

**Kathy Schreiner, Chair**  
[kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org](mailto:kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org)  
President

**Suju Vijayan**  
Vice President

**John Hendry**  
Secretary

**Jennifer Febre**  
Treasurer

**Myrra Bolla**  
Parliamentarian

**Council**

Hakop 'Jack' Azatyan  
Michael Browning  
John Camera  
Brian Edelman  
David Harari  
Glen Makiri  
Richard Marks  
Maduka Nkuku  
Danielle Rouillard  
Dr. Thelá Thatch  
Kibwe Trim  
Brittany Vaughan  
Matt Wayne

**Van Nuys Neighborhood Council**



Van Nuys Neighborhood Council  
Parks, Open Space, and  
Environment Committee Meeting  
Thursday, March 16, 2023  
at 7:00 p.m.

Zoom meeting online or by telephone  
Please click the link below  
to join the Meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86182632536>

Dial **(669) 900-6833** to join the meeting  
Enter Meeting ID: **861 8263 2536**  
Press#  
877 853 5257 US Toll-free  
888 475 4499 US Toll-free

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

Email: [info@vnnc.org](mailto:info@vnnc.org)  
[www.vnnc.org](http://www.vnnc.org)

In Conformity With The September 16, 2021 Enactment Of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) And Due To Concerns Over Covid-19, Parks, Open Space, and Environment Committee Meeting Of Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Will Be Conducted Telephonically And Internet Based Via Zoom.

Members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting or participate in public comment to the Committee via telephone should call (669) 900-6833 or one of the following Toll-Free Telephone Numbers: (833) 548 0282, (888) 475 4499 and use Meeting ID No. **861 8263 2536**; then press #. Press # again when prompted for participant ID. When you have a question for the Host, you can Raise Hand by pressing \*9, when called on to talk, you can mute/unmute by pressing \*6.

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS** The public is requested to dial \*9 if participating by phone or "Raise Hand" if participating by computer, when prompted by the presiding officer, 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 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.

**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.**

**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 Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned

Chair of Parks, Open Space, and Environment Committee: Kathy Schreiner

Members of Parks, Open Space, and Environment Committee:

VNNC Board Members: Hakop Azatyan, John Camera, and John Hendry

Stakeholder Members: Michele Gregory, Quirino de la Cuesta

1. Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call.
2. Chair Comments
3. Discussion and possible action to approve minutes of the February 13, 2023 meeting – see pp. 9-16 of this document.

Minutes from January meeting will be reviewed at the next meeting.

4. Report and discussion regarding activities and staffing at Recreation Centers in Van Nuys.
  - a. Thomas Ortiz, Facility Director, Van Nuys Recreation Center.
  - b. Oscar Cardenas, Facility Director, Delano Recreation Center.
5. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (2 min per stakeholder).
6. Discussion and possible action on a CIS regarding Council File 23-1015  
See Motion on p. 5 of this document.

The council file can be found at:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&fnumber=23-0105>

The purpose of this Motion is to broaden the Work Plan for development of the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan, request some short-term reports about potential funding sources and the need to align the Vision Plan with criteria of funding sources, and ask for recommendations from the Department of Recreation and Parks for establishment of a Park Advisory Board for the Sepulveda Basin.

7. Discussion and possible action on a CIS regarding Council File 23-0167

See Motion on pp. 6-8 of this document.

The council file can be found at:

[https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0167\\_misc\\_2-14-23.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0167_misc_2-14-23.pdf)

The purpose of this motion is to find solutions that could allow the City's sidewalk repair program to proceed without the need to eliminate so many mature street trees.

8. Discussion and prioritization (high, low) of initiatives discussed in past meetings.

- a. Enhancing the tree canopy in Van Nuys
- b. Ways VNNC could advocate for prioritizing planting of native trees and plants and educating Van Nuys stakeholders about the value of planting native trees and plants.

9. Discussion of VNNC participation in the NC Sustainability Alliance and issues under consideration by the alliance. (Kathy will provide update.)

10. Identify topics related to City of LA Parks that we would like to learn more about:

- a. Rec and Parks plans for capital expenditures at Van Nuys and Delano Rec Centers (Measure A, etc.).
- b. How are decisions made about using the funds developers pay in lieu of providing park space.
- c. Others?

11. Member comments and suggestions for future agenda items.

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 calling: (818) 533-8662 or via email at: [info@vnnc.org](mailto:info@vnnc.org)

**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](http://www.vnnc.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>

**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](mailto: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>

**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](mailto:info@vnnc.org) por correo electrónico para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

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

Neighborhood Council Board Member Oath

I pledge to represent my neighborhood with dignity, integrity, and pride. I will encourage other points of view, even when they differ from my own.

I will respect, value, and consider everyone's opinion.

I will find the good in my neighborhood and praise it and promote it.

To my neighbors, and to neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles, I pledge to do this to the best of my ability.

**CF 23-0167**

**MOTION**


The urban environment is a web of natural and built features interacting daily. Whether it's the sun beating down on streets and sidewalks; or rain running off asphalt and saturated lawns into gutters, these daily workings of life in a city are all surrounded by an important piece of green infrastructure — trees. Trees are combatants of the urban heat island effect, providing necessary shade to streetscapes. Trees are interceptors of rainwater, providing stormwater retention for overloaded drainage systems. Trees are absorbers of air and water pollutants, improving health and wellness in neighborhoods, and they are beautiful green canopies housing wildlife and improving the character of communities.

In the City of Los Angeles, the Urban Forestry Division manages nearly 700,000 street trees growing along 6,500 miles of public roads, making the City's street tree population the largest urban forest in the nation. Having the largest urban forest does not come without its share of problems. The conflicts between tree roots and sidewalks in Los Angeles are widespread, resulting in recurring expenses for repair and even at times, tree removals. In 2016, the City settled a \$1.4 billion class action lawsuit, commonly known as the "Willits Settlement," that determined the City's crumbling sidewalk infrastructure was not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and prevented people with disabilities from traveling and accessing opportunities in Los Angeles. This legal action led the City to develop the "Sidewalk Repair Program," which as of today is the only program for sidewalks in the City. In an effort to comply with the Willits Settlement, the City prepared a comprehensive EIR that supported the need to remove some 13,000 street trees. However, in late January 2023, the Los Angeles Superior Court ruled that the EIR failed to thoroughly examine the impacts to wildlife and the environmental consequences of trading mature trees for young replacement trees.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Bureau of Street Services, in coordination with the Urban Forestry Division and the City Forest Officer, to report back on sustainable solutions and best practices to sidewalk repairs, implemented by other cities, that preserve our City's mature street trees while ensuring safe sidewalks.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer, and all relevant departments, to report back on the necessary, or already underway, to secure funding under the urban forestry program of new infrastructure bill.

PRESENTED BY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN S. LEE  
Councilmember, 12<sup>th</sup> District

  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ORIGINAL**

other  
steps  
federal  
the

**EB 14 2023**      **SECONDED BY**

**BUDGET & FINANCE****PUBLIC WORKS**

Encompassing over 2,000 acres and nearly eight miles of the Los Angeles River and its tributaries, the Sepulveda Basin is the second largest open space in the City of Los Angeles and serves as a regional asset for the entire San Fernando Valley. Home to multiple City parks, a host of recreational facilities, and Lake Balboa, the Basin is incredibly important to surrounding communities. It is also a biodiversity hotspot with a wildlife reserve and natural sections of the Los Angeles River, providing a critical habitat for many native plants and animals. The Basin is owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers and is first and foremost a flood risk management facility. The City leases areas of the basin for City use.

In February of 2022, recognizing the Basin has not been living up to its full potential, the City released a task order solicitation (TOS) seeking proposals for comprehensive master planning and design consulting services for the development of a world-class Vision Plan for the Sepulveda Basin. On November 18, 2022, the Board of Public Works approved the selection of the highest ranked consulting team to execute the services requested in the TOS with an initial Notice to Proceed of \$1,949,654.

A number of environmental and community groups have signed onto a joint resolution<sup>1</sup> urging the City to employ nature-based solutions in the redevelopment of the Sepulveda Basin, focusing on floodplain reclamation: watershed restoration, and revitalizing the ecosystem functions of the river, while at the same time expanding access to the parkland and its amenities for surrounding communities.

In this early stage of the Vision Plan process, the City should affirm the primary objectives of the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan: ensuring that nature-based solutions, large-scale habitat restoration, increased recreational access, and environmental justice remain at the center of this effort.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Bureau of Engineering, with assistance from the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Department of Sanitation's Biodiversity Team, the Department of Transportation, and any other City departments, to update the scope of work (and budget, as needed) for the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan Project as follows:

- Utilize The River Project's Sepulveda Basin Restoration Feasibility Study and Vision Plan (April 2022), the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Revitalization Plan 2020, and the City's Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan 2007 as foundations to shape the development of the Vision Plan;
- Affirm, where possible, that Attachment 5 of Task Order Solicitation (TOS) No- 054 for the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan Project Feasibility: Conceptual Study (Work Order No. E1908913) sets out opportunity area locations and possible projects to be considered in the Vision Plan

development process: but that the projects are not binding and that the community will be able to give input on the proposed projects;

● Ensure that the Vision Plan:

- Evaluates current access, and improves and expands access and mobility to and within Sepulveda Basin and its amenities for immediate surrounding communities and underserved communities;

PK

JAN 1 2023

- Employs nature-based solutions and principles of fluvial geomorphology to mitigate climate change and restore ecosystem functions to the Los Angeles River and tributaries in the Sepulveda Basin;
- Optimizes floodplain function for ground water recharge to maximize local water supplies and buffer against periods of drought;
- Increases retention capacity to reduce flood risk for downstream and surrounding communities;
- Protects and expands wildlife habitat and biodiversity within the Sepulveda Basin;
- Elevates transit, walking, biking, and other non-private vehicle modes of transportation and proposes methods to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled and private vehicle trips with a clear timeline and benchmarks;
- Proposes strategies to protect the affordability and social fabric of surrounding communities;
- Incorporates indigenous stewardship principles and peoples through inclusive consultation; and
- Prioritizes the aforementioned principles in any preparation or use of the Sepulveda Basin for the 2028 Olympics.

1 FURTHER MOVE that the City Council direct the Bureau of Engineering, with assistance from the Department of Recreation and Parks and any other City departments, as needed, to report back within 30 days with the following:


- The status of the projects and opportunity area locations set out in Attachment 5 of Task Order Solicitation (TOS) No- 054 for the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan Project Feasibility/Conceptual Study (Work Order No- E 1908913): including which projects can be relocated or redefined as the Vision Plan is developed;
- Recommendations for the possible inclusion of a topographic survey, a geotechnical soils study: and a groundwater infiltration study in the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan Project Feasibility/Conceptual Study scope of work, including any additional funding required; and
- Report back to the relevant council committees on project activities every quarter.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council direct the Bureau of Engineering, with assistance from the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Department of Sanitation, the Department of Transportation, and any other City departments, as needed, to report back to Council within 30 days on the State, Federal, and private grants, programs, and partnerships that may be available to help plan and fund the redevelopment and

ecological restoration of the Sepulveda Basin—including the criteria these grants and programs utilize—to ensure that the City aligns the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan with these funding opportunities.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council direct the Department of Recreation and Parks to report back within 30 days with recommendations for the establishment of a Park Advisory Board for the Sepulveda Basin, similar to the Griffith Park Advisory Board, to provide guidance and stewardship for the Sepulveda Basin.

PRESENTED BY:   
NITHYA RAMAN  
Councilmember- 4th District

  
BOB BLUMENFIELD  
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY 

**ORIGINAL**



**Kathy Schreiner, Chair**  
[kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org](mailto:kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org)  
President

**Suju Vijayan**  
Vice President

**John Hendry**  
Secretary

**Jennifer Febre**  
Treasurer

**Myrra Bolla**  
Parliamentarian

**Council**

Hakop 'Jack' Azatyan  
Michael Browning  
John Camera  
Brian Edelman  
David Harari  
Glen Makiri  
Richard Marks  
Maduka Nkuku  
Danielle Rouillard  
Dr. Thelá Thatch  
Kibwe Trim  
Brittany Vaughan  
Matt Wayne

**Van Nuys Neighborhood Council**



Van Nuys Neighborhood Council  
Parks, Open Space, and  
Environment Committee Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, February 16, 2023  
at 7:00 p.m.

Zoom meeting online or by telephone  
Please click the link below  
to join the Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86182632536>

Dial **(669) 900-6833** to join the meeting

Enter Meeting ID: **861 8263 2536**

Press#

877 853 5257 US Toll-free

888 475 4499 US Toll-free



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

Email: [info@vnnc.org](mailto:info@vnnc.org)  
[www.vnnc.org](http://www.vnnc.org)

In Conformity With The September 16, 2021 Enactment Of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) And Due To Concerns Over Covid-19, Parks, Open Space, and Environment Committee Meeting Of Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Will Be Conducted Telephonically And Internet Based Via Zoom.

Members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting or participate in public comment to the Committee via telephone should call (669) 900-6833 or one of the following Toll-Free Telephone Numbers: (833) 548 0282, (888) 475 4499 and use Meeting ID No. **861 8263 2536** ; then press #. Press # again when prompted for participant ID. When you have a question for the Host, you can Raise Hand by pressing \*9, when called on to talk, you can mute/unmute by pressing \*6.

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS** The public is requested to dial \*9 if participating by phone or “Raise Hand” if participating by computer, when prompted by the presiding officer, 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 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.

**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.**

**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 Neighborhood Council’s control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned

Chair of Parks, Open Space, and Environment Committee: Kathy Schreiner

Members of Parks, Open Space, and Environment Committee:

VNNC Board Members: Hakop Azatyan, John Camera, and John Hendry

Stakeholder Members: Michele Gregory, Quirino de la Cuesta

13. Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call.

<b>ITEM 1. Roll Call</b>	
<b>Present – 3</b>	<b>Absent-3</b>

Schreiner, Camera, Hendry	Azatyian, Gregory, and de la Cuesta
---------------------------	-------------------------------------

14. Chair Comments – Welcome.

15. Minutes from January meeting will be reviewed at the next meeting.

16. Report and discussion regarding activities and staffing at Recreation Centers in Van Nuys.

a. Thomas Ortiz, Facility Director, Van Nuys Recreation Center.

-- part of pilot to try later hours (4-8 p.m.) for restroom maintenance staff

Had a successful 3-week winter camp program. Finishing up winter sports activities. Added basketball to winter program – a team for 5-6 year olds and a team for 7-8 year olds. Set up an arrangement so that basketball teams from Delano and Van Nuys Rec Center play each other and can have “home” and “away” games. Have 333 individual registrants in the winter sports program and 82 in classes. Through LA Kids, were able to add a pottery class in the winter program and short classes in ukelele and guitar – all fully enrolled. Future goal is to bring more of the performing arts and cultural arts into the Rec Center’s program. The afterschool program has 17 kids, most from Cardenas Elementary and 2 from Hazeltine Elementary.

Enrollment of girls has increased for the spring season. The staff is very encouraged. For soccer, there will be two teams for 5-6 year olds, one team for 7-8 year olds, and one team for 13-15 year olds. For the first time, they will have a girls volleyball team for 9-10 year olds and will be seeking to connect with another park to set up a “league” for home and away games.

Beginning to plan for summer and developing budgets to figure out how many children can be served.

b. Oscar Cardenas, Facility Director, Delano Recreation Center.

No report received.

17. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (2 min per stakeholder).

There was no public comment.

18. Discussion regarding community input process for Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan.

a. City of LA overview of the project

<https://eng.lacity.org/sepulveda-basin-vision-plan>

Kathy introduced the Vision Plan for the Sepulveda Basin that is being developed

under the Engineering department of Public Works. She reviewed the goals of the project and the rough timeline (see below).

Because the public “open house” about the project conflicted with the February 8<sup>th</sup> VNNC Board meeting, Kathy requested that a presentation to the VNNC be provided. CD 6 staff will coordinate with the Consultant team to make this arrangement.

Kathy reviewed some photos and a chronology of the development of the Sepulveda Basin area from the slide show prepared by the Consultant team for use at the “Open House.” The slides also covered a variety of topics that the Vision Plan will address.

## **Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan Project**

### **About the Project**

The Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area is an approximately 2,000-acre flood management basin located in the San Fernando Valley near the intersection of the 101 and 405 Freeways. The Basin is owned by the United States Army Corps of Engineers and includes parks and recreational facilities managed primarily by the Los Angeles City Department of Recreation and Parks.

### **Need for Vision Plan**

The Sepulveda Basin is the largest public open space in the San Fernando Valley, but surrounding neighborhoods are significantly lacking green open spaces with only 0.2 acres of park per 1000 people in Van Nuys and Sherman Oaks – significantly below the LA County goal of 4 acres/1000 people. While the Sepulveda Basin does provide recreational opportunities for the San Fernando Valley, it can be difficult to access and navigate, areas are underutilized and could be enhanced to provide better natural habitat, recreation, and cultural spaces.

### **Goals of Vision Plan**

The Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan sets out to establish a long-term strategic plan for the future of the Basin which will:

- Increase resilience of the Basin and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Increase ecosystem function within the Basin using nature based solutions.
- Create natural functioning of the LA River and Tributaries.
- Improve interface between recreation and ecological areas.
- Improve water quality of streams and outlets entering the Basin.
- Improve multi-modal transportation access to the Basin and within the Basin.
- Enhance recreational, educational and cultural programming.

b. Rough timeline.

Info Gathering – Nov 2022 to March 2023
Early Ideas – March 2023 to July 2023
Draft Plan – August 2023 to December 2023
Final Plan – December 2023 to April 2024

c. Request made for presentation to VNNC. What are priority issues and suggestions we want to raise?

- ✓More access for park goers to the river
- ✓Plant more native trees
- ✓Senior walking path around the lake (J. Hendry)
- ✓Another natural amphitheater near Lake Balboa (J. Hendry)
- ✓Access to walk and bike the dam crest (J. Hendry)
- ✓others .....

d. Sepulveda Basin Restoration Feasibility Study by The River Project (April 2022)

The River Project and its partners explored the technical feasibility of restoring ecosystem function to the Los Angeles River and five tributaries in the Sepulveda Basin —a 2,000-acre federally owned flood management facility in the heart of urban Los Angeles.

River restoration at the Sepulveda Basin creates a unique opportunity to radically re- envision parkland and water resource management to address biodiversity, water supply, flood safety, climate resiliency, and community needs through Nature-Based solutions.

As detailed in the study, leading with geomorphic processes yields:

- ~8 miles of restored river and tributaries
- ~5 times increase in groundwater recharge during frequent storms
- ~20% increase in flood storage capacity
- ~22 minutes of additional flood attenuation time in the 100-yr event
- ~669 acres aquatic & riparian habitat; 391 acres upland habitat
- ~Improved water quality via floodplain reclamation
- ~Expanded accessibility through a network of ADA compliant trails and paths
- ~Significant increase in recreational facilities
- ~Opportunities to include cultural facilities
- ~A park unified around the river corridor as the heart of the Sepulveda Basin

<https://www.theriverproject.org/sepulveda-basin-es>  
*click Executive Summary*

19. Discussion and prioritization (high, low) of initiatives discussed in past meetings.

- a. Enhancing the tree canopy in Van Nuys
- b. Ways VNNC could advocate for prioritizing planting of native trees and plants and educating Van Nuys stakeholders about the value of planting native trees and plants.

*To be continued.*

20. Discussion of VNNC participation in the NC Sustainability Alliance and issues under consideration by the alliance. (Kathy will provide update.)

- a. Had a presentation about success of citizen lawsuit to try to have the City make an effort to preserve street trees as much as possible while implementing the Sidewalk Repair project. One important reason is that when mature trees are removed, the community loses the shade that the tree provides, and a replacement tree will be much shorter and take years to grow to a point where it can offer shade. Councilmember Lee has introduced a motion to encourage the City to give more priority to trees.
- b. Department of Sanitation is rolling out a program to capture organic compost.

21. Identify topics related to City of LA Parks that we would like to learn more about:

- a. Rec and Parks plans for capital expenditures at Van Nuys and Delano Rec Centers (Measure A, etc.).
- b. How are decisions made about using the funds developers pay in lieu of providing park space.
- c. Others?

22. Member comments and suggestions for future agenda items.

John Camera said that he would like to hear more about trees and would like an update on what is happening at Griffith Park.

23. 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 calling: (818) 533-8662 or via email at: [info@vnnc.org](mailto:info@vnnc.org)

**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](http://www.vnnc.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>

**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](mailto: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>

**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](mailto:info@vnnc.org) por correo electrónico para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

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

**Neighborhood Council Board Member Oath**

I pledge to represent my neighborhood with dignity, integrity, and pride. I will encourage other points of view, even when they differ from my own.

I will respect, value, and consider everyone's opinion.

I will find the good in my neighborhood and praise it and promote it.

To my neighbors, and to neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles, I pledge to do this to the best of my ability.