned as actionable, place-based investments that expand park access, enhance recreational amenities, and improve environmental conditions throughout the community.

In the 2016 *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.”

In the 2025 *Park Needs Assessment Report* prepared for the City of LA Department of Recreation and Parks the significant park needs in Van Nuys were reflected the fact that four new “prospective” parks were recommended for our area.

Priority sites should be evaluated and selected through a combination of park-deficiency analysis, documented community input, land ownership review, and feasibility assessment, with the goal of equitably distributing park investments and addressing gaps in open-space access.

Each selected project should respond to the specific needs of its surrounding neighborhood, whether through the creation of new park space, expansion of existing facilities, or adaptive reuse of underutilized public or semi-public land.

By establishing a defined list of geographically distinct projects, the *Van Nuys Neighborhood Council* Park Assessment Program moves beyond conceptual planning toward implementable outcomes, providing a clear framework for design development, funding strategies, interdepartmental coordination, and phased implementation. This site-based approach supports near- and mid-term delivery while creating visible, community-serving improvements that strengthen neighborhood identity and quality of life throughout Van Nuys.

WHEREAS, the Van Nuys community continues to experience population growth and increased residential development, resulting in greater demand for parks, open space, and recreational amenities; and

WHEREAS, several areas within Van Nuys are identified as park-deficient, lacking adequate access to open space within a reasonable walking distance; and

WHEREAS, residents and neighborhood groups have actively advocated for increased park access and green space, including organized community efforts such as the Kester Ridge Neighborhood Collective, which has submitted approximately 70 letters of support for the creation of new neighborhood parks; and

WHEREAS, the identification of priority sites should remain flexible and responsive on an ongoing basis, allowing for updates based on funding availability, project readiness, land opportunities, and evolving community needs; and

WHEREAS, the identification of nine priority sites establishes a clear, actionable, and implementation-ready framework to expand park access and improve quality of life in Van Nuys;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council supports the Park Assessment Program and the identification of the following nine priority sites for park creation, expansion, and improvement:

1. 6461 Columbus Avenue Vacant Lots (Kester Ridge Area)
2. Van Nuys Civic Center – Public Realm and Open Space Enhancements
3. City-Owned Parking Lots near Van Nuys Civic Center – Mixed-Use Open Space, Affordable Housing, and Community Uses
4. Delano Park Expansion and Enhancement - Existing park for capital improvements and expansion
5. 13840 Sherman Way - Vacant Lot
6. 15321-15333 Archwood Street Vacant Lot
7. 6830 Woodman Avenue Park Improvements

8. 14842 Sylvan Street - Parking Lot next to Historical Landmark Building - Women's Club
9. Transit-Oriented Incentive Areas (SB 79)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council recommends that Council District 6, in coordination with relevant City departments, including the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Department of City Planning, evaluate the feasibility, acquisition, design, and implementation of the identified priority sites; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City be requested to assess available and projected Quimby Act park fee funds generated within Van Nuys and prioritize reinvestment of those funds within the same communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City explore multi-benefit development strategies on appropriate sites, including the integration of open space with affordable housing and opportunities for local micro-businesses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that continued community engagement be prioritized to ensure park projects reflect neighborhood needs and priorities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is submitted **with attached documentation** outlining the detailed nine-priority project list, site descriptions, and supporting community input, including letters from neighborhood organizations, for reference and review by Council District 6, the Mayor's Office, and relevant City departments.

Vote Count

Yes: ____
No: ____
Abstain: ____

Adopted by the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council on: _____

Signature

President, Van Nuys Neighborhood Council

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council

Kathy Schreiner
kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org
President

Pam Bingham
pam.bingham@vnnc.org
Vice President

Brian Edelman
brian.edelman@vnnc.org
Secretary

David Harari
david.harari@vnnc.org
Treasurer

Cyle Zezotarski
cyle.zezotarski@vnnc.org
Parliamentarian



John Camera
Connor Chiu
Quirino de la Cuesta
Mindi Gonzalez
Brandon Gruzen
Ann Kalb
Ray Mandarino
Dalilah Perez-Vigo
Priscilla Ramos
Derrick Spears
Francois Verin



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

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

818-357-2446

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Priority List Brief for Park Assessment Program

(Draft updated: April 3, 2026)

Proposed Priority Sites for Assessment

1. Columbus Avenue Vacant Lots (Kester Ridge Area)

Location:

6461 N. Columbus Avenue (two contiguous parcels)

Parcel Information:

APNs: 2235-001-021 & 2235-001-022

Total Lot Size: Approximately 14,997 sq. ft. (≈15,000 sq. ft.)

Dimensions: Approx. 250' x 60'

Current Use: Vacant land

Potential Park Uses:

- Neighborhood dog park
- Children's play area / pocket park
- Green open space/ canopy; reintroducing native trees/ rewilding

- Gardens
- Gate and fence for security and safety on off hours.

Community Support:

This site has received documented support from the Kester Ridge Neighborhood Collective, including approximately **70 letters from residents** advocating for the creation of neighborhood green space. This level of engagement reflects a clear and organized community priority for park access, environmental enhancement, and local recreation amenities.

In addition to the approximately 70 letters of support from residents, the Kester Ridge Neighborhood Collective has also **submitted letters and engaged in outreach to park advocacy organizations**, including the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI) and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust (LANLT), expressing interest in partnership opportunities to advance park development in the neighborhood. This coordinated effort demonstrates a proactive, community-led approach to securing resources and advancing implementation of new green space.

Funding Context:

The surrounding area has experienced significant residential development, particularly along Sepulveda Boulevard, generating **Quimby Act park fees, upcoming grants or donations** are intended to mitigate increased park demand. These locally generated funds should be evaluated for reinvestment into this site and other qualifying park projects within Van Nuys. Kester Ridge Neighborhood has initiated their contact with the Neighborhood Land Trust and Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI) on the interest in bringing parks to their neighborhood.

2. Van Nuys Civic Center – Public Realm and Open Space Enhancements

Location:

Van Nuys Civic Center area

Project Context:

A possible preparation for the **2028 Olympic Games**, the Civic Center represents a high-visibility opportunity to enhance public space, pedestrian comfort, and civic identity.

Potential Improvements:

- Tree replacement and urban canopy expansion
- Urban shade and heat mitigation strategies
- Benches, seating areas, and pedestrian amenities
- Kiosks and wayfinding elements
- Promote arts to the area with music, markets, installations and events.

Implementation Considerations:

- Interdepartmental coordination through a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

- Alignment with Olympic readiness, accessibility, and long-term maintenance plans

3. Conversion of City-Owned Parking Lots to Open Space, Affordable Housing, and Community-Serving Uses

Potential Locations:

14401 Friar Street (Lot 601)
14521 Friar Street (Lot 609)
14532 Gilmore Street (Lot 610)
14607 Sylvan Street (Lot 620)
14517 Erwin Street (Lot 630)
14402 Gilmore Street (Lot 631)

Project Concept

Evaluate the feasibility of transforming underutilized or surplus City-owned parking lots into **mixed-use community assets** that integrate:

- Open space and pocket parks
- Affordable housing opportunities
- Micro-business and small-scale commercial incubator spaces

Rather than viewing these parcels solely as parking assets, the assessment should examine their potential to function as **multi-benefit sites** that support housing production, economic development, and public realm improvements in tandem.

Potential Program Elements

- **Ground-level open space or publicly accessible plazas**
- **Affordable housing units**, particularly near transit corridors
- **Live-work or small-format commercial spaces**
- **Micro-retail kiosks or start-up incubator spaces for local entrepreneurs**
- **Flexible community gathering areas**

Assessment Focus

- Parking utilization and operational impacts
- Zoning and density feasibility
- Compatibility with transit-oriented development policies
- Public-private partnership models
- Integration of Quimby Act funds for open space components

- Phased development strategies
- Long-term maintenance and management structures

Community and Economic Benefit

This strategy aligns housing production with neighborhood-serving open space while supporting **local economic resilience through micro-enterprise opportunities**. By leveraging City-owned land, Van Nuys can advance equitable development that addresses housing demand, supports small business formation, and improves access to green space within the same footprint.

Background

City-owned properties identified within the priority site list, including underutilized parking lots and public parcels, are currently subject to or recommended for further assessment and reporting to evaluate feasibility for park development, open space conversion, and potential multi-benefit uses by an outside consultant.

4. Delano Park Expansion and Enhancement

Location:

Delano Park, with focus on southern expansion toward the bike path.

Project Scope:

- Expansion of park boundaries southward
- Tree planting and urban shade improvements
- Enhancement of active and passive recreation areas

Potential Amenities:

- Additional basketball and racquetball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Bocce ball field and other fields in engaging the community
- Seating and gathering spaces
- Additional parking spaces

Community Benefit:

This project would increase capacity at an existing park, support active recreation for multiple age groups, and strengthen connectivity to adjacent bicycle infrastructure.

5. Sherman Way Vacant Lot

Location:
13840 W. Sherman Way

Lot Size:
Approximately 44,908.8 sq. ft.

Current Use:
Vacant land

Potential Uses:

- Neighborhood park or green space
- Passive recreation, gardens, picnic and seating areas.
- Tree canopy expansion and stormwater-friendly landscaping

Assessment Considerations:

This site offers a larger footprint suitable for flexible programming and could serve as a new open-space asset in a park-deficient area, subject to ownership verification, community support, environmental review, and funding feasibility.

6. Archwood Street Vacant Lot

Location:
15321–15333 Archwood Street

Lot Size:
Approximately 20,266 sq. ft.

Current Use:
Vacant land

Potential Uses:

- Neighborhood park or green space
- Passive recreation and seating areas
- Tree canopy expansion and stormwater-friendly landscaping

Assessment Considerations:

This site offers a larger footprint suitable for flexible programming and could serve as a new open-space asset in a park-deficient area, subject to ownership verification, environmental review, and funding feasibility.

7. Woodman Park Improvements

Location:

6830 Woodman Avenue

Current Use:

Existing park with potential underutilized areas

Potential Enhancements:

- Expanded tree canopy and shade
- Passive recreation and seating improvements
- Upgraded landscaping and stormwater features
- Programming enhancements to increase park activation

Assessment Considerations:

Focus on maximizing existing park assets through targeted improvements and environmental upgrades.

9. Sylvan Street Park Opportunity

Location:

14842 Sylvan Street

Current Use:

Parking lot next to *LA Historic Cultural Monument Van Nuys Woman's Club Building* with potential to underutilize portion of the area for park and recreation, and open space

Lot Size:

Approximately 7,499.8 sq. ft.

Potential Enhancements:

- Expanded tree canopy and shade
- Passive recreation and seating improvements
- Upgraded landscaping and stormwater features
- Programming enhancements to increase park activation

Assessment Considerations:

Focus on producing more park assets targeted at Van Nuys Transit Oriented Incentive Area and environmental upgrades next to **Van Nuys Woman's Club Building** - date built: 1917 - LA Historic Cultural Monument No. 201.

9. SB 79 Transit-Oriented Neighborhood Opportunities

Location:

Transit-oriented areas subject to increased residential density near major transit stops

Current Use:

Varies

Potential Strategy:

As additional housing is introduced near transit, identify opportunities for:

- Pocket parks and plaza spaces
- Tree canopy expansion
- Pedestrian-oriented open space improvements
- Walkability and shade enhancements

Assessment Considerations:

Coordinate park planning with transit-oriented development to ensure that increased density is balanced with accessible open space and climate-responsive public realm design.

Funding and Implementation Considerations

As part of the Park Assessment Program, the City should evaluate the amount of Quimby Act park fees collected and projected from residential development within and near Van Nuys and prioritize reinvestment of those funds within the same communities generating park demand. Leveraging Quimby funds alongside Measure A resources, state grants, and interdepartmental partnerships can accelerate implementation of the identified priority projects.

Conclusion

The identification and assessment of these nine priority sites, supported by documented community input and aligned with funding mechanisms such as Quimby fees, will allow Council District 6 and the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council to strategically advance park and recreation projects that are equitable, community-driven, and implementation-ready. This framework establishes a clear path toward expanding green space and recreational amenities while responding directly to neighborhood needs in Van Nuys.

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council

Kathy Schreiner
kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org
President

Pam Bingham
pam.bingham@vnnc.org
Vice President

Brian Edelman
brian.edelman@vnnc.org
Secretary

David Harari
david.harari@vnnc.org
Treasurer

Cyle Zezotarski
cyle.zezotarski@vnnc.org
Parliamentarian



John Camera
Connor Chiu
Quirino de la Cuesta
Mindi Gonzalez
Brandon Gruzen
Ann Kalb
Ray Mandarin
Dalilah Perez-Vigo
Priscilla Ramos
Derrick Spears
Francois Verin



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

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

818-357-2446

Community Impact Statement

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council

Regarding Senate Bill 79 (SB 79)
Council File: 25-1083

Updated Draft: 4-3-2026

The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council recognizes that Senate Bill 79 will significantly influence land use, housing production, and transit-oriented development within our community. Van Nuys is a major transit hub in the San Fernando Valley, and any state legislation affecting zoning near transit corridors will have direct and lasting impacts on our residents, small businesses, and public infrastructure.

The Council acknowledges the potential benefits of SB 79, including:

- Increased housing production near transit
- Reduced vehicle miles traveled and improved air quality
- Greater support for public transportation ridership
- Opportunities for walkable, mixed-use development

The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council also recognizes that Senate Bill 79 (SB 79) may facilitate **by-right development of mid-rise residential buildings—approximately 3 to 7 stories—within a ½-mile radius of major transit stops**, including along Van Nuys Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard.

While we support the intent of increasing housing near high-quality transit, the Council has concerns that a uniform ½-mile application of increased density may not adequately reflect the varied conditions along these corridors. Without a calibrated framework, this approach could result in abrupt transitions in scale and intensity that are inconsistent with the existing urban fabric and surrounding neighborhoods.

In alignment with **Approach C and Option 1 (Corridor Transition Expansion)**, the Council supports a more phased and context-sensitive implementation. This should include a coordinated upzoning program that establishes clear transition zones, aligns density with transit capacity, and ensures compatibility with adjacent uses. Corridor-based planning should differentiate between high-intensity transit nodes and surrounding areas, allowing for graduated density and appropriate building form standards.

By pairing delayed effectuation with a structured corridor transition strategy, SB 79 implementation can better balance housing production goals with neighborhood stability, infrastructure capacity, and cohesive urban design

However, the success of SB 79 in Van Nuys will depend on thoughtful implementation that prioritizes community stability, design quality, and equity. With [City Council File 25-1083](#), the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council urges that implementation include:

1. **LA City Planning Report & Recommendation Letter in response to SB79 - dated Feb. 18, 2026**

The VNNC supports **Approach C / Option 1** - Delayed Effectuation + New Upzoning Ordinance to Increase Capacity and Expand Eligibility to Delay, TOIA Expansion near existing rail Transit + Option 1:

- **Approach C:** Delay citywide effectuation until a comprehensive upzoning program is adopted.
- **Option 1:** Include Corridor Transition (CT) expansion to ensure cohesive land use transitions
- **Option 2:** Expand Transit-Oriented Incentive Areas (TOIA) near operational rail transit

2. **Inclusive Housing Productions and Protections**

Recommend development must serve households of all income levels, ages, and backgrounds, with strong anti-displacement safeguards and family-sized unit requirements. **Relevant tools:** CHIP Ordinance and related housing incentives.

3. **Urban Canopy and Public Realm Improvements**

Transit-Oriented Incentive Area (TOIA) should be required to incorporate parks, gardens, landscape structures, tree canopy expansion, climate-responsive architecture, public art integration, and accessible gathering spaces to address heat mitigation and community activation near transit stops. **Relevant frameworks:** Open Space Element, Landscape and Site Design Guidelines, Park Needs Assessment (RAP).

4. **Mobility Infrastructure Integration**
Projects should include secure vehicle parking, bicycle parking, e-bike charging, designated ride-share and taxi zones, and reduced but well-managed parking to support multimodal access. **Relevant frameworks:** [Mobility Plan](#), [Vision Zero](#),
5. **Preservation of Existing Built Environment and Historical Preservation**
Adaptive reuse and integration of culturally significant or existing structures should be prioritized to maintain neighborhood identity and reduce demolition waste. Relevant ordinance: [Van Nuys HPOZ](#), [Landscape and Site Design](#)
6. **Emergency Preparedness and Infrastructure Capacity**
Increased density must be accompanied by clear emergency access routes, stormwater management planning, and coordination with fire and emergency services. [Emergency Management department](#)
7. **Structured Community Participation**
The Neighborhood Council supports meaningful community engagement in the development of corridor design standards and implementation overlays. Community design input should shape design review process, while projects that meet those standards of by-right development, there should be accountability, transparency and overall vision.
8. **Creating a Design Identity for Transit-Oriented Neighborhoods**
Establishing a strong design identity helps ensure that transit-oriented growth produces not only additional housing, but also meaningful and livable neighborhoods that residents can identify with and take pride in. **Relevant frameworks:** [Urban Design Studio Guidelines](#), [New Zoning Code](#), Design Review Strategy.
9. **Small Business Opportunities and Economic Growth**
Transit-Oriented Incentive Areas under SB 79 must include strategies to create, support, and integrate small businesses, which are essential to the economic and cultural fabric of Van Nuys. **Relevant frameworks:** [LA Optimized](#), [Small business](#).

The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council is stating that density alone does not create community. Successful transit-oriented development requires intentional design & identity, environmental responsibility, equity safeguards, open space, and structured community participation.

We support state efforts to address housing shortages and climate goals. We request that SB 79 implementation in Van Nuys reflect the unique character, diversity, and needs of our neighborhood while advancing sustainable and inclusive growth.

Vote Count

Yes: ____
No: ____
Abstain: ____

Adopted by the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council on: _____

Signature: _____
 President, Van Nuys Neighborhood Council

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council

Kathy Schreiner
kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org
President

Pam Bingham
pam.bingham@vnnc.org
Vice President

Brian Edelman
brian.edelman@vnnc.org
Secretary

David Harari
david.harari@vnnc.org
Treasurer

Cyle Zezotarski
cyle.zezotarski@vnnc.org
Parliamentarian



John Camera
Connor Chiu
Quirino de la Cuesta
Mindi Gonzalez
Brandon Gruzen
Ann Kalb
Ray Mandarino
Dalilah Perez-Vigo
Priscilla Ramos
Derrick Spears
Francois Verin



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

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

818-357-2446

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Brief SENATE BILL 79 (2025)

LA City Council File # 2510-18

(Updated draft: April 3, 2026)

Why SB 79 Matters to Van Nuys

Van Nuys is one of the most transit-connected communities in the San Fernando Valley. Major transit hubs include:

- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority - Metrolink
- G Line (Van Nuys Station)
- Metrolink Ventura County Line
- East San Fernando Valley Light Rail Transit Project
- Sepulveda Transit Corridor
- Amtrak (Van Nuys Station)

However, the success of SB 79 in Van Nuys will depend on thoughtful implementation that prioritizes community stability, design quality, and equity. Particular attention must be given to issues of scale and compatibility, especially where transit-oriented development interfaces with existing single-family neighborhoods. Without appropriate transitions, increased density may result in abrupt changes in building height, massing, and intensity that are inconsistent with the established character of these neighborhoods.

What are SB 79 benefits and concerns:

1. Reduce Traffic & Improve Air Quality

- More housing near transit can reduce long car commutes
- Supports bus, rail, biking, and walking

2. Strengthen the Urban Canopy

Urban canopy means trees, shade, landscaped sidewalks, green roofs, and cooling public spaces.

For Van Nuys this could include:

- More shade along Van Nuys Blvd
- Pocket parks and small plazas
- Public art integrated into shaded areas
- Cooler streets during extreme heat
- Use of Native trees allowing more space for shade.

This improves public health and supports community gathering.

3. Improve Design Through Form-Based Zoning

SB 79 along with city planning uses a **form-based zoning approach (New Zoning Code)**, focusing on:

- How buildings look and meet the street
- Active ground floors
- Pedestrian-friendly sidewalks
- Creates open space that is integrated with buildings

This allows density while still shaping a cohesive, walkable corridor.

4. Protect & Reuse Existing Buildings

Preserving and adaptively reusing historic or culturally significant buildings:

- Maintains neighborhood character
- Reduces demolition waste
- Strengthens small business continuity

5. Mobility Infrastructure Integration

Projects should support multimodal transportation systems by including:

- Secure bicycle parking and micromobility infrastructure
- E-bike charging stations
- Designated ride-share and taxi zones
- Reduced but strategically managed parking
- Provision of strategically located parking near transit stops to support first-mile/last-mile access for those who choose to use a motor vehicle, while minimizing spillover into adjacent residential neighborhoods

6. Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Should Advocate For: Inclusive Housing

Growth must serve:

- Families
- Seniors
- Working households
- Long-term residents
- No market rate units to be converted to luxury units.

Tools should include affordable housing requirements and anti-displacement protections.

7. Community Design Input

Establish:

- Early design workshops
- Advisory input on public space, shading, art, and building design
- Clear timelines to avoid delays but allow community voice and adjustments made.

8. Emergency Preparedness

Ensure:

- Clear fire and emergency vehicle access
- Flood mitigation and stormwater planning
- Public spaces that can function as emergency gathering areas

9. Support for Micro-Business and Local Entrepreneurship

Ensure micro-business viability:

- **Public Space Activation:** Design plazas and sidewalks to support temporary markets, cultural events, and local vendor.
- **Small Commercial Unit Requirements:** Encourage or require a percentage of ground-floor commercial spaces to be subdivided into smaller, affordable units rather than large-format retail only.
- **Adaptive Reuse Incentives:** Allow existing small buildings to convert into mixed-use without excessive regulatory burden.
- **Reduced Parking Requirements for Small Businesses:** Recognize proximity to transit and pedestrian activity.

Tools should include affordable rent, accessible business permit procedures and anti-displacement protections.

10. Open Space Creation and Public Realm Activation

Transit-oriented development should incorporate the creation of diverse and accessible open spaces that enhance quality of life, support climate resilience, and activate community life.

Implementation should:

- Integrate parks, parklets, community gardens, courtyards, plazas, and outdoor market spaces into new developments and corridor improvements

- Design open spaces to support community gathering, recreation, and informal social interaction
- Provide spaces that can accommodate pop-up vendors, local markets, and small-scale commercial activity
- Ensure accessibility, safety, and inclusive design for all users
- Incorporate shade, tree canopy, and climate-responsive design strategies to address urban heat

Well-designed open spaces contribute to the success of transit-oriented neighborhoods by creating active, livable environments that support both community well-being and local economic activity.

11. Neighborhood Transitions, Mobility, and Compatibility Standards

Implementation of SB 79 must include clear and enforceable standards to ensure compatibility between higher-density transit-oriented development and adjacent single-family neighborhoods, while addressing localized mobility and parking impacts.

Implementation should:

- Establish graduated height and density transitions (“step-downs”) from transit corridors to lower-scale residential areas
- Require context-sensitive building massing, setbacks, and lot coverage
- Incorporate buffering strategies such as landscaping, tree canopy, paseos, and open space
- Limit abrupt upzoning adjacent to single-family zones without transitional designations
- Encourage “missing middle” housing near neighborhood edges
- Address neighborhood-level mobility impacts, including traffic circulation, curb demand, and pedestrian safety
- Provide context-sensitive parking strategies to mitigate spillover into residential streets
- Incorporate transportation demand management (TDM), including transit incentives and micromobility
- Coordinate with street design, traffic calming, and infrastructure capacity

In Conclusion for Van Nuys

SB 79 will influence development near transit. The Neighborhood Council’s role is to ensure:

- Growth reduces traffic and pollution
- Streets are shaded and walkable
- Public art and culture are visible
- Existing buildings are respected
- Housing is inclusive
- Community voice remains part of the process

The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council emphasizes that density alone does not create community. Successful transit-oriented development requires intentional design, environmental responsibility, equity protections, open space integration, and meaningful community participation.

We support state efforts to address housing shortages and climate goals. However, we request that SB 79 implementation in Van Nuys reflect the unique character, diversity, and needs of our community while advancing sustainable and inclusive growth.

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council

Kathy Schreiner
kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org
President

Pam Bingham
pam.bingham@vnnc.org
Vice President

Brian Edelman
brian.edelman@vnnc.org
Secretary

David Harari
david.harari@vnnc.org
Treasurer

Cyle Zezotarski
cyle.zezotarski@vnnc.org
Parliamentarian



John Camera
Connor Chiu
Quirino de la Cuesta
Mindi Gonzalez
Brandon Gruzen
Ann Kalb
Ray Mandarino
Dalilah Perez-Vigo
Priscilla Ramos
Derrick Spears
Francois Verin



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

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

818-357-2446

VNNC Comments on the Orange Line Transportation Network Plan (OLTNP) around Van Nuys and Sepulveda Stations .to be submitted to the City Planning Department

Overview:

The focus of the OLTNP is an application of zoning and incentives to promote a dramatic increase in the number of housing units in central Van Nuys and along Sepulveda Blvd. The zoning reflected in the plan is intended to encourage the building of mixed-use developments (i.e., buildings that include housing) on major corridors that are currently primarily commercial. These mixed-use developments will involve significantly greater density and height than is found in most of these locations today. The plan encourages incorporation of affordable housing in both mixed-use and residential developments by allowing more stories to be added to buildings that meet established targets for affordable housing. Incentives in the form of more stories in height are also permitted for including residential units with 3 or more bedrooms.

Impact:

The allowable density in the core of Van Nuys (from Victory Blvd. on the north to the G Line on the south, and from Hazeltine on the east to Kester on the west) will be up to 8 stories on most parcels, with even higher buildings on Van Nuys Blvd. Sepulveda Blvd. will also be lined with tall buildings (8 stories and higher).

While we support the intent of increasing housing near high-quality transit, the Council has concerns that a uniform ½-mile application of increased density may not adequately reflect the varied conditions along these corridors. Without a calibrated framework, this approach could result in abrupt transitions in scale and intensity that are inconsistent with the existing urban fabric and surrounding neighborhoods.

Concerns about Building Height and Density

- Dramatic increases in maximum height and density will totally change the central Van Nuys area. It will look more like downtown Los Angeles – with rows and rows of very tall buildings -- than the current collection of low to medium height buildings.
 - It is understandable that the greatest height and density would be allowed on the major north-south transit corridors in the area: Van Nuys Blvd. and Sepulveda Blvd. The development of more tall buildings was expected. The maximum height is not specified because it is to be calculated based on bonuses and overall FAR (Floor Area Ratio). However, a height of 9 or more stories seems likely.
 - However, the designation of east-west Victory Blvd. to permit the tallest buildings and greatest density is a surprise – especially since it is not an easily walkable distance from the G Line. Perhaps the designation reflects the fact that there will be a station on the ESFV Light Rail Transit Line near the intersection of Victory and Van Nuys.
 - Similarly, east-west Burbank Blvd. is designated for the highest buildings.
- While narrative in the videos about the plan says that there is a “transition” or “tapering” of density from major corridors to “existing residential neighborhoods”, these are not meaningful transitions if the residential neighborhoods east and west of Van Nuys Blvd can have buildings that are up to 8 stories high.
 - Nearly every parcel in the “residential” areas more than two blocks east of Van Nuys Blvd. to Hazeltine and west of Van Nuys Blvd. to Kester can have a building that is up to 8 stories high, if all bonuses are used.
 - The only break in height is for the areas already developed as “public space” in the Van Nuys Civic Center Area.
 - Even the current multifamily buildings in these areas are not more than 3 or 4 stories in height. It is hard to imagine that these areas will really feel like “neighborhoods” or “community.”
- North-south streets Kester and Hazeltine will also have buildings up to 8 stories in height – a big change from the current building profile on these streets.

Requests related to Density and Height

- That a significant differential be made between building height actually on the main north-south transit corridors and within two blocks east and west of the main transit corridors – vs. the buildings on the blocks that make up the “interior” of the Van Nuys central district.
- That east-west main streets such as Victory and Burbank be designated for a lower maximum height than is specified for the main north-south transit corridors (Van Nuys and Sepulveda).
- That Kester and Hazeltine be designated for buildings of a more moderate height.

Concerns about comfort, greenery, and public amenities

- The primary provision with regard to shade for pedestrians is a new frontage district that will require buildings on main transit corridors to use one of three options to provide shade: colonnades, awnings, or recessed courtyards. It is said that City Planning cannot require more planting of street trees. It seems unlikely that these façade frontages will provide meaningful shade for pedestrians who are walking to and from transit stations on hot sunny days in Van Nuys.
- Some trees will be required to be planted on private properties. However, these will provide minimal shade for the many residents in these high-rise housing developments.
- There is no explicit attention provided to mapping areas for more green spaces and community gathering spaces. The only “open space” designated in the plan is the existing Delano Recreation Center.
- While the OLTNP for the North Hollywood station offers incentives for development of artist studios and performing arts venues, there are no comparable incentives to develop cultural or public amenities in the Van Nuys and Sepulveda station areas.

Requests related to comfort, greenery, and public amenities

- The plan should make a meaningful addition to street trees and other tree canopy elements throughout the plan area.
- The plan should incorporate parks of different sizes with significant green space.
- The plan should place an emphasis on more green spaces and community gathering spaces throughout the plan area.
- The plan should incorporate gardens, landscape structures, tree canopy expansion, climate-responsive architecture, public art integration, and accessible gathering spaces to address heat mitigation and community activation near transit stops.
- The plan should provide incentives for cultural amenities and gathering spaces.

Concerns about industrial areas and opportunities for more jobs in the area

- The plan does not address any opportunities for business development and job creation in the plan area. Apparently, the reason for this is “the OLTNP will not rezone industrially-used lands and single-unit residential parcels. The industrially-used properties that were previously in the plan have been removed to streamline environmental review. Industrially-used lands and single-unit residential parcels will be comprehensively reviewed and rezoned along with the greater Southeast Valley as part of the Southeast Valley Community Plans Update, which will also capture any areas not rezoned by the OLTNP.”

Requests related to industrial areas and opportunities for more jobs in the area

- Provide meaningful planning that will enable Van Nuys to develop a more diverse business base and provide more jobs that will attract new residents to the housing that will be available.

Positive elements in the OLTNP

1. There is a proposal to standardize bike lanes across Burbank Blvd. from Sepulveda to Hazeltine.
2. There is a proposal to designate Van Nuys Blvd. from Vanowen to Aetna as “Modified Blvd. II”, which would provide the potential for wider sidewalks (20 feet – vs. current 6 to 16 feet). This might also create more opportunities for trees and other plants to shade the sidewalk.
3. The plan would allow inclusion of community serving businesses in buildings in Medium Neighborhood Residential areas.
4. It is helpful that there will be incentives for including larger housing units (3 BR and up) in new buildings – since there is a need for larger units to accommodate families.
5. It is helpful that there will be Incentives for building more affordable housing in both mixed use and residential buildings.

Conclusion

The Planning Department OLTNP website has the following statement:

“The OLTNP aims to promote a variety of housing options for people of various income levels near transit, create mixed use neighborhoods with community serving businesses and amenities, connect people to a variety of mobility options, and facilitate transit ridership. Additionally, the OLTNP proposes to implement design standards that support a healthy and safe public realm, and support strategies that promote sustainable and resilient communities.

The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council does not feel that the draft OLTNP delivers on these concepts. We hope that more input will be sought from the people who will be most directly impacted by these plans.