



**NORTH HILLS WEST
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
GENERAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Posted 72 hours prior to meeting - All Meetings are open to the Public



Thursday, August 16, 2018 from 7:00 - 9:30 pm

NEW HORIZONS - SAM'S CAFÉ @ 15725 PARTHENIA STREET NORTH HILLS, CA 91343

Refreshments and Meet & Greet @ 6:30 PM

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Dan Gibson - President, Jay Beeber- Vice President, Madlena Minasian - Treasurer, Dave Brown - Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

Pat Crone, Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart, David Hyman,
Sam Kwasman, Carlos Pelaez, Kreshell Ramey

**ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE BOARD.
PLEASE NOTE THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE BOARD MAY TAKE ITEMS OUT OF ORDER.
ALL SPEAKER CARDS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY BEFORE THE MEETING BEGINS.**

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes action. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, but the Board has the discretion to modify the amount of time for any speaker.

**Supporting documents available on our website at
www.nhwnc.net**

- 1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance.**
- 2. Roll Call and the announcement of Quorum and Voting Eligibility.**
- 3. Announcements and Comments - President.**
- 4. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.**
- 5. General Public Comments - 2 minutes per Speaker**

The public may provide comments to the Board on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. However, please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on the issue you bring to its attention until the matter is agendized for discussion at a future public meeting.

6. Presentation from Lynne German, Adult Literacy Coordinator Adult Literacy Services, Mid-Valley Regional Branch Los Angeles Public Library.

7. Presentation from Crisanta Gonzalez Emergency Management Coordinator IDMB - Valley Bureau of the Community Preparedness & Engagement Division Los Angeles Emergency Management Department.

The City of Los Angeles is developing a program called **Ready Your LA Neighborhood (RYLAN)** to help your family and your neighborhood prepare for disasters. RYLAN gives you the steps to take immediately after a disaster to help keep you and your family safe. It provides the tools to prepare and organize your neighborhood to respond together in that first hour after a disaster to reduce injuries, protect your property and the environment, and most importantly, to save lives.

8. Update from Budget Advocates.

9. Report from Homelessness Liaison Kreshell Ramey.

10. Update from Board Member Carol Hart regarding Haskell/Aqueduct parking issues.

11. Discussion and possible action to ratify the President's recommended Chair and Member appointments and changes to Standing and Ad Hoc committees as well as NHWNC liaisons.

Jay Beeber as Liaison to the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC)

Dave Brown as Liaison to the Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Alliance, North Hills West Neighborhood Watch 17A95, and Devonshire Community Police Advisory Board

Maggie Elliott as Liaison to Resilience Los Angeles

12. Discussion and possible action to approve the July 19, 2018 General Board Meeting Minutes.

13. Discussion and possible action to approve the July 2018 Monthly Expenditure

Report. (available on NC Funding System online portal: [https://cityclerk.lacity.org/](https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/Dashboard.html)

[NCFundPortal/Dashboard.html](https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/Dashboard.html))

14. Discussion and possible motion upon recommendation from the Outreach

Committee to approve change of date for the December General Board Meeting & Annual Holiday Party from December 20th to Dec 13th to maximize stakeholder attendance.

15. Discussion and possible motion to approve up to \$250 for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) Election Forum to be held October 11, 2018 at Carla's Café at CBS Studio Center 4024 Radford Ave. Studio City, CA 91604.

16. Discussion and possible motion to approve up to \$250 for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) Anniversary Mixer to be held March 14, 2019 at Carla's Café at CBS Studio Center 4024 Radford Ave. Studio City, CA 91604.

17. Discussion and possible action regarding the Ad -hoc Committee on Expenditures for Neighborhood Purposes Grants and Community Improvement Projects recommendations and proposed guidelines for qualifying and processing

Neighborhood Purposes Grants and Community Improvement Projects. See website for complete details www.nhwnc.net

18. Discussion and possible action to file a Community Impact Statement in support Council File 18-0467 to reform and improve the Neighborhood Council system. The Rules and Election Committee makes the following recommendations as to LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion Council File: 18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system. The full council file can be found here: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=18-0467>

The motion can be found here: http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2018/18-0467_mot_05-25-2018.pdf

This discussion consists of the final item not considered (due to time constraints) at the board meeting of July 19th.

R&E Recommendation 2 - Support elimination of "Community Impact/Community Interest Stakeholder". To prevent the substantial confusion, disputed elections, and potential takeover of Neighborhood Councils by outside interests that has occurred in the past or may occur in the future, the NHWNC supports a narrow definition of "stakeholder". Any person deemed a stakeholder that is eligible to vote or serve as a board member must have a substantial, ongoing, stake in the neighborhood. Residents, owners of real property, and owners of licensed businesses where their primary place of operation is located within the Neighborhood Council's boundaries fit this definition. The following persons, among others, would not necessarily meet this narrow definition of stakeholder:

Parents of children attending a school within the NC

Persons who simply work within the boundaries of the NC

Persons who are members of a secular or religious institution, organization or club which meets or is located within the NC.

Persons who avail themselves of governmental services within the NC.

Persons who patronize businesses within the NC.

Persons who recreate within the NC

Further, the NHWNC believes in the concept of "one person, one vote". Therefore, stakeholders should be limited to stakeholder status in one and only one NC

19. Discussion and possible action to support the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance position on Sidewalk Repair and Tree Removal.

NCSA statement: "We support a policy of repairing sidewalks while maintaining a healthy, safe and sustainable urban forest and urge the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services to reaffirm its own 2001 policy goals:..." See website for details www.nhwnc.net

20. Committee Reports

21. Adjournment

22. Upcoming events, more details at: <https://www.nhwnc.net> under calendar
Saturday, August 18th, Neighborhood Council Congress production meeting
Saturday, August 18th, Free classes at SOS, Active Shooter & Emergency Power

Saturday, August 18th, 38th Annual Government Day
Saturday, August 25th, Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance
Thursday, September 20th, North Hills West NC General Board Meeting
Saturday, September 29th, Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair
Thursday, October 4th, Meet & Greet with Assemblymember Nazarian
Saturday, October 6th, Granada Hills Street Faire

The North Hills West Neighborhood Council Agenda is posted for public review at the following North Hills West locations: Uncle Joe's Donuts - 8704 Woodley Avenue and on our website at www.nhwnc.net

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Board on any item on the Agenda PRIOR to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments on other matters, not appearing on the Agenda that are within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction, will be heard during the Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items period.

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 Dan Gibson, Board President, via email at dgibson.nhwnc@gmail.com or by phone 818-903-2259.

RECONSIDERATION PROCESS - Reconsideration of a vote by the Board may be called as a Motion by the Board members that voted on the prevailing side of the decision.

GRIEVANCE PROCESS - A stakeholder or group of stakeholders may present a grievance concerning the legality of actions by the Board during public comment. Substantive grievances will be examined by a panel set by the Board and the decisions may be appealed to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

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 the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda please contact Dan Gibson, Board President, via email at dgibson.nhwnc@gmail.com, by phone 818-903-2259 or mail to NHWNC – PO Box 2091 – North Hills – CA – 91393.

NHWNC BYLAWS - Please be advised that the Bylaws of the North Hills West Neighborhood Council provide a process for reconsideration of actions as well as a grievance procedure. For your convenience, the Bylaws are available during every meeting.

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR AL CONCEJO VECINAL 3 DÍAS DE TRABAJO (72 HORAS) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR CONTACTE A DAN GIBSON, PRESIDENTE DE LA MESA, POR EMAIL A dgibson.nhwnc@gmail.com O POR TELEFONO 818-903-2259.

Please Do Not Remove Before August 17, 2018

JCS Catering Company

Carla's Cafe' at CBS Studio Center
4024 Radford Avenue
Studio City, CA 91604

Invoice #

Date:

Bill to Neighborhood Council:

The Neighborhood Council Supports:

AMOUNT

Please check BOX

Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC)

VANC Election Forum October 11, 2018

☐

Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC)

VANC Anniversary MIXER March 14, 2019

If you opt to contribute to this event NOW,
your MER will show this amount as OUTSTANDING
until the check is cut

☐

DESCRIPTION

Food and beverages for Valley Alliance of
Neighborhood Councils (VANC) Event

This amount is inclusive and includes hot and
cold refreshments, silverware, linens, coffee,
tea and desserts, kitchen staff and use of the
facility.

TOTAL DUE

Please make check payable to: **JCS Catering Company**

THANK YOU

Mail to: Vic Viereck
12702 Tiara Street
Valley Village, CA 91607

Please be sure to attach your Board's
Board Action Certificate (BAC) for
each event, even if you vote on both at
the same time.

Prepared by:

Print Name

If your check is **received** no later than
one week before the event, your NC
will be listed as a sponsor on the program

Signature:

Please send an email to vanc@empowerla.org to advise that your NC will be contributing-Thank You !

Recommendations from the Ad -hoc Committee on Expenditures for Neighborhood Purposes Grants and Community Improvement Projects

This Ad-hoc committee was formed at the NHWNC Board Meeting on March 15, 2018. The purpose is to establish guidelines for expenditures of Neighborhood Purposes Grants and Community Improvement Projects consistent with the Neighborhood Council Funding Program Policies and Guidelines. The committee agreed that what would be considered a community benefit should fall within these guidelines:

The scope of the causes should be in close proximity to North Hills West, be community accessible, be of interest to a wide segment of stakeholders who would likely participate and benefit the community as a whole. Infrastructure expenditures must be for projects within North Hills West.

Groups requesting grants must present the request in person to the committee and the Board. A request for a grant should be received 2 to 3 months in advance. Grants should promote our neighborhood council and everything should have the NHWNC logo on it. Infrastructure projects might include things such as filling potholes in alleys. Grants to LAUSD schools should benefit the community, not just one group or classroom, i.e. a civic presentation or project. Grants to charitable causes will benefit a community wide event and will help the community as a whole. Fire and police departments can be supported. NPG funds should be capped at 10% of the Council Budget. The funds should be distributed as equitably as possible amongst applicants from year to year.

The committee recommends that all organizations requesting NHWNC funds should come before the Budget and Finance Committee to make their presentation. Those making the presentation must have all forms completely prepared and follow all DONE rules, regulations and guidelines. If appropriate, these meetings could be joint committee meetings of the Budget and Finance Committee along with the committee responsible for the subject presented—i.e. Beautification. The Committee can decide whether to hear the item or pass it on to the full Board. The Budget and Finance Committee will introduce items that have been presented to the committee at the Board Meeting. Principles from the organization should be in attendance to supply additional information, if necessary. In addition, any board member that is promoting a project would be responsible for working with the applicant to make sure they understand all the guidelines and have all paperwork in order before appearing before the finance committee or board.

NEIGHBORHOOD SUSTAINABILITY ALLIANCE

Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance Trees Committee and Environmental Health Committees' Position Statement on Removal of 18 Trees from North Cherokee Avenue

It is the position of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance Trees Committee and Environmental Health Committee that the *Ficus microcarpa* trees located on the 1200 block of North Cherokee Avenue in Hollywood should be preserved because the trees provide exceptional functional value and their presence does not prevent a sidewalk repair that is ADA compliant.

We support a policy of repairing sidewalks while maintaining a healthy, safe and sustainable urban forest and urge the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services to reaffirm its own 2001 policy goals:

- preserve as many large, healthy trees as possible
- remove trees in phases to retain an acceptable level of canopy cover
- limit tree removals to no more than 20 percent of the trees in a block or trees at three consecutive residences within one year
- foster neighborhood involvement in the decision-making process

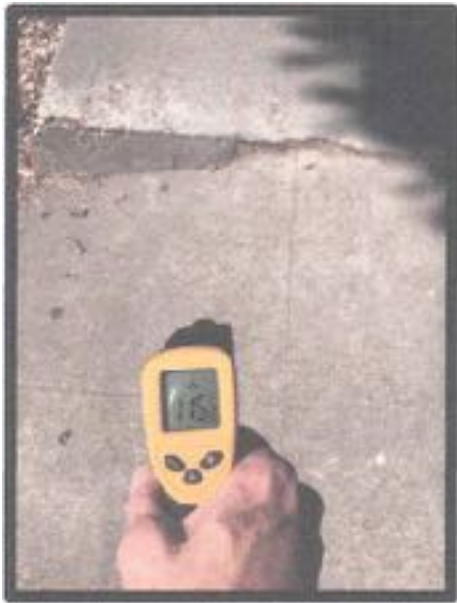
We believe that this position is most beneficial, in terms of public health and safety for *all* the citizens of Los Angeles.

The Basis of Our Concern

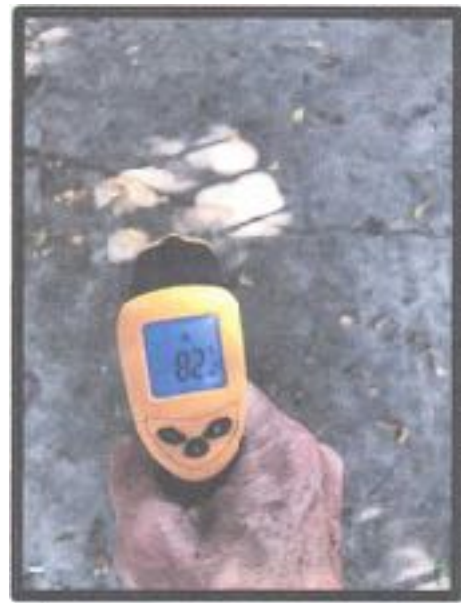
The removal of 18 ficus trees from North Cherokee Avenue not only may have a significant adverse effect on the environment, it *will* have a significant adverse effect on the environment.

The trees on N. Cherokee are healthy, structurally stable with an exceptional aesthetic and environmental quality. They define the neighborhood and enrich the lives of the residents through their majestic leafy umbrella, and through their contributions. They provide oxygen, shade, stormwater retention, pollution reduction, noise reduction, climate change mitigation, reduction of heat island effect *, wildlife habitat, and spiritual respite.

* On July 2Q. 2018. our own infrared thermometer reading showed a 33 degree reduction in temperature under the canopy of the trees on N. Cherokee Avenue.



**115 ° on the sidewalk
outside shade of the ficus
tree canopy at 3:30 PM,**



**82 ° on the sidewalk *under*
shade of the ficus tree
canopy at 3:30 PM, July 29,**

We believe feasible alternatives to the project with less severe adverse environmental impacts are available. Whenever tree roots are in conflict with the sidewalk, innovative sustainable solutions should be used to preserve trees and repair sidewalks. We have personally seen programs of thoughtful, efficient solutions to sidewalk repairs that preserve trees in other cities.

In response to removing these mature trees the City of Los Angeles will plant two trees for every one tree cut down under the perception that planting two sapling or young

trees for every mature tree cut down replaces the mature tree, or perhaps even doubles it. Planting a sapling or young tree only replaces another sapling, not a mature tree. Sixty years of growth are needed to realize the environmental cost-benefits of a mature tree. And new trees are particularly vulnerable to premature mortality. In the study about Los Angeles' million tree program (E. Gregory McPherson, et al., Los Angeles 1- Million tree canopy cover assessment. USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station, GTR-207 (2008)), a low mortality scenario projected that 17% of newly planted trees would be dead after 35 years, and a high mortality scenario projected 56% mortality.

A major reason for our concern is that decisions on this project have been unilateral, despite the fact that the removal of the trees along N. Cherokee threatens the quality of life of its residents and the interests of the public at large. Fostering neighborhood involvement in the decision-making process helps to protect the interests of the neighborhood and helps to ensure that the most environmentally superior project is performed. Hence, the Bureau should meet and confer with the residents in community meetings so that they are fully informed and involved in the decision-making process concerning their valuable tree canopy.

Lastly, we urge the City to stop thinking of these projects in isolation or about mature trees as disposable or replaceable. The City of Los Angeles is losing mature trees to sidewalk repair at an alarming rate. At the same time concrete covers land where trees once stood and where trees will never grow again. As with most environmental damage, the cumulative effect of many small, seemingly insignificant losses-each one with a good justification-eventually adds up to serious and sometimes irreversible problems.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Joanne D'Antonio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joanne" and last name "D'Antonio" clearly legible.

Joanne D'Antonio, Trees

Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance

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Environmental Health Committee Chair

Neighborhood Council Sustainability