

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



Kathy Schreiner
kathy.schreiner@vnnc.org
President

Maduka Nkuku
maduka.nkuku@vnnc.org
Vice President

John Hendry
john.hendry@vnnc.org
Secretary

David Harari
david.harari@vnnc.org
Treasurer

Myrra Bolla
myrra.bolla@vnnc.org
Parliamentarian

Members

Samuel Apikyan
Hakop 'Jack' Azatyan
John Camera
Josue Chavez
Quirino de la Cuesta
Brian Edelman
Ann Kalb
David Kopelev
Jarred Piña
Britt Vaughan
Cyle Zezotarski

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council General Board Meeting AGENDA

Wednesday, May 8, 2024
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.

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.).**

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.

1. **Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Reports from Government officials:**
 - a. **Report from LAPD** Van Nuys Division - <https://vnnc.org/resource/>
 - b. **Report from LAFD**
 - c. **Reports from other Government officials (2 min each)**

NOTE: Board questions and public comments will take place after all government official reports have been made.

- Council District 2 – Arus Grigoryan arus.grigoryan@lacity.org 818-210-1504 (cell)
- Council District 4 –
- Council District 6 – Brian Patton brian.patton@lacity.org Office: (818) 778-4999, Cell: (818) 270-1931
- Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – Alfonso Manzo alfonso.manzo@lacity.org
- Mayor’s office – Betsaira Aguilera betsaira.aguilera@lacity.org (213) 257-0224
- Los Angeles County 3rd District (Lindsay Horvath) –
- Assembly District 46 (Jesse Gabriel) – Clarissa Gomez Clarissa.Gomez@asm.ca.gov
- Senate District 20 (Caroline Menjivar) – Jasmin Hernandez jasmin.hernandez@sen.ca.gov
- California Congressional District 29 – Laura Juarez laura.juarez@mail.house.gov

3. Information Item Only. No Action will be taken. In accord with LAMC Section 104.06, Annual Licenses

Presentation by a Cannabis Retail Business that recently received approval of an Annual Business license by the City Department of Cannabis Regulation (DCR).

Valley Verde – presenter: Narek Vardanyan

14903 W Sherman Way CD: 6

PROJECT: a 829 sq. ft. retail commercial cannabis facility in the Van Nuys-North Sherman Oaks Community Plan Area with hours of operation from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm, Monday through Sunday.

NOTE: Information about the DCR Annual Licensing process can be found at: <https://cannabis.lacity.gov/licensing/annual-licensing/annual-licensing#Complete>

For a link to the DCR staff report on this business, see item 17 on the 4/4/2024 agenda of the Cannabis Regulation Commission:

<https://cannabis.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph1726/files/2024-04/04.04.24%20Agenda.pdf>

4. Officer Reports

a. President

-- A printed copy of VNNC General Board Meeting agendas and linked files can be reviewed in a reference notebook that will be located at the Van Nuys Branch Library.

-- For information on upcoming local events and services, look under the Events list on the right side of the homepage of the vnn.org website and on the calendar.

-- DONE recently notified all VNNC Board Members that **by June 3rd** they need to take the new Gender Expression and Gender Identity Training (1 hr.), plus read and acknowledge the new Code of Conduct document (5 min.). Training is available on Cornerstone.

-- Openings for a Homeless Liaison; 2 Budget Representatives; and a Regional Grievance Panelist

-- Any expenditures to be made by check must be proposed by a Committee and approved at the May 8th meeting OR a special Board meeting will need to be held so that check requests can be submitted to the City Clerk's office by June 1st. Expenses to be made by credit card must be made by June 20th.

-- For current list of VNNC Committees and Members, see page 7.

b. Vice-President

c. Secretary – Mr. Hendry has resigned from the role of Secretary. To be discussed under Item 11.

d. Treasurer

e. Parliamentarian

5. 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.)

6. Consent Agenda

Approve draft minutes from the following VNNC Board Meetings

a. February 28, 2024 GBM Minutes

https://vnn.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/VNNC_02282024_GBM_Draft_Minutes_Final.pdf

b. April 10, 2024 GBM Minutes

https://vnn.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/VNNC_04102024_GBM_Draft_Minutes_Final.pdf

7. Action items from the Budget and Finance Committee requiring a roll call vote.

a. Discussion and possible action to approve the February 2024 MER.

https://vnn.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/VNNC_MER_Feb2024.pdf

- b. Discussion and possible action to approve the March 2024 MER.

<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/VNNC-Regenerated-MER-for-March-2024.pdf>

NOTE: This MER was regenerated by the City Clerk Funding Analyst after realizing that there was an error in the amount budgeted for Neighborhood Purpose Grants in the original version of the MER. (That same error in the budget was not fixed in the February MER, so it makes it appear that we overspent the NPG line item.)

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant of \$4000 for Van Nuys Community Elementary School to update two murals on the school's campus.

https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Van-Nuys-Elem-School-NPG-Application_0423.pdf

- d. Discussion and possible action to approve a revision to the VNNC Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/VNNC-Revised-Budget-for-FY-2023-24-as-of-04222024.pdf>

- e. Discussion and possible action for the VNNC to contribute up to \$1000 in support of Neighborhood Council Budget Day, which is being organized by the Budget Advocates and will take place on June 15 at City Hall. This is the first time in 5 years that Budget Day will be in person.
- f. Discussion and possible action to the VNNC to contribute up to \$1000 in support of the L.A. Congress of Neighborhoods, which will be held in September.

8. Action Item from Outreach Committee requiring a roll call vote.

- a. Recommend that the Board allocate up to \$150 per event for potential Outreach participation in the following 3 events: SFV PRIDE 2024 (June 29 on the Civic Center Plaza), CD2-sponsored concert at North Hollywood Park, and CD4-sponsored concert at Van Nuys-Sherman Oaks Park.

9. Action item from the PLUM Committee requiring a roll call vote.

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve that the VNNC send a letter of support to the Planning Department for:

Case No. ZA-2001-2956-CU-PA1

regarding constructing 850 sq. ft. expansion of kitchen and storage, and interior modernization of a McDonald's restaurant at 14850 Victory (SE

corner of Victory and Kester). The current facility is 4,250 sq. ft. The Planning Dept. will hold a public hearing on this project on May 14.

Representative: Carlos Madrigal, Area Construction Manager, McDonald's USA

Digital copies of project documents can be found at:

<https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/caseid/MjcwNTQy0>

(In box on top right of screen, review approved documents related to past applications. Click on "Initial Submittal Documents" to find links to documents related to current application.)

10. Action items from the Public Safety, Human Services, and Animal Welfare Committee requiring a roll call vote.

- a. Recommend that the VNNC submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in favor of Council File 24-0036 regarding the introduction of solar powered street lighting where feasible, and the current pilot program in Van Nuys with an installation of 100 solar street lights, in order to reduce copper wire theft and street light vandalism. See Motion on page 8.
- b. Recommend that the VNNC submit a CIS in favor of Council File 23-1008 regarding the moratorium on dog breeding permits until shelter capacity becomes more manageable. This was passed by the City Council on April 15th (and ordinance becomes effective 5/27/24), though a CIS from the VNNC is still valid. See Ordinance on pages 9-11.

11. Schedule vote in June to select another Board Member to fill the Secretary position.

VNNC Bylaws Article VI. Section 2. C

The duties of the SECRETARY are:

1. Prepare minutes for all Council and Executive Committee meetings.
2. Keep accurate records of all Board proceedings, correspondence, documents, and Council meeting attendance.
3. Coordinate the posting of agendas in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, at all designated posting locations, or delegate the tasks.
4. Preserve all records, reports and other official documents, except those specifically assigned to the custody of others.
5. An Assistant Secretary is ex-Officio and is a non-voting member unless already a VNNC Director, and may be appointed or hired, subject to Board approval.

12. Updates on unresolved topics.

- a. NEA has been asked to provide written statement issued by DONE addressing the issue that came up in Studio City regarding a registered sex offender joining the Board of a Neighborhood Council.

- b. Need to delay vote on SB 411 meeting option until can get 14 Board Members available to attend a meeting,

13. Identification of topics Board members would like to discuss at a future meeting.

14. 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>

.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 ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or 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.

Current VNNC Committees as of April 2024

Executive: 1st Tuesday of every month (or 8 days prior to the Board meeting)

Sets the agenda for board meetings, receives requests, and assigns tasks.

Kathy Schreiner, President

Maduka Nkuku, Vice President

David Harari, Treasurer

John Hendry, Secretary

Myrra Bolla, Parliamentarian

Budget & Finance:

Deals with Van Nuys Neighborhood Council (VNNC) budgetary issues.

David Harari, Chair

Committee Members: Kathy Schreiner, Hakop Azatyan, Myrra Bolla, David Kopelev

Public Safety, Human Services, and Animal Welfare:

Our goal is to educate, engage and empower the Van Nuys community on issues and solutions around public safety, homelessness and mental illness, and animal welfare.

David Kopelev, Chair

Committee Members: Myrra Bolla, Josue Chavez, and Brian Edelman

Outreach:

Deals with outreach to inform the VNNC community about board meetings, elections, committee meetings, projects, and special events.

Maduka Nkuku, Chair

Committee Members: Hakop Azatyan, Quirino de la Cuesta, Ann Kalb, and Britt Vaughn

Planning & Land Use Management:

Deals with planning, zoning and land use issues that affect the VNNC community, including proposals for new projects, zoning changes and variances, proposals for tenant improvement (T.I.) construction, building improvements and special uses, development of new business etc.

Jarred Pina, Chair

Committee Members: Quirino de la Cuesta, John Hendry, Kathy Schreiner, Cyle Zezotarski.

MOTION

Street lighting is both a quality of life and public safety measure, reducing crimes by enhancing night time visibility and making our City safer to navigate after sundown. Over the past ten years, the City has seen increasing incidents of vandalism against its streetlight network which have resulted in widespread outages and extended the average repair time to restore lighting. The Bureau of Street Lighting is responsible for managing the City's network of 223,000 streetlights and has been exploring innovative ways to harden and safeguard the City's street lighting infrastructure in response to the rise in vandalism against streetlights.

In previous reports to the Council, the Bureau of Street Lighting has stated that it is piloting the use of solar-powered streetlights that would reduce the Bureau's need for copper wire and included the use of solar-powered lighting in its ten-year plan to address the increase in streetlight vandalism (C.F. 22-0600-S56). The use of solar-powered lights could reduce the costs to power the City's expansive streetlight network and minimize the impacts of vandalism due to copper wire and power theft, providing more reliability to the network.

Aside from the safety and reliability benefits that solar-powered lighting can provide, they also reduce electricity consumption and would represent significant investments in clean and green technology. As the Bureau of Street Lighting is responding to a backlog of lighting outages, it should explore the possibility of replacing existing lighting with solar-powered lighting when required to conduct repairs to lighting infrastructure in order to maximize opportunities to deploy green technology and eliminate possible inefficiencies.

The Department of Recreation and Parks currently uses solar lighting in various parks and facilities and has been very successful in operations. The Bureau of Street Lighting should consider utilizing similar technology as a long-term replacement to move street lights to all solar, adding to our climate change goals and ensuring reliability not subject to the whims and activities of copper thieves.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Street Lighting be instructed to report on the feasibility of installing solar-powered lighting in streetlights when responding to lighting outages due to copper wire and power theft incidents or other maintenance issues

I FURTHER MOVE that the Bureau of Street Lighting be instructed to report on the feasibility of moving to mandatory solar-powered lighting in streetlights where feasible throughout the City .

PRESENTED BY: 
HEATHER HUTT
Councilmember, 10th District

SECONDED BY: 


ORIGINAL

majs+aw

20240036

ORDINANCE NO.

An ordinance adding Subsections (f) and (g) to Section 53.15.2 of Article 3, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to provide a temporary moratorium on the issuance of new dog breeding permits until the dog population in the City's animal shelters is reduced and to add a severability clause.

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles is experiencing a dire crisis due to the overcrowding of dogs in Department of Animal Services' (Department) animal shelters, consistent with the growing overpopulation in public and private animal shelters nationwide;

WHEREAS, the current dog population in the Department's animal shelters has exceeded kennel capacity for more than a year, necessitating the doubling and tripling of dogs in single kennels and the placement of dogs in temporary hallway crates for up to months at a time, while, at the same time, increasing strain on Department staff;

WHEREAS, current shelter overpopulation is not ideal for the shelter dogs, escalates costs of animal care and control, and poses an increasing threat to public health and safety;

WHEREAS, Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 53.15.2(c) requires the Department to administer a breeding permit program for unsterilized dogs, resulting in the issuance of nearly 2,000 dog breeding permits annually, which contributes to the overpopulation of dogs in the Department's animal shelters; and

WHEREAS, a temporary moratorium on the issuance of new dog breeding permits during periods of shelter overpopulation will help reduce the population of dogs and greatly benefit the welfare of dogs in the Department's animal shelters.

NOW, THEREFORE,

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS
ANGELES DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Subsection (f) is added to Section 53.15.2 of Article 3, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

(0 Temporary Moratorium on the Issuance of Dog Breeding Permits.

(1)Initial Moratorium. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (c) of this section, upon the effective date of this subsection, the Department shall not issue any new dog breeding permit until the three-month moving average of the daily inventory count of all dogs at the City's Department-operated

animal shelters is equal to or less than 75 percent of the Department's total dog kennel capacity. Thereafter, this initial moratorium shall be lifted and the Department shall resume issuing dog breeding permits in accordance with the provisions of Subsection (c).

(2) Intermittent Moratorium. If, anytime after the lifting of the initial moratorium in Subsection (f)(1), the three-month moving average of the daily inventory count of all dogs at the City's Department-operated animal shelters is more than 75 percent of the Department's total dog kennel capacity, an intermittent moratorium shall be imposed on the Department dog breeding permit operations for new dog breeding permits. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (c) of this section, upon the imposition of an intermittent moratorium, the Department shall not issue any new dog breeding permit until the threemonth moving average of the daily inventory count of all dogs at the City's Department-operated animal shelters is equal to or less than 75 percent of the Department's total dog kennel capacity. Thereafter, the intermittent moratorium shall be lifted and the Department shall resume issuing dog breeding permits in accordance with the provisions of Subsection (c).

(3) For purposes of this subsection, "dog kennel capacity" shall mean the total number of kennels at the City's Department-operated animal shelters that are designated for the general housing of dogs, and shall not include kennels designated for temporary holding purposes such as for isolation or quarantine.

Sec. 2. Subsection (g) is added to Section 53.15.2 of Article 3, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

(g) Severability. If any provision of this section is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this section. The City Council declares that it would have adopted this section and each and every provision not declared invalid or unconstitutional, without regard to whether any portion of the section would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Approved as to Form and Legality

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By  _____

STEVE R. HOUCHIN
Deputy City Attorney

Date 3/14/24 _____

23-1008

File No. _____