

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

## BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

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## BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

### SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – APPROVED

**Tuesday, February 21, 2023 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>

**Or you can join the webinar by entering Webinar ID 820 4187 5556 into the “Join a Meeting” field when online.**

**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](#)
- [Neighborhood Council Newsletters](#)
- [Community Impact Statements filed with this Commission](#)
- [2022 Legislative Reports to Neighborhood Councils](#)

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.

Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statements and Resolutions Pursuant to Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 22.819, a Neighborhood Council may take a formal position on a matter by way of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) or written resolution. If the Neighborhood Council would like to be heard on its CIS or resolution at a Commission meeting, the Neighborhood Council representative must provide the Commission with a copy of the CIS or Resolution sufficiently in advance for review, possible inclusion on the agenda, and posting on the Commission's website.

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If the CIS or Resolution pertains to a matter *listed on the Commission’s agenda*, during the time the matter is heard, the designated Neighborhood Council representative will have an opportunity to present the Neighborhood Council’s formal position. In the Chair's discretion, the Neighborhood Council representative may be asked to have a seat at the table (or equivalent for a virtual meeting) typically reserved for City staff and may provide the Neighborhood Council representative more time than allotted to members of the general public. If the CIS or Resolution pertains to a matter *not listed on the agenda*, the designated Neighborhood Council Representative may speak during General Public Comments.

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 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.

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More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](https://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. **[1:01 PM] Introduction.**
2. **[1:07 PM] Call to Order and Commission Roll Call.**

Commissioner	Present	Absent
Atkinson	X	
Darett-Quiroz	X	
Regalado	X	
Shaffer	X	
Valdivia		X
Wehbe	X	

3. **[1:10 PM] Approval of the [Minutes of the Meeting for 2/7/2023](#).**

Action: Commissioner Atkinson made a motion to approve the Minutes dated 02/07/2023. Commissioner Darret-Quiroz seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Public Comment: Caller ending in 838 was called but did not respond. / Commission Comment: None.

VOTE	Mover	Shaffer	Second	Atkinson
<b>Commissioner</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Atkinson	X			
Darett-Quiroz	X			
Regalado	X			
Shaffer	X			
Valdivia				X
Wehbe	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Motion</b>	<b>Carries</b>			

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4. **[1:16 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 on Multiple Agenda Items: Michael Schneider on #6 & 10; Michelle Gallagher on items #6, 9 & 10; James Askew on #6 & 10; Cindy Cleghorn on #6, 7, 8, 9 & 10; Lionel Mares on #6 & 10; Deb Zumerling on items #6 & 10, Jamie on #4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 and Conrad Starr, on #10 & 6.

Commission Comment: None.

5. **[1:41 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.

If a Neighborhood Council has submitted a Neighborhood Council Resolution or Community Impact Statement on a matter that is not listed on this agenda, the designated Neighborhood Council Representative may speak during General Public Comments.

Public Comment: Michael Schneider, Lionel Mares, Brad King, Jamie, Glenn Bailey, Tess Taylor, Sharon Brewer, Kathleen Edwards, James Askew, Caller with number ending 540/Doug Hanes, Jennifer Goodie, Kalani Whittington, Michael Tessler, Caller with number ending 838/Michelle Gallagher, Lydia Grant, Puppet spoke and lost connection, Doug Epperhart, Joy Enix, Jillian Shultz lost connection, Puppet was called again and spoke.

Commission Comment: None.

6. **[2:25 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 Wehbe seconded. Motion was approved.

Commission Comment: Daret-Quiroz and Commissioner Shaffer.

Public Comment: Commenter with number ending in 840/Brad Kane, Puppet, Glenn Bailey, Jillian Schultz, Danielle Davis, Lydia Grant, Call in User/"Stakeholder."

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VOTE	Mover	Shaffer	Second	Wehbe
<b>Commissioner</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Atkinson</b>	X			
<b>Darett-Quiroz</b>	X			
<b>Regalado</b>	X			
<b>Shaffer</b>	X			
<b>Valdivia</b>				X
<b>Wehbe</b>	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Motion</b>	<b>Carries</b>			

- 7. **[2:39 PM] Verbal Updates from the Office of City Clerk and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment regarding the 2023 Neighborhood Council Elections.** Representatives from the Office of the City Clerk’s Neighborhood Council Election Division and the [Department of Neighborhood Empowerment](#).

Office of City Clerk Representative: Michael Lektorich

D.O.N.E. Representative: Angie Aramayo

Michael Lektorich and Angie Aramayo provided updates on the 2023 NC Elections, from the City Clerk’s office and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

Public Comment: Puppet, Call-in-User 1/name inaudible, Kalani Whittington, Jennifer Goodie, User name Judith was called several times, did not respond, and lowered their hand, Lionel Mares, KimMarie Johnson-Roussell.

Commission Comment: Commissioner Shaffer.

Commission President Regalado thanked Michael and Angie for their updates.

- 8. **[2:57 PM] Verbal Updates from the Office of City Clerk Funding Division Representatives from the Office of the City Clerk’s Neighborhood Council Funding Division** – Deferred; none present.

- 9. **[2:58 PM] General Manager’s Verbal Report.** Department Administration, Neighborhood Council engagement, civic leadership, policy and no government, staffing, awareness and engagement, update on Neighborhood Councils return to in-person (see [CF 22-1070](#)), budget, City policies, and exhaustive efforts.

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

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Before providing updates, General Manager Beltran thanked those present and gave a shout out to Erick Munoz, new Executive Assistant for the Commission, who was staffing this meeting as moderator for the first time today, and noting how he is learning the ropes of the position. GM Beltran also acknowledged, introduced and thanked Mario Gomez, who now provides front-end support for the Neighborhood Council System.

Included in her detailed update was mention that she did *not* yet have dates for hearings on council files [#22-1070 Neighborhood Council Meetings / EmpowerLA Virtual Governance \(EVG\) System / In-Person](#) and [#20-0990 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Training / Anti-Bias Training, Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Members](#),

Commission Comment: Commissioners Shaffer and Wehbe.

Public Comment: Puppet was called three times but did not respond. Public comment was provided by Jennifer Goodie, Michael Tessler, Michelle Gallagher, Glenn Bailey, Lydia STNC, Puppet, and Sharon Brewer.

10. **[3:27 PM]** Discussion and Possible Action on submission of a letter of support to the Neighborhood and Community Enrichment Committee in support of the Department's recommendations as contained in the report (see [CF 22-1070](#)) and in support of [CF 23-0002S16](#) and [CF 23-0002S17](#), proposing legislative amendments to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

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

GM Beltran related the Department has opened three separate council files with the City Council as regards proposed legislative amendments to the Brown Act, which she hopes City Council will take up.

[CF 22-1070](#) Neighborhood Council Meetings / EmpowerLA Virtual Governance (EVG) System / In-Person / Emergency Declarations

[CF 23-0002S16](#) Los Angeles Neighborhood Council System / Remote Meetings / Ralph M. Brown Act Amendment

[CF 23-0002S17](#) Local Legislative Bodies / Virtual Meetings / Ralph M. Brown Act Amendment

Of the three Council Files, CF #22-1070 has their very comprehensive report.

[https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2022/22-1070\\_misc\\_1-27-23.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2022/22-1070_misc_1-27-23.pdf)

GM Beltran introduced the draft letter to enable the Commission to ask for support for the three items.

- a. [Draft Letter](#)

Commission Comments: Commission President Regalado, Commissioner Shaffer provided initial comments, and recommended voting on this. Commissioner Atkinson thinks the letter is fine but wanted to emphasize our strong support of the three items at City Council that involve the governance of the Neighborhood Councils, and to put greater urgency into this.

Action: Commissioner Atkinson moved to amend the letter itself, where in the very first sentence, it should state that the BONC submits this letter of strong support for three items before the City Council related to the governance of the Neighborhood Councils, and at the bottom, that the Commissioners appreciate the Council's consideration of these items, to indicate that we appreciate the deep concern that the committees should consider regarding these items. Commissioner Atkinson noted that since the letter is coming from our President, that he work with the Department to add 1) strong at the beginning and 2) deep concern that we hope the Committees take this into consideration. Commissioner Shaffer seconded the motion to amend the letter. The amendment was approved.

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Commission Comment: Commissioner Shaffer, Commissioner Atkinson and Commissioner Wehbe.

Public Comment with regard to the amendment of the letter: Puppet was called three times, was notified that this would be his last minute, however, did not respond. Glenn Bailey, Steve Randall & Joan Trent spoke. Puppet was called again three times but did not respond. Lionel Mares was noted to have exceeded time limit.

Commissioner Atkinson would like to capitalize Neighborhood Councils. City Attorney Elise Ruden doesn't think there needs to be a separate motion to fix the capital letters or any other commas, etc.

VOTE	Mover	Shaffer	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Darett-Quiroz	X			
Regalado	X			
Shaffer	X			
Valdivia				X
Wehbe	X			
Total	5	0	0	1
Motion	Carries			

Action: The motion as amended was approved, as moved by Commissioners Atkinson & Shaffer.

Commission Comment: Commissioner Shaffer and Commissioner Atkinson.

Public Comment: Puppet was called three times, however, he did not respond. Glenn Bailey spoke.

VOTE	Mover	Shaffer	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Darett-Quiroz	X			
Regalado	X			
Shaffer	X			
Valdivia				X
Wehbe	X			



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<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Motion</b>	<b>Carries</b>			

11. **[3:50 PM] Commission Business.** Comment from Commissioners on matters within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction.

- a. Brief announcements on Commissioners’ own activities.
- b. Requests for future agenda items.
- c. Ask staff to research issues and report back to the Commission at a future time.

Commissioner Comment: Commissioner Shaffer, Commissioner Darrett-Quiroz, Commissioner Atkinson, Commissioner Wehbe, and Commission President Regalado.

Following comments by the Commissioners, Commission President Regalado acknowledged the great presence of attendees on this day, the importance of Commissioners listening and advising, how helpful it was to hear all the comments about specific items on our agenda, and expressed appreciation for those civically-engaged individuals helping Commissioners understand what they were saying. He thanked his fellow Commissioners and the Department as well as the people who stood up and made comments today. He noted that there was civic engagement with passion, the essence of what the Neighborhood Council is about – passion and true democracy and thanked everyone for what they have said and done, and for their honest engagement in their local neighborhoods. Commissioner Shaffer asked rhetorically how many of these individuals could have provided their comment if we met in person at City Hall at 1:00 PM.

Public Comment: Puppet, Jennifer Goodie, Call-in-User-1, Kalani Whittington, Caller, number ending 543/no name given, Vic Christensen, “Herb Wesson actually Puppet”, Glenn Bailey and Sharon Brewer.

It was noted that Friday’s City Council item #16 will be voting on CF #21-1189, whether to reopen meetings on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

President Regalado thanked everyone for communicating with us, and adjourned the meeting at **4:18 PM**.

**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.)*

- Special Meeting on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82041875556>
- Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 6:00 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).**