

WLASNC Board FY 2021-2022

Jamie Keeton - Chair/ Organizational Rep.
Ron Migdal - Vice Chair /At Large Rep.
Jay Ross – Secretary/ Organizational Rep.
Jay Handal - Treasurer/ Large Business Rep.

Walton Chiu - North West Rep.
Vacant - North East Rep.
Arman Ghorbani - South East Rep.
Jean Shigematsu - At Large
Galen Pindell - South West Rep.
Monica Mejia-Lambert - At Large Rep.
Ehsan Zahedani - At Large Rep.
Teri Temme - At Large Rep.
Pierre Tecon - At Large Rep.
Danilo Torro - Small Business Rep.
Adriane Ransom - Small Business Rep.



West Los Angeles Sawtelle
Neighborhood Council
1645 Corinth Ave.
Los Angeles Calif. 90025
(310) 235-2070

Chair: Jamie Keeton
Jamie@WestLASawtelle.org

Website:
www.WestLASawtelle.org

**WEST LOS ANGELES SAWTELLE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Board of Directors Meeting -- Agenda
Wed., Sept. 28, 2022 -- 7:00 PM**

Video Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86290121637>

Meeting ID: 862 9012 1637 (and press #)

Phone: (669) 900-6833 or (833) 548-0282, (888) 475-4499, (877) 853-5257, (833) 548 0276

The toll-free feature eliminates long-distance call charges for participants.

VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE WLASNC MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY WITH A CALL-IN OPTION OR INTERNET-BASED SERVICE OPTION.

Telephone: Stakeholders who wish to address the Neighborhood Council may dial (669) 900-6833, and enter 862-9012-1637 (and press #) to join the meeting.

Press *9 to raise your hand to speak. Press *6 to unmute your phone.

Email public comments to Chair Jamie Keeton at Jamie@WestLASawtelle.org

Agenda and files posted: No paper documents are associated with this meeting.

Physical: WLANC office - 1645 S. Corinth Ave., West LA (glass door, west side by the ramp)

Website: <https://www.westlasawtelle.org/committees> (click on "Board of Directors")

Google drive: <https://tinyurl.com/WLASNC-Board>

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dJqZrIFJxj46K4e2uSpF2JMpdpqeLGbb>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WestLASawtelleNC>

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 N.C.'s control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

- i. Payments to musicians at 26 West LA Farmers Market events on Sundays - \$5,600.
 - ii. Purchase of 3 tents for childrens craft areas, supplies, games - \$900.
 - iii. Design and printing of marketing flyers (to include WLASNC acknowledgement, information, logo): \$500.
 - iv. Dates: Sundays from Sept. to Dec. 2022.
 - v. Funding requested: Sept. 20, 2022.
 - vi. Conflicts of interest: To be disclosed.
 - i. Neighborhood Purposes Grant application: LTSC Community Development Corp. for \$ 3,500 (see Exhibits at end of Agenda and Google Drive). Event for the dedication of the new Jake Fujimoto Square on Sawtelle Blvd.
 - i. Supplies (art, decorations, food, drinks) and equipment rentals (tent, chairs).
 - ii. Dates: Oct. 1 to Oct. 23, 2022. Event on Oct. 23.
 - iii. Funding requested: Oct. 1, 2022.
 - iv. Conflicts of interest: To be disclosed.
 - j. Congress of NCs: Sept. 24, 8:00 to 4:00 pm (online) - registration is open.
 - i. Info: <https://www.neighborhoodcongress.la/> .
3. General Public Comment: Items not on the Agenda (1-minute minimum).
4. Government/Agency/Community Partner updates:
 - a. Mayor Eric Garcetti: West Area field deputy - Lisa Payne. Lisa.Payne@LACity.org - (213) 320-8205.
Westside info/events: <https://sites.google.com/lacity.org/westarea/>
 - b. Council District #11-Mike Bonin: Planning Deputy - Jason Douglas, WLA Field Deputy – Noah Fleishman.
Jason.Douglas@LACity.org , Noah.Fleishman@LACity.org
 - c. Dept. of Transportation-Clare Eberle: Slow Streets update .
 - d. Supervisor District #3-Sheila Kuehl: Field Deputy - Zachary Gaidzek, ZGaidzik@BOS.LACounty.gov
 - e. State Assembly District #30-Sydney Kamlager: Field Representative - Josef Siroky, Josef.Siroky@Sen.CA.gov
 - f. State Assembly District #54-Isaac Bryan: Field Representative - Michelle Persoff, Michelle.Persoff@ASM.CA.gov
 - g. U.S. House of Representatives-Ted Lieu: Representative - Janet Turner Janet.Turner@Mail.House.gov
 - h. Police Dept.: Senior Lead Officer James Lavenson - 30627@lapd.online
 - i. Citizens Forestry Advisory Council (Urban Forestry): CD11 representative- Isabelle Duvivier.
 - j. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment: John Darnell John.Darnell@LACity.org
 - k. DWP: Deborah Hong - Deborah.Hong@LADWP.com .
 - l. Website for affordable units: <https://LAHousing.LACity.org/AAHR>
5. Ex parte communications: J. Ross - conferred with Matthew Hayden, 23450 Barrington Ave.; Will Cipes, Bundy/ Exposition/ Amherst/ Tennessee apts.;

- Amanda Garza, Thomas Safran Housing; and David Levitus, Savannah Walseth, United to House L.A., for information and scheduling.
6. Officer Reports: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary.
 7. Motion: Amendment to Resolution of Aug. 24 to support for CF22-0560, which includes revision the Municipal Lobbying Ordinance to require that lobbyists affirmatively disclose during testimony to NCs that they are being paid to advocate, and other minor revisions.
 - a. Amendment #1: NC requests a similar lobbying disclosure for City Council and its committee meetings. This announcement could be done by the lobbyist or by the presiding officer to ensure that the public is fully aware of the associations of speakers who are paid lobbyists.
 - i. Findings and justifications: NC members frequently listen to City Council meetings and this would notice them about paid lobbyists. Lobbyists sometimes claim to be voluntary (unpaid) members of “grass roots” community groups, when they are actually paid lobbyists for groups that corporate interests establish to appear to represent regular citizens (“astro turf” groups).
 - b. Amendment #2: NC requests the City Council reduce the non-profit exemption of \$200,000 in revenue or \$500,000 in assets instead of the proposed \$2,000,000.
 - i. Findings and justification: This reduction aligns with the IRS tax filing system and would allow the majority of non-profits that file a 990-N or 990-EZ to gain exemption. This standard is similar to [San Francisco ethics ordinance](#). The current recommendation of \$2,000,000 in revenue is very high and would exempt the vast majority of non-profits in Southern California (only 16% non-profits have revenues higher than \$1,000,000), so the majority of non-profits would be exempt and the public would not know if they are paid advocates.
 - c. Clerk: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=22-0560>
 - d. Ethics Commission Report: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2022/22-0560_misc_5-05-22.pdf
 - e. Motion: https://docs.google.com/document/d/14vdG1akw4Mtt_BM2C2oDaReMilHarpfXmBVswmqT_sQ/edit
 8. Motion: Support for United to House L.A. Citizens ballot initiative. David Levitus, Savannah Walseth, Kath Rogers (ACLU), representatives. (NC must confer with City attorney to determine if it can take positions on ballot initiatives.)
 - a. Information:
 - b. <https://laist.com/news/housing-homelessness/united-to-house-la-los-angeles-housing-homelessness-real-estate-tax-5-million-election-november-ballot-measure>
 - c. https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/movela/pages/1677/attachments/original/1639683798/United_to_House_L.A._Measure_Summary_12.15.21.pdf?1639683798
 9. Missouri Place apartments: Update on new measures to improve security, per August meeting.
 - a. Representative: Amanda Garza, Thomas Safran Housing.
 10. West L.A. Commons (civic center / courthouse re-development):

- a. Case #: City - CPC-2022-3679-DB-VCU-MCUP-SPR-HCA. VTT-83475. ENV-2022-1357-EAF. County - PRJ2022-000303, RPPL2022-000742.
- b. City and County will determine by February 2023 if they will enact design changes requested in NC resolution of June 29 (public park with grass and playground, and permanent skateboard facility).
- c. CD11 motion to create public amenities at Idaho Ave. parking lot.
- d. Info: <https://planning.lacounty.gov/case/view/prj2022-000303>
- e. EIR: Scoping meeting (Jun. 14):
 - i. Presentation: <https://youtu.be/fv0enzMvt8I>.
 - ii. Public testimony: https://youtu.be/zl2-E_stSuU
- f. Planners (for public comment):
 - i. L.A. City: Polonia Majas, Milena Zasadzien, Alan Como – Milena.Zasadzien@LACity.org Polonia.Majas@LACity.org
 - ii. L.A.County: Jolee Hui - JHui@Planning.LACounty.gov.

11. Committee Reports:

- a. Planning and Land Use Management (J. Ross, Chair).
 - i. Bundy/Expo/Amherst/Tennessee Ave. apartments: Motion: Request for design changes to increase quasi-public open space, plant more trees onsite, diversify affordable apartments (all are extremely low-income, so change some to very low-income and low-income), add moderate-income units above affordable minimum required/ provided, dust and noise mitigation, time limits, avoid truck staging in neighborhood, participate in apprentice programs for trades, participate in local hire programs.
 - ii. 2450 S. Barrington Ave. apartments: Motion: Request for design changes to add trees, increase EV spaces and 1 moderate-income unit (in excess of low-income units that HCID requires).
 - iii. Motion: The NC requests that the City halt the Housing Element's proposed upzoning of our neighborhood until the zoning capacity is fully disclosed. Request that City use the State HCD handbook criteria that advocate social justice goals, instead of the City's current criteria, if upzonings are determined to be needed.
 - iv. West L.A. Community Plan update:
 - 1. EIR Notice of Preparation will be released in the summer.
 - 2. Community Plan Advisory Board members will be selected by September? (35-40 members, including 1 PLUM member for each NC).
 - 3. Responses to conceptual land use suggestions will be in the Fall (based on last year's community meetings).
- b. Homeless (J.Handal, Chair).
- c. Outreach and Communications (A.Ransom, W.Chiu, Co-Chairs):
 - i. Email / paper newsletters.
 - ii. Design for flyer with Farmers Market and distribution.
- d. Budget Advocates (J.Handal, Chair).
 - i. Website: <https://www.BudgetAdvocates.org/reports>
- e. DWP: Updates:

- i. LA Equity 100 program (clean energy).
 - ii. EMF impacts from new high-power lines.
 - iii. Proposal to build new office building on Nebraska Ave.: Original proposal for 60-ft tall building to start CEQA review.
 - 1. Response to neighbor comments.
 - f. Public Safety (R.Migdal, Chair).
 - g. By-Laws (J.Ross, Chair):
 - i. Motion: Removal of Jean Shigematsu (At Large seat).
 - 1. Missed 3 consecutive meetings in June, July and August.
 - ii. Motion: The notice of the opening for an At-Large Seat in June and the appointment of Monica Mejia-Lambert in July complied with 2020 By-Laws.
 - iii. Motion: Creation of a Standing Rule to announce and notice openings of Board seats via submittal of Special Agenda to DONE, posting to NC website, and posting to NC's active and existing social media within 7 days of Board meeting at which opening is disclosed (can be the same date as regularly scheduled Board meeting, as long as it is within 30 days of the disclosure of the opening).
 - 1. Only requirements are that notice is provided within 30 days of disclosure of opening, and consideration of applicants must be at next Board meeting. There is no requirement for the duration of the notice in the By-Laws.
 - 2. Justification: This policy of quicker notice will increase the time that the public receives notice and to submit applications for open seats.
 - h. Environmental (J.Ross, Chair) - N.C. Sustainability Alliance www.NCSA.LA (Phil Ganchev, representative): No update.
 - i. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (Walton Chiu, Chair): No update.
 - j. NC Elections (J.Ross, Chair):
 - i. Info (NC website-Election folder): <https://tinyurl.com/4m89dnb2>
 - ii. Candidate applications enrollment opens: Nov. 26.
 - iii. Election date: Sun., Mar. 26, 2023, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.
 - iv. Poll workers needed for Election Day (paid positions by City Clerk):
- 12. WRAC (Westside Regional Alliance of Councils): <https://westsidecouncils.com/>
 - a. Homeless Committee (J.Handal, Chair).
 - i. Motion: NC supports Council File 20-1376-S3 (Buscaino) for an ordinance amending LAMC Sections 41.18 and 56.01 to prohibit sitting, lying, sleeping, and storing personal property in or upon any street, sidewalk or other public-right-of-way within 500 ft. of a library.
 - ii. Clerk file:
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1376-S3>
 - iii. Background:

<https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Background-Camping-Motion-Libraries-WRAC-1.pdf>

- b. Land Use and Planning Committee (J.Ross, representative).
 - c. Transportation Committee (J.Ross, representative).
 - d. Public Safety (representative TBD).
13. General Public Comment: Items not on the Agenda (1-minute minimum).
14. Member announcements.
15. 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 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting Jay Ross, Board Member, at (310) 979-9255 or email Jamie@WestLASawtelle.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.WestLASawtelle.org, or at the scheduled meeting. If you want any record for an item on the agenda, contact Chair Jamie Keeton at Jamie@WestLASawtelle.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 LAMC 18.01 et seq. More information is available at www.Ethics.LACity.org/Lobbying. For assistance, contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or Ethics.Commission@LACity.org.

PUBLIC INPUT AT N.C. MEETINGS: 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 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

Any messaging or virtual background is in the control of the individual Boardmember in their personal capacity, and does not reflect any formal position of the N.C. or the City.

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS: Agenda are posted for public review as follows:

- Website: www.WestLASawtelle.org (see Committees tab).
- Dropbox:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3zce0mtjhjz9zk0/AADaYoJMX2Sgqsc5S1q7wYca/2020/BOARD%20OF%20DIRECTORS/Board%20Meeting%2009.23.20?dl=0&subfolder_nav_tracking=1

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

RECORDING MEETINGS: Meetings may be sound or video recorded.

SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION: Si require servicios de traduccion, avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 dias de trabajo (72) horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a Chair Jamie Keeton a Jamie@WestLASawtelle.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

Attendance:

	Regular	Special	Cancelled	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Regular	Special	Regular	Special	Regular	Regular
elle NC: Meetin	11/17/2021	12/8/2021	12/15/2021	1/26/2022	2/23/2022	3/23/2022	4/27/2022	5/25/2022	6/13/2022	6/22/2022	6/29/2022	7/27/2022	8/24/2022
W. Chiu	--	--	--	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
M. Rudnick	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	NO	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO	Yes	Yes	NO
G. Pindell	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO
A. Ghorbani	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO	Yes	Yes	NO	NO	Yes	Yes
J. Shigematsu	Yes	Yes	--	NO	NO	NO	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO	NO	NO	NO
T. Temme	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
E. Zahedani	NO	NO	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO	Yes	NO	NO	NO	Yes	Yes
P. Tecon	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO	NO	NO	Yes	Yes	Yes
R. Migdal	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
A. Ransom	--	--	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
J. Handal	Yes	NO	--	NO	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
M. Mejia												Yes	Yes
D. Torro	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO	Yes	NO	NO	NO	NO	Yes
J. Ross	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
J. Keeton	Yes	Yes	--	NO	Yes	Yes	NO	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

#2-D. Monthly profile (Sept. 2):

First Name	Last Name	Board Seat	Ethics Expiration	Funding Expiration	Code of Conduct Expiration
Jean	Shigematsu	At-Large Representative (2023)	12/7/2022	12/3/2022	3/4/2024
Jay	Handal	Large Business Representative (2023)	11/19/2023	8/1/2024	6/27/2024
Jamie	Keeton	Organizational Representative (2023)	6/27/2024	11/10/2022	8/11/2023
Ron	Migdal	At-Large Representative (2023)	10/23/2022	10/23/2022	1/27/2024
Arman	Ghorbani	South East District Representative (2023)		11/29/2022	11/11/2023
Jay	Ross	Organizational Representative (2023)	2/14/2024	10/27/2022	11/2/2023
Pierre	Tecon	At-Large Representative (2023)	11/15/2022	11/7/2022	11/9/2022
Galen	Pindell	South West District Representative (2023)	12/23/2022	12/22/2022	12/22/2022
Mollie	Rudnick	North East District Representative (2023)	3/5/2023	3/4/2023	3/4/2023
Ehsan	Zahedani	At-Large Representative (2023)	12/11/2021	2/23/2024	2/23/2024
Danilo	Torro	Small Business Representative (2023)	10/10/2022	10/5/2022	10/5/2022
Teri	Temme	At-Large Representative (2023)	11/26/2022	2/9/2023	11/26/2022
Adriane	Ransom	Small Business Representative (2023)	3/8/2024	3/7/2024	3/7/2024
Walton	Chiu	North West District Representative (2023)	3/9/2024	3/7/2024	3/7/2024
Monica	Mejia-Lambert	At-Large Representative (2023)	8/25/2024	8/25/2024	8/25/2024

#7: Draft Motion: Municipal Lobbying Ordinance

DRAFT [Council File 22-0560](#) (Municipal Lobbying Ordinance / Updates)

The ___ Neighborhood Council supports the changes to the municipal lobbying ordinance (MLO) regarding neighborhood councils. We also request the consideration of changes to a few minor areas of the draft MLO that we believe will benefit transparency in the city. We urge the Committee Chair Nury Martinez to schedule this Council File for consideration and a vote in the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

Under section 48.08.8 of the [current lobbying ordinance](#), a lobbyist disclosure is only required for written communications to neighborhood councils. We believe the ordinance should be updated to include the same disclosure when a lobbyist makes an oral presentation or public

comment to a neighborhood council that is related to their lobbying efforts. Therefore, we deeply agree with section 48.11 of the [draft municipal lobbying ordinance](#) under consideration.

As you may be aware, neighborhood councils continue to meet telephonically due to COVID and it is widely expected that this will continue in at least some form even when/if the pandemic passes. Additionally, under AB 361, we are prohibited from requiring "speaker cards," which is where traditionally lobbying disclosures had happened on our council. While _____ can require a disclosure for its own meetings, that disclosure has no teeth for enforcement as it is not an ordinance and it also does not address the other 98 neighborhood councils which similarly serve as elected advisory bodies to the city.

We believe the lack of oral lobbyist disclosure requirement leaves many neighborhood council board members at an information disadvantage and that it should be addressed for the following reasons:

- 1) **Transparency.** We believe every voting member at a board meeting has the right to the knowledge if a lobbyist is speaking on an item for which they are compensated to lobby.
- 2) **Diffusion of responsibility.** A lobbyist may send a correct written disclosure either via mail or email, but often these communications do not go to every member of the board. Unless the board member is diligent in passing along these communications, then it is possible there would be other members of the board who do not know of the lobbyist status of the individual speaking.
- 3) **Lack of training.** We do not receive training on identifying or looking up lobbyist activities in the city through the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. We believe the legal onus should be on the lobbyist to be as upfront and straightforward with the board as possible. Additionally, the responsibility is then on the paid lobbyist rather than the volunteer board member when it comes to the pursuit of this information.

In addition, the _____ Neighborhood Council would like to request a similar lobbying disclosure for city council and committee meetings. This announcement could either be done by the lobbyist or by the presiding officer of the meeting in order to ensure that the public is fully aware of the associations of all speakers who are paid lobbyists. Neighborhood council members frequently listen to city council meetings or recordings of the meetings and we strongly feel that this minor addition would bring greater transparency to the City processes. We urge the City Council to adopt this minor change.

Lastly, the _____ Neighborhood Council urges the City Council to adopt a non profit exemption of \$200,000 in revenue or \$500,000 in assets instead of the proposed \$2,000,000. This change aligns with the IRS tax filing system and would essentially allow any non profit that files a 990-N or 990-EZ to gain exemption. This change also reflects the current [San Francisco ethics ordinance](#). The current recommendation of \$2 million in revenue is far too high and would exempt the vast majority of nonprofits in Southern California. Only 16% of Southern California non profits have revenues above \$1 million, so an exemption set at twice that amount would have a grave effect on transparency.