

City of Los Angeles
Voices Neighborhood Council

Javonne Sanders, At-Large Rep

Vacant, Area 1 Rep

Sidney Thomas, Area 2 Rep

Andrew Daramola, Area 3 Rep

Jason Saunder, Area 4 Rep

Vacant, Youth Rep

Omar Ramos, Vice Chair



Giovanni Garcia, Chair

Vermont Square Branch Library

Manuel Martinez, Education Rep

Antonio Hernandez, Housing Rep

Chrisman Oliver, Community-Based Rep

Edward G. Garren, Parliamentarian

Ana Campos, Recording Secretary

Melvin Rivas, Treasurer

Rhonda Lewis, Corresponding Secretary

Special Retreat Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 30th, 2025 6:00pm

Fuegos LA

3957 S Western Ave

Los Angeles, CA 90062

Call to Order (time):

Roll Call

Action Item

All items listed are designated for discussion and possible action by the Voices Neighborhood Council. Council items identified as presentations may be proposed for action by the Council and will be reflected as such in the meeting minutes.

Item	Reference Number	Matter
1	0930-01	General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: Public comment will be LIMITED to 2 MINUTES PER PERSON.
2	0930-02	Announcements A. LAPD B. Los Angeles Fire Department - Report, updates C. Mayor's Office D. ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES E. USC F. NHS G. Community Coalition
3	0930-03	Welcome & Opening Remarks (10 mins) • Purpose of the Retreat • Review of Agenda & Expectations

4	0930-04	Icebreaker & Team Connection (20 min) • Group introductions • Interactive activity to get to know one another (Two truths and a lie)
5	0930-05	Council Structure & Communication (20 min) • Discussion on current structure and roles • Review of email use and communication practices • Identifying what is working well and areas for improvement
6	0930-06	Meeting Review (10 mins) • Reflections on how meetings are currently run • Discussion: strengths and challenges • Ideas for making meetings more effective and engaging
7	0930-07	Meeting Discussion (20 mins) • Practical examples and Q&A • Robert's Rules of Order
8	0930-08	Break / Informal Conversation/ Food and Drinks: Empanadas (30 mins)
9	0930-09	Creative Team Activity (30 mins) • Plant/Pot Painting Activity • Reflection on teamwork and creativity
10	0930-10	Closing & Next Steps (10) • Recap of key points • Action items & assignments (if any) • Closing reflections round • Adjournment
11	0930-11	ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" 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 3 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Council, and given to the first 10 persons who submit Speakers Cards to the Recording Secretary.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The City of Los Angeles Code of Conduct will be enforced to ensure the Voices Neighborhood Council meetings are collaborative, supportive, and respectful of divergent opinions.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, 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 emailing chair@VoicesNC.org. Note: for TTY/TDD services, please refer to state provided services at <https://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov/homepage.aspx>. Zoom meetings feature closed captioning functionality.

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS

Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Vermont Square Library, 1201 W. 48th St. Los Angeles, CA 90037
- www.voicesnc.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>

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 ethics.commission@lacity.org.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: www.VoicesNC.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 323-285-1877 or email at: Recordingsecretary@voicesnc.org

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS

For information on the Voices NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the Voices NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and at www.VoicesNC.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 a Jaime Rabb, Chair, por correo electrónico a chair@voicesnc.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

RULES REGARDING ONLINE MEETINGS:

If a Neighborhood Council has a quorum of board members in a physical location, board members who wish to join the meeting via teleconferencing must adhere to AB 2449 rules and regulations. If a Neighborhood Council does not have a quorum of board members in a physical location, they must adhere to SB 411 rules and regulations.

In the event of a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the eligible legislative body's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the eligible legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

The eligible legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comments in real time. Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the eligible legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(i) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph , to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(ii) An eligible legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(iii) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.