

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

## BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

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## BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

### REGULAR MEETING **DRAFT MINUTES**

**Monday, August 15, 2022 at 1:00 PM**  
**Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone**

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACIÓN, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL (213) 978-1551.

**To Join the Meeting Dial: (669) 900 6833 or one of the following Toll-Free Telephone Numbers:**

**(833) 548 0282, (888) 475 4499, (877) 853 5257, (833) 548 0276**

The toll-free feature eliminates long-distance call charges for participants. However, participants' phone carriers may apply other telephone charges.

**Then Enter This Webinar ID: 820 4187 5556 and Press #**

**You can also join the meeting online by clicking on this link to join the webinar:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82041875556>**

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**The latest version of Zoom must be installed if you would like to make public comments using your computer.**

**The following are links to information widely distributed to the Neighborhood Council System:**

- **[Neighborhood Council Monthly Updates](#)**

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- [Neighborhood Council Newsletters](#)
- [Community Impact Statements](#)

AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

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IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 361 (RIVAS) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY TELEPHONICALLY.

Every person wishing to address the Commission must dial (669) 900-9128, and enter 820 4187 5556 and then press # to join the meeting. When prompted by the Chair or designee to provide public input at the meeting, the public will be requested to dial \*9 or use the Raise Hand option, to address the Commission.

The amount of time for public comment on each agenda item is to be determined by the Chair at each meeting. 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. If multiple requests for public comment are submitted on one agenda item, preference will be granted to members of the public who have not spoken previously during the meeting, either during general public comment or on another agenda item.

A member of the public wishing to speak on more than one agenda item at a single meeting shall limit his or her remarks to a total of five (5) minutes per meeting. Members of the public who want to speak on multiple agenda items for up to five (5) minutes at one time can choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items Comment period. Members of the public who choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items period will be given the opportunity to also speak during General Public Comment.

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. No individual speaker will be allowed more than two (2) minutes during General Public Comment, unless the presiding officer of the Board decides differently.

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, assisted listening devices, or 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 by contacting the Department at (213) 978-1551.

The agenda is posted for public review in the Main Street Lobby of City Hall East at 200 North Main Street. The Agenda and report(s) related to an agenda item will be available for review at [www.Empowerla.org](http://www.Empowerla.org).

Telecommunication Relay Services

Telecommunications Relay Service is a telephone service that allows persons with hearing or speech disabilities to place and receive telephone calls. If you have limitations hearing or speaking a specially-trained Communications Assistant (CA) can relay telephone conversations for all of your calls. In California, dial **711** to reach the California Relay Service (CRS). If you prefer having your calls immediately answered in your mode of

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communication, dial one of the toll-free modality- and language-specific numbers below. The call will be routed to the CRS provider.

Type of Call	Language	Toll-free 800 Number
TTY/VCO/HCO to Voice	English	1-800-735-2929
	Spanish	1-800-855-3000
Voice to TTY/VCO/HCO	English	1-800-735-2922
	Spanish	1-800-855-3000
From or to Speech-to-Speech	English & Spanish	1-800-854-7784

Federal regulations specify very strict confidentiality requirements for CAs of all Relay services. No part of the conversation that takes place between callers is revealed or recorded in written, verbal, or any other form. CRS CAs do not participate in the conversation and acquire no benefit from information relayed.

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 Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://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).

- 1. Introduction.** Newly-Elected Commission President Ray Regalado introduced the meeting and some of the staff including but not limited to John Darnell, who served as Meeting Moderator, and Jose Galdamez who would be providing technical support for the meeting.
- 2. [1:06 PM] Call to Order and Commission Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm and the Commission Roll was called by John Darnell. There were 6 members present initially; Commissioner Lipmen arrived at 1:30 pm for a total of 7 present. Commissioner Darret-Quiroz left prior 3:00 pm.

Commissioner	Present	Absent
Atkinson	X	
Lipmen (arrived @ 1:30pm)	X	
Shaffer	X	
Darett-Quiroz (left < 3pm)	X	
Wehbe	X	
Regalado	X	
Vo-Ramirez	X	

- 3. [1:13 PM] Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting for [7/18/2022](#)**  
**Action:** Commissioner Shaffer made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of 07/18/2022 with a slight amendment regarding item #6, where it should be noted that Jamie York also spoke on #6, and presented two CISs from Reseda NC. Commissioner Atkinson seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Public Comment: Goat Puppet n.

Commission Comment: None.

VOTE	Mover	Shaffer	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Lipmen				X
Shaffer	X			
Darett-Quiroz	X			
Wehbe	X			
Regalado	X			
Vo-Ramirez	X			
<b>Total</b>	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries			

- 4. [1:17 PM] Multiple Agenda Items Comment.** Comments by members of the public who want to speak on multiple agenda items for up to five minutes at one time can choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items Comment period. Members of the public who choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items period will be given the opportunity to also speak during General Public Comments.

Public Comment: Goat Puppet n. was called three times but did not respond. / Commission Comment: None.

- 5. [1:20 PM] General Public Comments.** Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction. No individual speaker will be allowed more than two minutes.

Public Comment: Jennifer Goodie, Josh Nadel, Goat Puppet n., Glenn Bailey, and Jamie York. (Ms. Goodie & Ms. York emphasized CISs not being sent to various commissions, and being sent to emails that no longer exist.)

Commission Comment: Commission President noted that Commissioner Lipmen had arrived at 1:30 pm.

- 6. [1:33 PM] Discussion with Neighborhood Council (NC) representatives regarding Community Impact Statements.** This item pertains to any Neighborhood Council Resolution or Community Impact Statement filed with the City Clerk which relates to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. [Community Impact Statements](#)

NC Representative Comment: None / Public Comment: None / Commission Comment: None

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**7. [1:34 PM] Findings to Continue Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to AB 361 [Government Code Section 54953(e)].** Determination in accordance with AB 361 [Government Code Section 54953(e)(3)] that, while the state of emergency due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as originally proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020, remains active and state or local officials have imposed recommended measures to promote social distancing, this legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the Commission and neighborhood council board and committee members to meet safely in person and state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

**Action:** Commissioner Shaffer made a motion to move findings to Continue Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to AB 361. [Government Code Section 54953(e)(3)]. Commissioner Atkinson seconded. Motion was approved.

Public Comment: Goat Puppet n.

Commission Comment: None.

VOTE	Mover	Shaffer	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Lipmen	X			
Shaffer	X			
Darett-Quiroz	X			
Wehbe	X			
Regalado	X			
Vo-Ramirez	X			
<b>Total</b>	7	0	0	0
<b>Motion</b>	<b>Carries</b>			

**8. [1:40 PM] Mayor's legislative representative's updates on [pending legislation](#) regarding the Brown Act amendments.**

City Representative: Brad Fingard, State of Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs, provided updates regarding the Brown Act amendments. Some comments were that there are three bills remaining related to the Brown Act: 1) AB 2647 (Levine) described as minor and technical, which the City has not taken a position on. 2) SB 1100 (Cortese) of which City has not taken a position, and 3) AB 2449 (Rubio) related to teleconferencing, which the City has not taken a position on. They are in the last two and a half weeks in this legislation session, last day being August 25<sup>th</sup>, and the 31<sup>st</sup> for each House to pass the bill and January 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 unless an emergency clause.

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He noted that in the next couple weeks the Mayor's office and Council President will send out solicitations to department general managers requesting legislative proposals to be taken up, and they will review those in September and October; narrow down priorities and get support through Council. If any go into effect next year, for purposes of this Commission and NCs, and Brown Act bodies he knows, he knows there is a desire for further teleconferencing flexibility, which is something they are requesting from the Department and Commission here. Mr. Fingard clarified what the City not taking a position signifies is that there have been no resolutions to introduce any of these three bills to the City's legislative program, which he believes it is unlikely to happen within the short time left.

Public Comment: Josh Nadel, Jennifer Goodie, Glenn Bailey, Goat Puppet n., Jamie York, Garry Fordyce.

Commission Comment: Commissioner Shaffer, Commissioner Lipmen, and Commission President Regalado who thanked Mr. Fingard, thanked GM Beltran for her suggestions, and recommended this be placed on the next agenda-setting meeting agenda.

D.O.N.E. Representative, General Manager Raquel Beltran expressed her appreciation for Brad Fingard having organized this presentation. Her requests are to form an ad hoc committee dedicated to this topic, and from Mr. Fingard, when information is sent to the CAO's office related to this topic, she would like us to get that information as well, requesting assistance for the department to be able to advocate for the NCs, and asked him to refer to the EmpowerLA Readiness Survey that they just concluded.

**9.[2:12 PM] Introduction of the new Olivia E. Mitchell Youth Council members.**

D.O.N.E. Representative, General Manager Raquel Beltran noted that she was accompanied by Vanessa Serrano, Director of Civic Leadership in the Department & Erika Gatica, NEA, who provided leadership on this. General Manager Beltran gave background on the Olivia E. Mitchell Youth Council; their goal and purpose is to identify solutions to improve programs, policies and practices affecting young people in the City of Los Angeles. They will partner with community organizations, civic leaders and youth leaders to develop new strategies and approaches to serving youth in the City of Los Angeles. They will be making recommendations to members of the City Council and the Mayor on issues such as City budgets, programs and policies related to youth development. Ms. Beltran noted that they were sworn in before City Council on August 5<sup>th</sup> and a ceremony was held.

She noted four NC youth members were also appointed, two of whom had joined us today: 1) Miriam Torres Sanchez, a 20-y-o board member on the Historic Highland Park NC, Chair of the Youth and Education Committee, and 2) Furkan Yalcin, President of the North Westwood NC. Ms. Beltran noted that the other two OEM Youth Council members are Charlie Saff a 17-y-o high school student on Rampart Village NC since 2021, and Zaid Diaz-Arias, a 20-y-o on the North Hollywood Northeast NC for four years, advocating for a youth council.

Olivia E. Mitchell Youth Council members who introduced themselves: Furkan Yalcin and Miriam Torres Sanchez.

GM Beltran and Commission President Regalado gave their appreciation for Miriam and Furkan.

Public Comment: Jennifer Goodie, Garry Fordyce, Cindy Cleghorn, Jamie York, Anna Measles and Josh Nadel.

Commission Comment: Commissioners Lipmen, Atkinson and Wehbe congratulated Ms. Sanchez and Mr. Yalcin.

**10. [2:39 PM] Verbal Updates Regarding Congress of Neighborhoods:** Daniel Perez, Chair of the Congress of Neighborhoods Planning Committee, gave update on the annual conference on the Neighborhood Councils, happening Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Zoom. The theme is the Future of LA, Celebrating our City. For information: [www.neighborhoodcongress.la](http://www.neighborhoodcongress.la) Registration opens Saturday. He shared some workshop topics that will be offered and welcomed everyone to attend.

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Public Comment: Goat Puppet was called several times but did not respond. (City Attorney Ruden noted that she believed Goat Puppet was having technical difficulties). / Commission Comment: Commissioner Atkinson.

**11. [2:47 PM] Verbal Updates Regarding City Clerk Funding.**

**a. Representatives from the Office of the City Clerk's Office, Neighborhood Council Funding Division.**

Melvin Canas, Program Manager from the Office of the City Clerk, gave update noting that we are at the start of the new fiscal year (FY) FY 22-23, still working with the City Controller to finalize their year-end report for FY21-22, and awaiting completion of the report to inform NCs of their final balances from last fiscal year and any available rollover, which he expects will be completed by the meeting next month. He briefly discussed NCs that have fallen behind, who are doing trainings and have been invited to attend board retreats to address funding matters, as requested. He noted that they have had six new staff members join their office since January.

Public Comment: Goat Puppet's was called several times and did not respond; Cindy Cleghorn, Glenn Bailey.

Commission Comment: None

**12. [2:59 PM] EmpowerLA Virtual Governance Hybrid Work Group Verbal Update.**

**a. Presentation of the [EVG Readiness Survey](#)**

**b. General Manager's [EVG-H Workgroup Report](#)**

**c. EVG-Hybrid Workgroup Report ([Attachment C](#) of General Manager Report)**

D.O.N.E. Representative: General Manager Raquel Beltran, noted that she was accompanied by members of the department's tech team, Gibson Nyambura, Freddy Cupen-Ames, Jose Galdamez and Kyle Stone, who have worked on this..

Freddy Cupen-Ames provided an overview of the survey, in the form of a story-map presentation as to the EVG workgroup's NC returning to in-person readiness survey. Some points included data was collated, and responses were broken down by region, by demographics as well as by barriers to meeting in person, and that that this survey was translated into 10 languages for the 99 NCs. Ms. Beltran provided further information, including a range of statistics on those who submitted comments. At the conclusion of the presentation on the findings of the survey, GM Beltran expressed her appreciation for those who worked on this, noting that they are offering additional resources through the link under 12.a. She thanked those who contributed to this.

EVG Workgroup Representative: Josh Nadel. Josh gave update including strategies to increase membership and noting that they'll be deciding on which NCs to be part of the pilot program as well as next steps.

Public Comment: Cindy Cleghorn, Jamie York, Glenn Bailey, Madlena, and Goat Puppet.

Commission Comment: Commissioner Shaffer, Commissioner Lipmen, Commission President Regalado. (Shaffer noted that Commissioner Darret-Quiroz left the meeting at some point. Six Commissioners remained.)

**13. [3:45 PM] General Manager's Verbal Report.**

**a. Department Administration, Neighborhood Council engagement, civic leadership, innovation, policy and government, staffing and budget, City policies and governance, and exhaustive efforts.**

D.O.N.E. Representative: General Manager Raquel Beltran gave her report.

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Public Comment: Goat Puppet, Jamie York, Glenn Bailey.

Commission Comment: Commission President Regalado.

**14. [4:04 PM] Discussion and possible action on Commission's Ad Hoc Code of Conduct committee.**

Public Comment: Goat Puppet raised his hand but had used all his time.

Commission Comment: Commissioner Shaffer gave comments on this ad hoc committee, noting that he is sorry to see Commissioner Vo-Ramirez leaving. He needs to speak to GM Beltran and the City Attorney and will present something, a joint effort, to the Commission, unless he speaks to GM about one more public meeting.

Commissioner Vo-Ramirez referred to the white binder mentioned by Mr. Bailey with the code of conduct being one page, noting that has evolved and needs to continue to evolve, that it is not perfect but she would like to see us move forward and encourage NCs to do so. She noted that various departments, including individuals within the NCs, contributed to the potential new policy and thanked everyone involved, including the NC members who participate in the meetings, noting that it takes a village.

**15. [4:10 PM] Discussion and possible action on scheduling a BONC Retreat via Zoom.**

D.O.N.E. Representative: General Manager Raquel Beltran.

Commission Comment: Commissioner Atkinson would plan the retreat after the new commissioner is on the board. She noted that Commission retreats are open to the public. Commission President Regalado. GM Beltran noted that the Commissioners can create an ad hoc committee and begin thinking about what they'd like to talk and think about moving forward. Commissioner Atkinson leans to start of the year for the retreat.

Commission President Regalado noted that in addition to looking for having a new commissioner appointed, he would schedule creating an ad-hoc committee for the next meeting's agenda. Commissioner Lipmen, Commissioner Wehbe, Commissioner Shaffer. Wehbe asked if we should consider as future content at a later meeting or at the retreat, whether we have a formalized process of onboarding new Commissioners.

Commissioner Atkinson and Regalado responded to public comment assumption that their lack of mentioning the name of the new commissioner represented lack of knowledge, with comments including but not limited to that we have to wait for an official announcement to acknowledge, which announcement has not been forthcoming at this point.

Public Comment: Josh Nadel, Jennifer Goodie.

**16. Discussion and possible action on creating an EmpowerLA Awards Ad Hoc Committee - Deferred**

**17. [4:28 PM] Commission Business.** Comment from Commissioners on matters within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction.

a. **Recognizing Commissioner Vo-Ramirez:**

D.O.N.E. Representative: General Manager Beltran expressed her appreciation of outgoing Commissioner Vo-Ramirez, to which the Commissioner thanked the General Manager. The General Manager and Commission President virtually presented Ms. Vo-Ramirez with a special certificate of appreciation, thanking her for her work on the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.



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Commissioner Comment: Commission President Regalado, Commissioner Atkinson, Commissioner Lipmen, Commissioner Wehbe and Commissioner Shaffer offered their great appreciation of Commissioner Vo-Ramirez, and noted how much they will miss her.

Ms. Vo-Ramirez responded to the Commission and to the neighborhood councils, for all that the tremendous amount of work that they do, beyond the administrative stuff, noting that each NC takes on challenging and specific issues.

Public Comment: Jennifer Goodie, Glenn Bailey, Jamie York and Josh Nadel.

Commission President Regalado concluded by noting a shooting that happened in his community, recalling that we are advisory, that there was a lot of City response to the event; however, we, as NCs were not invited to the table. He noted that he made sure that we as NCs were represented at the table, despite not being invited, as he feels we have a place to be in these types of situations. He noted that the LAPD's report back two days after the incident was that what occurred in San Pedro is not a "Harbor Community story," it is a "larger LA story." He has been speaking at these meetings and encourages getting involved not just in tragedy but in good community development.

b. Brief announcements on Commissioners' own activities. None

c. Requests for future agenda items. None

d. Ask staff to research issues and report back to the Commission at a future time. None

**Future Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Meetings (INFORMATION ONLY)** (*Please note: The items listed below are tentative and may be subject to change. You are encouraged to visit the City's website at [www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org) to view Commission agendas and [subscribe](#) through the City's Early Notification System Subscription page to receive the Commission's agendas via email.*)

Commission President Regalado adjourned the meeting at 4:59pm.

- Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82041875556>
- Regular Meeting on Monday, September 19, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82041875556>

**FINALIZATION OF BOARD ACTION:**

**Per City Charter Section 245, the Board's determination shall become final at the expiration of the next five meeting days of the Council during which the City Council has convened in regular session, unless the City Council acts within that timeframe by a two-thirds vote to bring the action before them or to waive review of the action.**

**EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES:**

**If you challenge these agenda items in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence on these matters delivered to this agency at or prior to the public hearing. California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6 governs the**

**time in which a party may seek judicial review of this determination. Under that provision, a petitioner may seek judicial review of any decision of the City pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.5 only if the petition for Writ of Mandate pursuant to that section is filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which the City's decision became final.**

**RECONSIDERATION:**

**The Commission may make a MOTION TO RECONSIDER and alter its action taken on any item listed on this agenda at any time during this meeting, or make a MOTION TO RECONSIDER at its next regular meeting as indicated below:**

**If the Commission moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at the *initial* meeting wherein an action was taken, then the underlying item may be reconsidered at that time.**

**If the Commission moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at *the next regular meeting* then consideration of the item may *only* occur at this regularly scheduled meeting if the item for consideration has been placed on that meeting's agenda. If the underlying item for reconsideration has not been placed on the agenda for that next regular meeting, then it shall be considered at a subsequent meeting pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.**

**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 of Neighborhood Commissioners in advance of their meetings, may be viewed at the office of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, located at City Hall, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, by clicking on the Department's Web site at <http://www.EmpowerLA.org> or at the Commission meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, contact the Department at (213) 978-1551 or via e-mail: [Commission@EmpowerLA.org](mailto:Commission@EmpowerLA.org).**