

North Hills West Neighborhood Council Regular Board Meeting
AGENDA

Mid-Valley Regional Library
16244 Nordhoff Street, North Hills, CA 91343
Thursday, April 16, 2026 6:00 P.M.

Executive Officers: • Garry Fordyce – President, • Jane Lopez – Vice President,
• Janayn Martinez – Treasurer, • Bianca Castillo - Secretary

Board Members: • Angelica Aleksanyan, • Maggie Elliott, • Leticia Martinucci, •Martha Ugarte

Vacant Seats: • Residential Stakeholder 2027 (1 Seat), 2029 (2 Seats)
• General Stakeholder 2027 (1 Seat)
• Community Interest Stakeholder 2027 (1 Seat)

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POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE BOARD

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1. Call to Order, Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

3. President's Comments

- A. Conversations With Councils (March 23): Planning Director Vincent Bergoni**
- B. Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC April 9): Mayor Karen Bass**
- C. CIS Filers (Erick Munoz April 9): Angeleno Account**
- D. Mayoral Candidates & Guest Speaker (May 3 - Coffee & Pie): Encino**

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. Each speaker may speak, one time, for up to two (2) minutes, unless changed by the presiding officer. PLEASE ADVISE US YOU ARE A PAID LOBBYIST.

5. Elected Officials, Public Agency Speakers, Field Representatives, and Public Service Announcements. Up to three (3) minutes per speaker. Stakeholders are allotted up to two minutes each for a question, for each Agendized public official who visits. Public Officials who do not give advance notice of their participation in the NHW Neighborhood Council meeting are limited to up to two minutes of

announcements, which must include their contact information.

- A. Mayor Karen Bass - West Valley Area Representative
- B. Office of City Councilmember John Lee - District 12 • Field Representative - Lorena Espinal
- C. L.A. County Supervisor - District 3 - Lindsey Horvath
- D. State Senate - District 20 - Caroline Menjivar
- E. State Assembly - District 40 - Pilar Schiavo • Field Representative - Julia Estrada
- F. U.S. Congress - District 32 - Brad Sherman
- G. LAUSD School Board - District 3 - Scott Schmerelson
- H. LAUSD School Board - District 6 - Kelly Gonez • Deputy Director Community Engagement - Anthony Garcia
- I. LAPD - Devonshire Division - Senior Lead Officer (SLO) - Antonio Villegas
- J. Mid-Valley Regional Library
- K. L.A. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment - NEA - John Darnell
- L. Budget Advocate
- M. LAPD Volunteer - Mikkie Loi

6. Discussion and possible action to approve Monthly Expenditure Reports (MER):

- A. March 2026**

7. Discussion and possible action to approve the Board Meeting Minutes:

- A. October 16, 2025**
- B. December 11, 2025**
- C. March 19, 2026**

8. Motion, Discussion, Possible Action To: Support CF 26-0002-S11 Resolution (Title: AB 1941 (Gonzalez) / Criminal Liability / Organized Metal Theft Operation with Board CIS.

9. Discussion, Possible Motion and Possible Action from NHWNC Infrastructure Committee Regarding: Traffic Signal concerns at Woodley/Parthenia and Woodley/Railroad Crossing.

- A. Haskell Avenue Pot Holes
- B. Further Discussion on "If You See It Report It". This involves Board Members and Stakeholders. Contact "MYLA311" and the NHWNC Board. Let us all function with credibility in behalf of our North Hills West Community.
 - 1. This Policy Shall Include Infrastructure And Public Safety.

10. Bylaws Special Meeting (May 1 Deadline)

11. Next Door

- A. Creat Angeleno Account: Link will be sent to CIS Filers (Erick Munos)
- B. Structure and Accountability:
 - 1. Committee Chairs: Agenda Posting Only
 - 2. Everything Else: Discussion, Possible Motion to Appoint Two Board Members.

12. General Election November 2, 2026

- A. Discussion, Possible Action for Candidate Forum and / or Debate
 - 1. Assembly District 40, State Senate District 20, Mayor, City Attorney, City Controller

13. Adjournment

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, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided

upon request. To ensure the availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCSUPPORT@LACITY.ORG

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Reconsideration and Grievance Process - For information on the NC's process for Board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and on our website <https://www.nhwnc.net/agendas-minutes/minutes-and-agendas/bylaws/>

For information about the NHWNC, please mail P.O. Box 2091 - North Hills, CA 91393-2091 or email: John.darnell@lacity.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

**LEGALLY REQUIRED OFFICIAL POSTING
PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THIS POSTING
UNTIL April 17, 2026**

Monthly Expenditure Report



Reporting Month: March 2026

Budget Fiscal Year: 2025-2026

NC Name: North Hills West
Neighborhood Council

Monthly Cash Reconciliation					
Beginning Balance	Total Spent	Remaining Balance	Outstanding	Commitments	Net Available
\$23626.95	\$0.00	\$23626.95	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$22926.95

Monthly Cash Flow Analysis					
Budget Category	Adopted Budget	Total Spent this Month	Unspent Budget Balance	Outstanding	Net Available
Office	\$21000.00	\$0.00	\$17796.14	\$0.00	\$17496.14
Outreach		\$0.00		\$300.00	
Elections		\$0.00		\$0.00	
Community Improvement Project	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Neighborhood Purpose Grants	\$4000.00	\$0.00	\$4000.00	\$400.00	\$3600.00
Funding Requests Under Review: \$0.00		Encumbrances: \$0.00		Previous Expenditures: \$3203.86	

Expenditures						
#	Vendor	Date	Description	Budget Category	Sub-category	Total
Subtotal:						\$0.00

Outstanding Expenditures						
#	Vendor	Date	Description	Budget Category	Sub-category	Total
1	City of Los Angeles - Neighborhood Council Budget Day	03/24/2026	Neighborhood Council Budget Day on June 27, 2026 Contribution of \$300	General Operations Expenditure	Outreach	\$300.00
2	Canoga Park Senior Citizens' Club	03/25/2026	Approved Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG), for 400.00 to the Canoga Park Senior Citizens Club, partially funding the Annual Salute To Recreation Senior Dance 2026, to be held at the...	Neighborhood Purpose Grants		\$400.00
Subtotal: Outstanding						\$700.00

North Hills West Neighborhood Council Regular Board Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Mid-Valley Regional Library
16244 Nordhoff Street, North Hills, CA 91343
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Executive Officers: • Garry Fordyce – President, • Jane Lopez – Vice President,
• Janayn Martinez – Treasurer, • Bianca Castillo - Secretary

Board Members: • Angelica Aleksanyan, • Maggie Elliott, • Leticia
Martinucci, •Martha Ugarte

Vacant Seats: • Residential Stakeholder 2027 (1 Seat), 2029 (2 Seats) •
General Stakeholder 2027 (1 Seat)
• Community Interest Stakeholder 2027 (1 Seat)

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POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE BOARD

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1. Call to Order, Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting started at 6:20 PM

2. Roll Call

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT
Garry Fordyce	x	
Jane Lopez	x	
Janayn Martinez	x	
Bianca Castillo	x	
Angelica Aleksanyan		x
Maggie Elliott	x	
Leticia Martinucci	x	

Martha Ugarte	x	
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Quorum was met with 7 members present.

3. President's Comments

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. Each speaker may speak, one time, for up to two (2) minutes, unless changed by the presiding officer. PLEASE ADVISE US YOU ARE A PAID LOBBYIST.

*Two stakeholders attended and provided public comment.

5. Elected Officials, Public Agency Speakers, Field Representatives, and Public Service Announcements. Up to three (3) minutes per speaker. Stakeholders are allotted up to two minutes each for a question, for each Agendized public official who visits. Public Officials who do not give advance notice of their participation in the NHW Neighborhood Council meeting are limited to up to two minutes of announcements, which must include their contact information.

A. Mayor Karen Bass - West Valley Area Representative

B. Office of City Councilmember John Lee - District 12 • Field Representative - Lorena Espinal

*Alejandra Moscoso, the Public Safety Deputy from CD 12, provided updates: Mid Valley Library celebrated its 30th anniversary on March 15, 2026. The Global International Grill Festival is March 25th.

C. L.A. County Supervisor - District 3 - Lindsey Horvath

D. State Senate - District 20 - Caroline Menjivar

E. State Assembly - District 40 - Pilar Schiavo • Field Representative - Julia Estrada

*A new Field Representative attended and provided updates.

F. U.S. Congress - District 32 - Brad Sherman

G. LAUSD School Board - District 3 - Scott Schmerelson

H. LAUSD School Board - District 6 - Kelly Gonez • Deputy Director Community Engagement - Anthony Garcia

I. LAPD - Devonshire Division - Senior Lead Officer (SLO) - Antonio Villegas

J. Mid-Valley Regional Library

K. L.A. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment - NEA - John Darnell

L. Budget Advocate

*Budget Advocate Co-Chair Glenn Bailey provided updates.

M. LAPD Volunteer - Mikkie Loi

*Update was provided that crime is down year over year, except for Theft from Motor Vehicles.

*A Battalion Chief attended from LAFD to provide updates to the board.

*A representative from the Department of Recreation and Parks attended and provided updates.

**6. Discussion and possible action to approve Monthly Expenditure Reports (MER):
A. February 2026**

No action was taken.

7. Discussion and possible action to approve the Board Meeting Minutes:

- A. October 16, 2025
- B. December 11, 2025
- C. February 19, 2026

Motion was made by Martha and seconded by Jane to approve the Board Meeting Minutes to the February 19, 2026 Minutes. Motion passed.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Ineligible	Recuse
Garry Fordyce	x					
Jane Lopez	x					
Janayn Martinez	x					
Bianca Castillo	x					
Angelica Aleksanyan	x					
Maggie Elliott					x	
Leticia Martinucci	x					
Martha Ugarte	x					

8. Motion, Discussion, Possible Action: Requesting Councilmember John Lee forward a Motion requesting a targeted Amendment to Ordinance No. 177327 governing land use at Van Nuys Airport.

Motion was made by Bianca Castillo and seconded by Angelica Aleksanyan to approve the motion by Councilmember John Lee to amend ordinance No. 177327 which governs land use at Van Nuys Airport. Motion passed.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Ineligible	Recuse
Garry Fordyce	x					
Jane Lopez			x			
Janayn Martinez	x					
Bianca Castillo	x					
Angelica Aleksanyan	x					
Maggie Elliott					x	
Leticia Martinucci	x					

Martha Ugarte	x					
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9. Motion, Discussion, Possible Action To:

- A. Approve using SB 707 for NHWNC Committee meetings only.
No action taken.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Ineligible	Recuse
Garry Fordyce						
Jane Lopez						
Janayn Martinez						
Bianca Castillo						
Angelica Aleksanyan						
Maggie Elliott						
Leticia Martinucci						
Martha Ugarte						

- B. Confirm that the NHWNC would like to use SB 707 to conduct some meetings virtually through the use of Zoom and will submit a CIS to Council File 23-1114 to confirm this vote.
No action taken.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Ineligible	Recuse
Garry Fordyce						
Jane Lopez						
Janayn Martinez						
Bianca Castillo						
Angelica Aleksanyan						
Maggie Elliott						
Leticia Martinucci						
Martha Ugarte						

10. Motion, Discussion, Possible Action To: Support CF 26-0002-S11 Resolution (Title: AB 1941 (Gonzalez) / Criminal Liability / Organized Metal Theft Operation with Board CIS.

No action taken.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Ineligible	Recuse
Garry Fordyce						
Jane Lopez						
Janayn Martinez						
Bianca Castillo						
Angelica Aleksanyan						
Maggie Elliott						
Leticia Martinucci						
Martha Ugarte						

11. Motion, Discussion, Possible Action To: Appoint Community Impact Statement (CIS) Filers per LAAC Section 907. [Neighborhood Council (NC) position letters regarding Council File (CF) Motions are to formally support, oppose or suggest amendments to the Los Angeles City Council influencing local government policy. • Additionally NC's are permitted up to five minutes to speak when presenting a CIS to the City Council or a City Council Committee. Without a CIS a speaker is generally limited to one minute. • One final note: All CIS submissions must first be agendaized, discussed and approved by the NHWNC Board.]

Motion was made by Leticia Martinucci, and seconded by Jane Lopez to appoint Angelica Aleksanyan and Leticia Martinucci and Bianca Castillo and Garry Fordyce as CIS filers. Motion passes.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Ineligible	Recuse
Garry Fordyce	x					
Jane Lopez	x					
Janayn Martinez	x					
Bianca Castillo	x					
Angelica Aleksanyan	x					
Maggie Elliott					x	
Leticia Martinucci	x					
Martha Ugarte	x					

12. Motion, Discussion, Possible Action To: Request that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) grant access to Next Door for the purpose of Posting Agenda, Community Events, Public Safety, Infrastructure and other issues of concern or interest to

North Hills West Stakeholders.

Motion was made to approve Martha Ugarte as the Nextdoor account holder, seconded by Bianca. Motion passed.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Ineligible	Recuse
Garry Fordyce	x					
Jane Lopez	x					
Janayn Martinez	x					
Bianca Castillo	x					
Angelica Aleksanyan	x					
Maggie Elliott					x	
Leticia Martinucci	x					
Martha Ugarte	x					

13. Discussion, Possible Motion and Possible Action from NHWNC Infrastructure Committee Regarding: Traffic Signal concerns at Woodley/Parthenia and Woodley/Railroad Crossing.
 A. Further Discussion on "If You See It Report It". This involves Board Members and Stakeholders. Contact "MYLA311" and the NHWNC Board. Let us all function with credibility in behalf of our North Hills West Community.

No action taken.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Ineligible	Recuse
Garry Fordyce						
Jane Lopez						
Janayn Martinez						
Bianca Castillo						
Angelica Aleksanyan						
Maggie Elliott						
Leticia Martinucci						
Martha Ugarte						

14. Adjournment

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UNTIL March 20, 2026**

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, copper wire theft continues to be a persistent and costly issue impacting communities throughout Los Angeles, having far-reaching consequences such as prolonged power outages and darkened streets, which directly diminishes neighborhood security and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the constant need for repair and replacement of stolen infrastructure places a substantial financial burden on the city, draining taxpayer funds that could otherwise be allocated to essential public services; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, persistent wire theft resulted in nearly forty-five thousand service requests that seriously strained the Bureau of Street Lighting's resources, causing repair delays of over six months; and

WHEREAS, despite the City's best efforts to curb rampant copper wire theft through task forces and creative lighting, the damages caused by copper wire theft continue to be a significant financial cost and public safety concern; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 476, signed by the Governor in October 2025, requires junk dealers and recyclers to include the time, amount paid, and employee name for each transaction in their written records, revise the description of junk items, and obtain a signed statement of ownership or source; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1941, introduced by Assemblymember Mark Gonzalez, builds upon the effective legislation of AB 476 by targeting repeat and organized offenders who steal or traffic prohibited metal materials and creates a statewide data-sharing tool to allow for increased visibility into organized metal theft operations; and

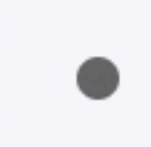
WHEREAS, AB 1941 would establish organized metal theft punishable as either a misdemeanor or a felony, sending a clear message that those who damage our City's infrastructure and make our communities less safe will face stiff consequences;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-2026 State Legislative Program SUPPORT of AB 1941 (Gonzalez) and would encourage additional amendments to clarify that criminal liability of metal theft be calculated based upon the full cost to the victim to repair and replace the stolen materials, including labor and equipment, rather than the fair market scrap value.

PRESENTED BY: Adrin Nazarian
ADRIAN NAZARIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District
SECONDED BY: Monica Rodriguez
ORIGINAL

FEB 25 2026





Bill Text

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(a) California is facing a statewide surge in organized metal theft, particularly involving copper wire and other high-value metals used in public infrastructure, communication networks, and utility systems.

(b) Driven by soaring global copper prices and gaps in enforcement and regulation, criminals have increasingly targeted essential public assets, including streetlights, bridges, rail systems, telecommunications lines, and electrical infrastructure, to strip and resell stolen metal for profit.

(c) This epidemic of metal theft has caused widespread public safety hazards, power outages, and costly disruptions to critical infrastructure. The resulting repair costs are borne by taxpayers and local agencies, often exceeding millions of dollars for damage that yields thieves only a fraction of that amount in illicit sales.

(d) Recent incidents illustrate the scope and severity of the problem across California:

(1) In Los Angeles, copper wire theft has repeatedly plunged entire neighborhoods and landmarks, including the Sixth Street Viaduct known as the "Ribbon of Light," into darkness with repair costs exceeding \$2,500,000 and thousands of feet of wire stolen in broad daylight.

(2) The Los Angeles Bureau of Street Lighting has reported unprecedented levels of streetlight outages, with nearly 46,000 service requests in 2024, of which approximately 40 percent were theft related.

(3) Telecommunications providers, including Frontier, have been forced to suspend service to residents due to repeated copper theft cutting off access to 911 emergency systems and leaving seniors and vulnerable populations without reliable communication.

(4) In northern California, copper theft has caused power outages severe enough to close public schools and disrupt essential services.

(e) Law enforcement agencies have made arrests and seized tens of thousands of pounds of stolen copper. Despite these efforts, organized theft rings and unscrupulous recyclers continue to profit from the resale of stolen metal, often exploiting loopholes in existing laws and insufficient oversight of scrap metal transactions.

(f) The financial burden of repairing damaged infrastructure continues to escalate. Municipalities have been forced to divert scarce public resources and propose increased property assessments to fund streetlight repairs and security improvements.

(g) Metal theft undermines public safety by darkening streets, disabling traffic signals, and jeopardizing emergency communications and thus creates conditions that endanger residents, first responders, and essential workers.

(h) The Legislature recognizes that, while local task forces and ordinances have been established to combat this growing threat, a coordinated statewide response is necessary to deter theft, strengthen penalties for organized operations, and enhance accountability for metal recyclers and dealers who knowingly purchase stolen materials.

(i) It is the intent of the Legislature to support local governments and law enforcement agencies through enhanced coordination and penalties targeting organized theft networks and protect public infrastructure, utilities, and community safety from the escalating economic and social harms caused by metal theft.

SEC. 2. Section 496f is added to the Penal Code, to read:

496f. (a) A person who commits any of the following acts is guilty of organized metal theft and shall be punished pursuant to subdivision (b):

(1) Acts in concert with one or more persons to steal metal materials from one or more of the items described in subdivision (a) of Section 496a or subdivision (a) of Section ~~496e~~. *496e with the intent to sell, exchange, or return the metal materials for value.*

(2) Acts in concert with two or more persons to receive, purchase, or possess metal materials described in subdivision (a) of Section 496a or subdivision (a) of Section 496e knowing or believing it to have been stolen.

(3) Acts as an agent of another individual or group of individuals to steal metal materials described in subdivision (a) of Section 496a or subdivision (a) of Section 496e as part of an organized plan to commit metal theft.

(4) Recruits, coordinates, organizes, supervises, directs, manages, or finances another to undertake any of the acts described in paragraph (1) or (2) or any other statute defining theft of metal.

(b) Organized metal theft is punishable as follows:

(1) If violations of paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subdivision (a) are committed on two or more separate occasions within a 12-month period, and if the aggregated value of the metal stolen, received, purchased, or possessed within that 12-month period exceeds nine hundred fifty dollars (\$950), the offense is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year or pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170.

(2) Any other violation of paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subdivision (a) that is not described in paragraph (1) of this subdivision is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year.

(3) A violation of paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year or pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170.

(c) For the purpose of determining whether the defendant acted in concert with another person or persons in any proceeding, the trier of fact may consider any competent evidence, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) The defendant has previously acted in concert with another person or persons in committing acts constituting theft, or any related offense, including any conduct that occurred in counties other than the county of the current offense, if relevant to demonstrate a fact other than the defendant's disposition to commit the act.

(2) That the defendant used or possessed an artifice, instrument, container, device, or other article capable of facilitating the removal of metal from materials described in subdivision (a) of Section 496a or subdivision (a) of Section 496e without permission or authorization and use of the artifice, instrument, container, or device or other article is part of an organized plan to commit metal theft.

(3) The property involved in the offense is of a type or quantity that would not normally be collected or purchased for personal use, and the property is intended for resale.

(d) In a prosecution under this section, the prosecutor shall not be required to charge any other coparticipant of the organized metal theft.

(e) This section does not preclude or prohibit prosecution pursuant to Section 594 or charging an enhancement pursuant to Sections 12022.6 or 12022.65.

SEC. 3. Section 11199.6 is added to the Penal Code, immediately following Section 11199.5, to read:

11199.6. Local law enforcement agencies, public agencies, and private entities, including, but not limited to, telecommunication companies, recycling companies, and private utility companies, may provide information about theft of commodity metals, including, but not limited to, ferrous metal, copper, brass, aluminum, nickel, stainless steel, and alloys, to the Department of Justice. The department shall make this information available to such local law enforcement agencies, public agencies, and private entities.

SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

California Assembly Bill 1941

CA State Legislature page for AB1941 [🔗](#)

[Summary](#)[Sponsors](#)[Texts](#)[Votes](#)[Research](#)[Comments](#)[Track](#)[Introduced](#)[Amended](#)

Bill Title: Organized metal theft.

Sponsorship: Bipartisan Bill

Status: *(Introduced)* 2026-04-06 - Re-referred to Com. on APPR. [\[AB1941 Detail\]](#)

Download: [California-2025-AB1941-Amended.html](#)

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

NO. 1941

Introduced by Assembly Member Mark González

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Solache)

(Principal coauthor: Senator Rubio)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Ahrens, Alanis, Castillo, Davies, Ellis, Haney, Hoover, Macedo, Patel, Sanchez, Schiavo, Ta, and Wallis)

(Coauthors: Senators Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Hurtado, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Pérez, and Valladares)

February 13, 2026

An act to add Sections 496f and 11199.6 to the Penal Code, relating to metal theft.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1941, as amended, Mark González. Organized metal theft.

Existing law makes a person who is a dealer in or collector of junk, metals, or secondhand materials, or their agent, employee, or representative, who buys or receives any wire, cable, copper, lead, solder, mercury, iron, or brass that the person knows or reasonably should know is used by or belongs to specified entities, including a railroad, certain utility companies, or a public entity engaged in furnishing public utility service, without using due diligence to ascertain that the person selling or delivering that material has a legal right to do so, guilty of criminally receiving that property and, in addition to imprisonment, makes that act punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.

This bill would prohibit organized metal theft, described as acting in concert with one or more persons to steal metal materials from one or more of specified materials and ~~items~~, *items with the intent to sell, exchange, or return those metal materials for value*, acting in concert with 2 or more persons to receive, purchase, or possess those metal materials knowing or believing it to have been stolen, acting as an agent of another to steal those metal materials as part of an organized plan to commit theft, or recruiting, coordinating, organizing, supervising, directing, managing, or financing another to undertake acts of theft of metal. The bill would make a violation of organized metal theft punishable as either a misdemeanor or a felony. The bill would make related findings and declarations and state the intent of the Legislature. By creating new crimes, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law encourages local law enforcement agencies to report thefts of commodity metals that have occurred within their jurisdiction to a specified privately maintained theft alert system to ensure that persons using the system receive timely and thorough information regarding metal thefts.

This bill would authorize local law enforcement agencies, public agencies, and private entities to provide information about theft of commodity metals to the Department of Justice and would require the department to make this information available to such local law enforcement agencies, public agencies, and private entities.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Digest Key

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

Bill Text

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares the following:



feedback