

# **City of Los Angeles**



EmpowerLa 200 N. Spring Street www.wmpowerla.org

Officers
President – Jon Mann
Vice President - Karen DiBiase
Treasurer – Heath Kline
Secretary – Joyce Fletcher
Parliamentarian – August Steurer

# **AGENDA**

Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council FULL BOARD MEETING December 10, 2025 6:30/7:00pm – 9:30pm City of Los Angeles Fire Station 84 In the Community Room 21050 Burbank Blvd., Woodland Hills CS, 91367 IN PERSON MEETING

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a Joyce Fletcher, Secretaria al 818-639-9444 or j.fletcher@whcouncil.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

\*PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – The public may 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. *Public comment is limited to (2) minutes per speaker*.

\*PUBLIC INPUT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA - 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.

General Public Comment is limited to (2) minute per speaker and 20 minutes total unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the board.

Notice: Candidates running for elections in LA and California: Individual candidates may not speak about their candidacy as this is prohibited by: The California Supreme Court in Stanson v. Mott (1976) 17 Cal.3d 206 at 217 provided the general guiding principle prohibiting the use of public funds and resources in election matters: "A fundamental precept of this nation's democratic electoral process is that the government may not take sides in election contests or bestow an unfair advantage on one of several competing factions. NC board members may attend candidate forums that are not sponsored by the NC or provide a forum where ALL candidates are invited, are present and are provided equal time to speak.

#### **AGENDA**

Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance

#### Roll Call

#### **Board Members**

Area 1 – Karen DiBiase, Geoffrey Hobson, Shelly Schwartz

Area 2 – Julian Tu, Reina Cerros-McCaughey, Jon Mann, Susan Roberts

Area 3 - August Steurer, Dean Mathew, Harout Aristakessian,

Area 4 – Paul Scola, Martin Lipkin, Mary Jo Rizvi, Janyce Pink

Area 5 - Meagan Jacoby

Area 6 – Danny Mulvihill, Heath Kline, Harris Cohen

Area 7 – Kate Kennedy, Joyce Fletcher, Juliet Schwarz

#### **Public Announcements:**

Office of Councilmember Bob Blumenfield (5 minutes)
Office of Local and State Officials – if available (5 minutes each)
Other Local Agencies – if available (5 minutes each)

# General Public Comment, by the Public, on Non-Agenda Items:

General Public Comment is limited to (2) minutes per speaker and 20 minutes total.

I. Organization, Operation, Policies, & Procedures:

All comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

Time limits set for each agenda item may be adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board. Time limits may vary so the public is encouraged to join the meeting several minutes PRIOR to a specific agenda item being discussed.

A. Approval of Minutes: November 12, 2025 (2 minutes)

See posted support document. Roll Call Vote

**B. Officer Reports** (5 minutes)

President – Jon Mann Vice President – Karen DiBiase Treasurer – Heath Kline Secretary – Joyce Fletcher Parliamentarian – August Steurer

## 2. Items for Discussion and Possible Action:

# <u>Item No. (1) Heath Kline, Treasurer</u> (25-081) Motion to Approve the November MER

Discussion and possible action:

(5 minutes)

Motion to approve the November 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report [MER]

# **Supporting Documents:**

• The November MER was not available at the time of this agenda posting and will be made available to the board and public in advance of the board meeting.

Roll Call Vote

# Item No. (2) Heath Kline & August Steurer WHIP Co-Chairs (25-082) Update Report & Resolution CIS 25-1358 & California Senate Bill 707 Section 54953.8.4 NC Tele (Zoom) Meetings Effective January 1 2026 through January 1 2030

Discussion and possible action:

(10 minutes)

The Woodland Hills Issues and Policies Committee [WHIP] of the WHWCNC by unanimous vote December 3, 2025 recommends that the full NC Board

- (a.) adopt this Resolution and Community Impact Statement [CIS] electing to conduct board and committee meetings in hybrid-virtual or fully virtual format as required by California Senate Bill 707 Section 54953.8.4 and Council File 25-1358 and other relevant Council Files;
- **(b.)** authorize the Board President to complete the Attestation Statement, notify the City Council and Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, and implement this resolution.

#### **ATTESTATION STATEMENT**

I, Jon Mann, declare that I am the President of the Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council and that on [DATE], 2025, at a Brown Act noticed public meeting held by this NC with a quorum present, and that by a vote of (##) yes, (##) no, and (##) abstentions, this Neighborhood Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, this resolution is the official statement adopted by this Neighborhood Council. The Woodland Hills-Warner Center NC satisfies the majority board vote requirement of Government Code Section 54953.8.4 (enacted by SB 707) and elects to use teleconferencing for board and/or committee meetings for all the reasons set forth below in our adopted Community Impact Statement [CIS] Resolution:

#### WHWCNC CIS & RESOLUTION

# **Background and Authority**

Whereas, California Senate Bill 707 (effective January 1, 2026 replacing SB-411 and AB2449 that sunset January 1, 2026) enacted Government Code Section 54953.8.4, providing teleconferencing authority for Los Angeles neighborhood councils through January 1, 2030; and,

Whereas, Section 54953.8.4 applies exclusively to neighborhood councils in cities over 3,000,000 population (only Los Angeles), recognizing LA's unique 99-council volunteer governance system; and,

Whereas, the Los Angeles City Council authorized this use through Council File 25-1358 and Section 54953.8.4 requires this Board to elect this authority by majority vote with justification to the City Council; and,

# **Board Member Losses and Recruitment Challenges**

**Whereas,** in 2024-2025, this Neighborhood Council lost dedicated board members who resigned due to inability to participate remotely, including nursing mothers, caregivers for ailing parents, working professionals with required travel to Sacramento and Washington D.C., and parents unable to secure evening childcare; and,

Whereas, board vacancies are increasingly difficult to fill when candidates learn in-person attendance is mandatory regardless of work, family, health, or disability circumstances; and,

# **Facility and Geographic Challenges**

Whereas, available public facilities (libraries, fire stations) have limited availability and lack adequate parking; private facilities cost \$200-500 per meeting and are poorly equipped for hybrid meetings; and,

**Whereas,** Los Angeles covers 503 square miles with board members facing 1-2 hour commutes, making in-person-only attendance impractical for working people, those with caregiving duties, disabilities, or health conditions; and,

#### **Key Provisions of Section 54953.8.4**

Whereas, Section 54953.8.4 recognizes Neighborhood Council volunteer board members require flexibility to balance civic service with employment, family, caregiving, and health needs; and,

Whereas, unlike other Brown Act provisions, Section 54953.8.4 requires no minimum in-person quorum, no geographic restrictions on remote participation, no "just cause" justifications, and no frequency limitations; and,

Whereas, this flexibility prevents board resignations, enables diverse recruitment, and ensures accessibility for working families, caregivers, people with disabilities, and those with demanding work schedules; and,

**Whereas,** it was the legislative intent codified in Section 54953.8.4 as enacted specifically for LA neighborhood councils to address these challenges provided they meet these new NC requirements:

- Quorum participation from within City of Los Angeles boundaries (in person and remote)
- Annual noticed in-person quorum meeting within NC territory
- Disruption policy (behavior & technical) adoption by July 1, 2026
- Document roll call with member locations at each meeting to establish geographic compliance and create public record

#### Resolution

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.8.4 for board and committee meetings.

#### POSITIVE IMPACTS ON OUR COMMUNITY CONCLUSION

Electing to use teleconferencing under Government Code Section 54953.8.4 addresses documented board member losses, accommodates real-life circumstances of volunteer leaders, and ensures that all community members can contribute to our shared community regardless of work schedules, family responsibilities, health needs, or life circumstances.

#### NOTIFICATION TO CITY COUNCIL

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.8.4(a)(1)(B), the Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council hereby notifies the Los Angeles City Council of our election to use teleconferencing pursuant to Section 54953.8.4, with the justification set forth above.

#### **Submitted to:**

Los Angeles City Council

cc: Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, BONC, Council District 3 (Councilmember Bob Blumenfield), Los Angeles City Attorney NCAD

Adopted this day of **[DATE]**, 2025 By the Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council

[WHIP Committee Vote: Yes Kline, Steurer, Williams] Roll Call Vote

# <u>Item No. (3) Jon Mann and Board Retreat Ad Hoc Planning Committee</u> (25-083) Vote on possible future dates:

Discussion and possible action: (3 minutes)
Roll Call Vote

#### Item No. (4) Jon Mann for Susan Roberts

# (25-084) Roll call vote for NC involvement at Healthcare Event.

Would the board like to get involved with a Health & Wellness Expo in Woodland Hills? This event is held by the West Valley Warner Center Chamber of Commerce and The Health and Wellness Resource Network. January 24, 2026. Table is no charge.

Discussion and possible action: (5 minutes)

See posted support document: Roll Call Vote

# 3. Area Reports – (10 minutes)

Area 1 – Karen DiBiase, Geoffrey Hobson, Shelly Schwartz

Area 2 – Julian Tu, Reina Cerros-McCaughey, Jon Mann, Susan Roberts

Area 3 - August Steurer, Dean Mathew, Harout Aristakessian

Area 4 – Paul Scola, Martin Lipkin, Mary Jo Rizvi, Janyce Pink

Area 5 - Meagan Jacoby

Area 6 – Danny Mulvihill. Heath Kline, Terry Stobie, Harris Cohen

Area 7 – Kate Kennedy, Joyce Fletcher, Juliet Schwarz

# 4. Committee Reports - (10 minutes)

Budget Committee – Heath Kline, Chair

Arts and Culture Committee - Harout Aristakessian

Community Services Committee – Joyce Fletcher, Chair

Community Outreach Committee – August Steurer, Chair

Education and Youth Committee -

Environmental & Beautification Committee - Karen DiBiase, Chair

Governance Committee – Officers

Government Relations Committee – Reina Cerros-McCaughey

Homelessness and Social Justice Advocacy Committee – Juliet Schwarz, Chair

PLUM Committee – Martin Lipkin and Joyce Fletcher. Co-Chairs

Public Safety and Transportation Committee –

WHIP Committee – Heath Kline and August Steurer, Co-Chairs

Ad Hoc Committee – Board Retreat – Jon Mann and Juliet Schwarz, Co-Chairs

#### Announcements:

The next Regular Board meeting will be held on January 14, 2026. Please visit the calendar page at whouncil.org for the complete details and to confirm the date and time.

Meeting dates for year 2025 -2026: Full Board meeting are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm. Check the NC website calendar for a complete list of committee and board meetings. Meeting dates and times are subject to change.

# **Adjournment of Meeting:**

\*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 Secretary, Joyce Fletcher, email j.fletcher@whcouncil.org or the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at (213) 978-1551 EmpowerLa@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.whcouncil.org or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record, if available, related to an item on the agenda, please contact President, Jon Mann email j.mann@whcouncil.org

- \*PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS agendas are posted for public review as follows:
- <u>www.whcouncil.org</u> and go to the website Calendar page and click on the date Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. Check the calendar for any change of meeting date and/or time.
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions
  - A copy of this agenda is also physically posted in the plexiglass case fixed to the front door of Fire Station 84 located at 21050 Burbank Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91367

\*RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS - For information on the WHWCNC process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the WHWCNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website at www.whcouncil.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 ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at {213} 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org that enable older adults to age with family, in community or independently.