Three (3) DISTRICT representatives will be elected by stakeholders.

District Representative: HERMON–NORTH

-- LINDA KITZLER-LICITRA

“I am a hard working North East Los Angeles native who is passionate about the values of the neighborhood and deeply cares about the future of the Hermon community. I settled down to raise my family in Hermon. In the past 30 years, I have been involved in significantly improving the appearance of the street I live on and have developed relationships with key contacts of local government and law enforcement agencies. I was successful in having a stop sign installed at the top of our street, lobbied to have our street repaved and cleaned on a regular basis. I worked with the former Councilman’s office staff and Sanitation Department in getting trash cans off our streets and the removal of hazards in order to improve the overall quality of life in the neighborhood. I look forward to being a proactive representative because I am determined to get things done.”

District Representative: HERMON–EAST

(THREE candidates / vote for ONE only)

-- LEE TURNER

“Hello, my name is Lee Turner and I have lived in Hermon since 2010. I was a member of the Hermon Neighborhood Council (HNC) Formation Committee and I’m thrilled with what we have accomplished so far. The HNC will have some big challenges in the next few years and the most important thing to do are: 1. Keep encouraging Hermon’s participation in the neighborhood council (NC) process. We need to make sure that we get the word out to Hermon residents so they can come to the meetings and make their issues known. 2. Ensure that the HNC is responsive to residents’ concerns. The thing we need to avoid at all costs is having a NC that ignores resident concerns and doesn’t take action. Hermon is truly the best neighborhood I’ve lived in. I’m proud to have made it my home and I’m excited at what the HNC can accomplish.”

-- LEONEL AGUILAR

“My name is Leonel Aguilar and my family has been part of the Hermon community over 50 years. My roots are deeply seeded in this community and are an integral part of Hermon’s identity. I have a vested interest in the betterment and advancement of the Hermon community and its residents. As a social worker at Huntington Hospital in Pasadena, I serve many residents of the surrounding communities including the residents of Hermon. As an emergency room and psychiatric social worker, I often refer people to North East Mental Health on Via Marisol and Monterey Road for mental health services. I plan to advocate for the best interest of the residents of Hermon to ensure that all people, including new comers and long time residents, have a voice and a stake in the betterment of our community. Together we will make sure that Hermon is happening and happy.”

-- MARK ABELONS

“My partner and I have lived in Hermon for 14 years, and Mt Washington the previous 8. I love our neighborhood and would like to see more beautification efforts and community cohesion. I work as an adjunct professor in the Social Work Departments at CSUN and CSULA, and as a human relations consultant. Previously, I worked for non-profit organizations, and have been a teacher in the LAUSD. Community volunteerism is extremely important to me and my family. I am the Board Chair of the LA County LGBT Child Abuse Prevention Council, co-chair of the LAPD Professional Advisory Committee, and a member of the LAUSD Human Relations, Diversity & Equity Commission. I welcome the opportunity to work for our community.”

Community Organizations: EDUCATIONAL

-- SANDRA RYAN

“My name is Sandra Ryan and I have been teaching at Bushnell Way Elementary School for 26 years. I have seen generations of families come through my classroom doors. The relationships I have within the community are well established. I am proud to be a part of the creation of the Hermon Neighborhood Council. I’ve always had a passion for Bushnell Way, the historic elementary school in Hermon. Therefore, the deep connections with education and the surrounding community makes a seat on the council a logical choice for my expertise.”

Community Organizations: CHARITABLE, CIVIC, OR FAITH-BASED

-- SANDRA MORÁ

NO STATEMENT

YOUTH

-- JESSICA JIMENEZ

“I’m Jessica Jimenez, an Eagle Rock High Senior and third-generation Hermonite. I was inspired to be a servant-leader after walking my grandmother Maggie to Council meetings, and listening to Dog Park, Hermon Shake Out, and cat rescue mission planning. My background in leadership stems from teaching Sunday School, being President of a Youth & Government delegation, and authoring legislation to combat rape and sexual assault, police brutality, and to improve California’s aging water infrastructure. Last year I was a California Youth Governor candidate and received Assembly recognition with the YMCA Excellence in Leadership award. I’m passionate about seeing Youth in our Government and will be the liaison bringing attention to issues for the safety and betterment of our community. Today, August 4, 2017 I’m representing California at the National Judicial Competition in Chicago. Thank you, Council, for this opportunity, I hope to continue serving Hermon well as your first Youth Representative.”
Quality of Life: ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH and SAFETY (TWO candidates / vote for ONE only)

-- K. KERRY AYAZI
"Hello, I am Kerry. I am so excited we have our very own neighborhood council. I have been a resident in the DTLA/Highland Park area for going on three years. Every day I spot the potential of each special corner, street and community space. I am passionate about improving our quality of life through safer streets, better transportation, cleaner and safer parks, and venues/businesses that support health, wellness, nutrition, community, and safety. I would love to help us shine even brighter in beautiful Hermon—a most special neighborhood. Thank you for caring about Hermon and taking the time to read about me. I'm grateful to live in Hermon, and I’ll do my best for all of us. Thank you."

-- HELEN CHAVEZ
"I’m Helen Chavez, a proud resident and property owner in Hermon. I've chosen to live and start my family in Hermon because I realize how much it has to offer, and I'm eager to give back to our Hermon community. As a professionally-trained social worker, I bring a strengths-based approach. If elected as Quality of Life representative, I'm committed to helping Hermon use its existing assets to create an amazing place to live, stay and do business in. I'm committed to social justice and will work tirelessly to equitably advocate for the needs of all residents, regardless of age or socioeconomic level. As a Spanish-speaking first generation Latina, I'm also committed to keeping diversity at the forefront of our communal decision making. I’ve decided to run for neighborhood council because I’d like to join forces with others who seek to work hard for the greater good. Thanks for your consideration."

COMMUNITY INTEREST (THREE candidates / vote for ONE only)

-- GEORGE TAM
"I want to encourage more communication between everyone in Hermon and with that, I would want to fulfill the wishes of the community to make it better and cleaner."

-- DANIEL GARCIA
"I am a freelance designer and educator. As a 12-year resident of Hermon, I’ve enjoyed the sense-of-place Hermon’s scale and geography offers our community. As the Community Interest Representative with the Hermon neighborhood council, I would seek obtainable, creative directions to the issues we address as a neighborhood and sustainable solutions for our residents, while sharing Hermon’s qualities with our neighbors."

-- LAWRENCE ZIESE
"A leader motivated to improve Safety, Schools, and Sustainability! Safety: Improve our CERT program, and communication with our LAPD and LAFD! I am your CERT Neighborhood Leader. Schools: Work with our amazing parents and faculty of Bushnell Way and LA Charter High to provide better funding and volunteer opportunities. Our kids are our future! Sustainability: More trees, street improvement, native fireproof landscaping, and better waste handling! Let’s Work Together!

“¡Vamos a trabajar juntos!”

Cultural: HISTORY, CULTURE, and the ARTS

-- NICOLE MIHALKA
"In 2013, I settled in Hermon and instantly fell in love with the community. Now in 2017, after being a part of the Hermon Neighborhood Council Formation Committee, I am excited to announce my candidacy for the Cultural (History, Culture, and the Arts) board seat. The rich history of the neighborhood is central to the pride that is deeply rooted in Hermon’s residents. Our history helps create the empowering feeling of being in a “small town” amidst the much larger backdrop of the City of Los Angeles. Although I am a fairly newer resident of Hermon, it is thrilling to see our building, which was built in 1915, in historical photos of the early Hermon landscape. I look forward to working with the community in developing programs, events, and enrichment activities that honor Hermon’s history, as well as emphasize the culture and arts that are so prevalent in our community."

PLEASE ATTEND: THIS Thursday, August 3
Candidate statements: 7 PM; Voting: 8 PM

This is YOUR opportunity to help select the FIRST EVER GOVERNING BOARD of the NEW HERMON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (HNC). FIFTEEN (15) CANDIDATES HAVE APPLIED TO FILL NINE (9) BOARD SEATS – TO TAKE HERMON’S VOICE TO CITY HALL. YOUR VOTE WILL MATTER.

WHERE: Fellowship Center, 5800 Monterey Road (at Wheeling Way), L.A. 90042

TRADUCCIÓN EN ESPAÑOL SERÁ DISPONIBLE.

Candidates are invited to make statements asking for YOUR vote; their submitted statements follow.

WHO MAY VOTE: All Hermon “stakeholders” — anyone (16 years of age or older) who LIVES, WORKS, or OWNS REAL PROPERTY within the HNC boundaries, or those who declare a stake in the Hermon neighborhood as a “COMMUNITY INTEREST” stakeholder (who affirm a substantial and ongoing participation within the HNC’s boundaries and who may be in a community organization such as -- but not limited to -- educational, non-profit and/or religious organizations).