

City of Los Angeles  
Voices Neighborhood Council  
Regular Board Meeting



Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 6:00 pm  
VIA Telephone or Internet (Zoom)

Sally Embrey, Area 1  
Odalis Perez, Area 2  
Abasi Patton, Area 3  
Edward Garren, Area 4  
Parker Rand, At-Large  
Vacant, Corresponding Secretary  
Jaime Rabb, Vice Chairperson



Kelvin Guevara, Education  
Anita Gray, Youth  
Vacant, Faith-Based  
Sara Zurita, Community-Based  
Ingrid Guevara, Parliamentarian  
Kaamil Benoit, Recording Secretary  
Steven Nieto, Treasurer

Albert Farias, Chairperson

## Regular Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

6:00 pm

**Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone**

**<https://zoom.us/j/95564654096>**

**Dial (669) 990-6833 to Join the Meeting**

**Then Enter This Webinar ID: 955 6465 4096**

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020), and due to public health concerns and directives issued by the Mayor of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County Public Health Department regarding reducing the spread of COVID-19, meetings of the VoicesNC will be conducted entirely by video conference or telephonically. This will be effective starting May 1, 2020 and will continue during the period in which state or local public health officials have imposed or recommended social distancing measures.

### **PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The public is requested dial \*9, when prompted by the presiding officer, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. 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. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

### **NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

The City of Los Angeles Code of Conduct will be enforced to ensure the Voices Neighborhood Council meetings are collaborative, supportive, and respectful of divergent opinions.

### **QUORUM**

The Voices Neighborhood Council has 14 elected positions and one nominated position. The Voices Neighborhood Council must have eight members present for quorum to conduct official business.

**PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS** – Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Vermont Square Library Front Door, 1201 W. 48th St.
- [www.voicesnc.org](http://www.voicesnc.org)
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)**

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 emailing [VoicesNC90037@gmail.com](mailto:VoicesNC90037@gmail.com) Note: for TTY/TDD services, please refer to state provided services at <https://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov/homepage.aspx>. Zoom meetings feature closed captioning functionality.

### **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 email [VoicesNC90037@gmail.com](mailto:VoicesNC90037@gmail.com)

### **CONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

For information on the Voices NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the Voices NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and at <https://VoicesNC.org>.

### **SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION**

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a Jaime Rabb, Vice Chair, por correo electrónico a [Vicechair@voicesnc.org](mailto:Vicechair@voicesnc.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

### **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 §§ 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).

### **AGENDA FOR 5/12/2020**

*Call to Order:*

6:07 pm

*Roll Call:*

S. Embrey, O. Perez, E. Garren, P. Rand, J. Rabb, A. Farias, K. Guevara, A. Gray, S. Zurita, I. Guevara, K. Benoit, S. Nieto

*Pledge of Allegiance*

*Senior Lead Officer Report:*

**Capt Neil (77th St Division)**- Over the last 4 weeks there have been 4 homicides.

Murder on Hoover is of great concern as it has triggered possible retaliation. Police are treating this like a gang feud, asking the community to alert the police of new gang graffiti and any other illegal activities. Police department has deployed a community van for support.

**Officer Canizales (along with Officer Moore)** - Keisha (stakeholder) asks if gang activity has to do with quarantine. Officer Canizales says it is not and attributes shootings to gang feuds. Mike Parker (stakeholder) is wondering if the recent release of inmates is due to Covid-19. Office Canizales says no that it is more likely attributed to neighborhood gangs' Set Days. Sally Embrey asks what can be done about large groups gathering despite social distancing. Office Canizales says to call the non-emergency line to report the address which allows the PD to contact the owners of the property. Jaime Rabb wants to know how accurate the Citizen app is. Officer Canizales says he is not that familiar but will follow up.

*Public Officials Report:*

**Brittney from the Office of Curren Price** - working on graffiti removal hoover and fig daily. working with seniors to help them sign up for the free meals program. working with other nonprofits in the community. Voices donated \$2000 in food gift cards to be matched by the office of Curren Price. Albert advises that the office has agreed to do bulky item pick ups as well as graffiti removal. Britney advises that reports of bulky items near homeless encampments will not be immediately removed because it will be considered a part of the encampment. Please report and be patient. Motion to approve Voices NC banners on the floor at next city council meeting.

**Edith Vega from the Mayor's Office** - Mayor is working with groups to advise on the safest way to gradually reopen the city. The beaches will be open with a lot of guidelines and restrictions. New tenant protection ordinances have passed. Landlords can not raise the rent for a year and tenants have a year to pay back rent. Continue to spread the word about completing the Census. Mike Parker comments on group homes.

**Karen Hernandez** introduces herself as the board's new Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate and reminds board members to complete training if soon to expire.

- **Board of Neighborhood Commissioner Joy Atkinson (South LA)** advises the public to let her know what issues they would like brought up at their next meeting.  
*General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items*

**Action Items**

All items listed are designated for discussion and possible action by the Voices Neighborhood Council. Council items identified as presentation may be proposed for action by the Council and will be reflected as such in the meeting minutes.

Item	Reference Number	Matter	Time Allotted
1.	0520-01	<p><b>Meeting Minutes</b>                      Review and discussion of minutes from the March Meeting on 3/10/20 and April Meeting on 4/12/20.                      Member/Committee: K. Benoit                      Proposed Action: Motion to APPROVE the minutes for the March and April Minutes.                      Motion: J. Rabb, 2nd: E. Garren, motion carries.</p>	3 mins
2.	0520-02	<p><b>Monthly Expenditure Report</b>                      Review and discussion of MERs for March and April 2020                      Member/Committee: S. Nieto                      Proposed Action 1: Motion to APPROVE the March 2020 MERs. MERs to be submitted by April 30, 2020. Perform BAC.                      Motion: S. Nieto, 2nd: E. Garren, motion carries.                      Proposed Action 2: Motion to APPROVE the April 2020 MERs. MERs to be submitted by May 31, 2020. Perform BAC.                      Motion: S. Nieto, 2nd: S. Embrey, motion carries.</p>	3 mins
3.	0520-03	<p><b>Sidewalk Repair Program Environmental Impact Report</b>                      Review and discussion of Sidewalk Repair Program Draft Environmental Impact Report (SRP DEIR).                      Member/Committee: K. Benoit                      Proposed Action: Motion to OPPOSE the DEIR due to deficiencies and uncertainties that if unaddressed would have a detrimental impact on our local environment as well as the push to streamline the approval process which limits public input.                      Motion to amend: S. Embrey wants the letter to require the city to provide a more specific tree replacement timeline. Motion carries.                      Motion: K. Benoit. Motion carries.</p>	10 mins

4.	0520-04	<p><b>Council File 19-0604: Ban on card idle</b> Discuss and review <a href="#">Council File 19-0604</a> (ban on car idling) which proposes a) City Council request the City Attorney, in consultation with LADOT and other relevant departments, prepare and present an ordinance, drawing upon best practices from New York City, New Jersey, California’s existing heavy-duty truck idling regulations and elsewhere, to restrict parked vehicle idling to one minute or less, and do so in a way that does not negatively impact low income community members. b) City Council direct LADOT to prepare a robust marketing campaign in order to provide widespread education about the dangers of parked vehicle idling and the new regulations. Member/Committee: K. Benoit Proposed Action: Motion to SUPPORT Council File 19-0604 and submit a Community Impact Statement. <b>Motion to amend: Parker wants the CIS to expand regulations to deisel engine testing sites and trains. 2nd: E. Garren: Motion carries.</b> <b>Motion: K. Benoit, 2nd: E. Garren, motion carries.</b></p>	10 mins
5.	0520-05	<p><b>Be Neighborly Campaign</b> Review and discuss mock up from 907K and Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations for the light pole banners, posters, postcards, bus benches and lawn signs. Proposed Action: Council to motion to approve design for the light pole banners and other forms of media as well as design concept. <b>TABLED</b></p>	20 mins
6.	0520-06	<p><b>Swag/Promotional Items</b> Discuss the purchase of various swag items such as tablecloth, webcam privacy tab, totes and hand sanitizer. Proposed Action: Council to approve the purchase of items mentioned above not to exceed \$4,000. Perform BAC. <b>Motion: J. Rabb, 2nd: E. Garren, motion carries.</b></p>	10 mins
7.	0520-07	<p><b>Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG): KYCC</b> Presentation from Margarita Munoz and Cristina Basurto Discussion and review the neighborhood purpose grant Propose Action: Council to motion to Approve <b>\$5000</b> NPG to KYCC. Perform BAC. <b>Motion: E. Garren, 2nd: S. Zurita, motion carries.</b></p>	15 min
8.	0520-08	<p><b>Emergency Funds for VoicesNC</b> Discuss and review use of Emergency Funds for COVID-19 Proposed Action 1: Council to approve \$2215 to Buck Mason to purchase 500 antimicrobial face masks to be distributed to residents within VoicesNC boundaries. Perform BAC. <b>Motion: S. Nieto, 2nd: J. Rabb, motion carries.</b> Proposed Action 2: Council to approve a \$2000 contribution to CommunityBuild to purchase 100 \$20 grocery store gift cards that were distributed at Vermont Square Park on May 1, 2020. Perform BAC. <b>Motion: S. Nieto, 2nd: P. Rand, motion carries.</b> Proposed Action 3: Council to approve the allocation of an additional \$2000 for Emergency Funds at the Chair’s discretion. Perform BAC. <b>Motion to amend: Strike “at Chair’s discretion” and replace with “during this Covid-19 emergency”. Motion carries.</b> <b>Motion: S. Nieto, 2nd: J. Rabb, motion carries.</b></p>	20 min.
9.	0220-095	<p><b>Institute a Monthly Newsletter that may include list of upcoming meetings/events, highlight board actions from previous month, community spotlight (business, person, place)</b></p>	10 min.

		Proposed Action: Appoint a monthly board member to develop a newsletter to be distributed via the email-list serve. Submit final newsletter to Jaime Rabb for approval and dissemination. <b>TABLED</b>	
10.	0520-10	<p><b>Committee &amp; Liaison Reports</b></p> <p>Council to report on committee and liaison activities and invite interested stakeholders to participate in scheduled meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outreach Committee</b></li> <li>• Planning &amp; Land Use Committee</li> <li>• <b>Arts, Parks &amp; Recreation Committee</b></li> <li>• Health and Safety Committee</li> <li>• Budget &amp; Finance Committee</li> <li>• <b>Ad hoc Sustainability Committee</b></li> <li>• Ad hoc Be Neighborly committee</li> <li>• Ad hoc Business Committee</li> <li>• Ad hoc Bylaws Committee</li> <li>• CPAB (77th &amp; Southwest) Liaison</li> <li>• Homeless Liaison</li> <li>• SLAANC Liaison</li> <li>• <b>Area Representatives (1, 2, 3, 4 and At-Large)</b></li> </ul> <p>Proposed Action: No motions from updates. Committee and Liaison agenda motions will be listed individually for discussion and possible action. <b>TABLED</b></p>	15 min
11.	0520-11	<p><b>Voices Vacancies</b></p> <p>Review and discussion of vacant council seat, unassigned committees, liaisons, liaison alternates, and recruitment of community stakeholders for committee assignment. Discuss council member absences. Invite all committee members to be sworn in during the February meeting.</p> <p>Member/Committee: A. Farias</p> <p>Proposed Action: 1) Council to motion on approving letter/email to be sent immediately to members who have exceeded the number of absences to inform seat is at risk of vacancy. 2) Council to appoint vacant board seats.</p>	5 mins
12.	0520-12	<p><b>VoicesNC Budget</b></p> <p>Review and discuss VoicesNC budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year</p> <p>Propose Action: Motion to approve amended 2019-2020 VoicesNC budget. Perform BAC</p> <p>Motion: E. Garren, 2nd: S. Nieto, motion carries.</p>	10 min
13.	0520-13	<p><b>Environmental and Climate Impact of Council File 20-0600 and 20-0482</b></p> <p>Review and discuss council File 20-0600 (Budget Proposal) and 20-0482 (Greenhouse Gas Reduction)</p> <p>Proposed Action: Board to support CF 20-0482 (Greenhouse Gas Reduction) and propose an amendment to CF 20-0600 to allocate funding to the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization, Wildlife Pilot Study, the Climate Emergency Commission, and Communities Assemblies.</p> <p>Motion: E. Garren, 2nd: J. Rabb, motion carries.</p>	10 min

**RALPH M. BROWN ACT**

54954.2. (a) At least 72 hours before a regular meeting, the legislative body of the local agency, or its designee, shall post an agenda containing a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the 5 meeting, including items to be discussed in closed session. A brief general description of an item generally need not exceed 20 words. The agenda shall specify the time and location of the regular meeting and shall be posted in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public. If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. The agenda shall include information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting.

**REMOVAL WARNING**

In the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of such meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the members of the legislative body conducting the meeting may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the legislative body from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for willfully disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting.  
 Government code Section 54957.9

**DISRUPTION OF MEETINGS**

Any person who interferes with the conduct of a Neighborhood Council meeting by willfully interrupting and/or disrupting the meeting is subject to removal. A Peace Officer may be requested to assist with the removal by the Neighborhood Council.

Any person who resists removal by a Peace Officer is subject to arrest and prosecution.  
 Penal Code Section 403, Penal Code Section 602.1(b)

<b><u>Voices NC Council Vacancy</u></b>	
Interested stakeholders can email a Letter of Intent to <a href="mailto:VoicesNC90037@gmail.com">VoicesNC90037@gmail.com</a> . Additional information about Voices NC is available at <a href="https://VoicesNC.org">https://VoicesNC.org</a>	
<b>Council Vacancy</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1. Corresponding Secretary</b>	At the direction of the Chair, prepare and release formal board approved correspondence; routinely inform the public of the Council’s activities and inform the Board of City meetings and activities; receives and shares outreach notices and stakeholder information between committees; oversee the maintenance and updating of the website and other social media platforms; create and post all agenda notices in accordance with the Brown Act for all Board meetings; maintain and update the stakeholder database
<b>2. Faith Based Representative</b>	Represents the interests of faith-based organizations in our community and who is designated representative of a faith-based organization located within the boundaries of the VNC area.

<b><u>Voices NC Council Liaisons</u></b>			
<b>Council Liaison</b>	<b>Meeting Time</b>	<b>Assigned Member</b>	<b>Alternate Member</b>
<b>1. SLAANC</b>	Third Thursday of the month (6:30pm)	A. Farias	J. Rabb
<b>2. LAPD 77<sup>th</sup> C-PAB</b>	Second Thursday of the month (6:00pm)	S. Nieto	J. Rabb
<b>3. LAPD Southwest C-PAB</b>	First Monday of the month (6:30pm)	S. Embrey	A. Patton

<b>4. Homelessness</b>	Every Other Month (TBD) (6:30pm)	A. Farias	K. Benoit, A. Gray, P. Rand
<b>5. Resilience/Disaster Preparedness</b>	TBD	S. Zurita	S. Embrey
<b>6. Budget Advocate</b>	First Monday of the month (7:00pm)	S. Nieto	E. Garren
<b>7. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance</b>	TBD	K. Benoit	A. Patton

**Voices NC Council Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Primary Signer</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Signer</b>	<b>Alternate Signer</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Bankcard holder</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Bankcard holder</b>
S. Nieto (Treasurer)	A. Farias	J. Rabb	A. Farias	J. Rabb

**Voices NC Standing Committees**

*All meetings are open to the public and will be posted on [www.empowerla.org](http://www.empowerla.org). All meetings will be held at Vermont Square Library unless otherwise posted. For more about Voices NC Standing Committees refer to Bylaws, Article VI, and Section 1.*

<b>Standing Committees</b>	<b>Assigned Council Member</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1. Arts, Parks, &amp; Recreation</b>	S. Zurita	The Arts, Parks and Recreation Committee will have the responsibility to discuss issues, promote partnerships on projects and brainstorm ideas to encourage greater community involvement and support. The Arts, parks and Recreation Committee will explore issues and ideas in order to define community identity and values by giving voice to its citizens and providing a form for group action and expression. The committee submits reports of meetings in written form and makes recommendations to the Board for action. The Chair selects meeting site, date and time and meets as directed in these Bylaws.
<b>2. Budget &amp; Finance</b>	S. Nieto	The Budget and Finance Committee Investigate and pursue sources of income and funding. Make an initial review of project proposals and provide a report to the VNC board with recommendations. Generate a budget for each fiscal year, showing planned income and expenditures. And, maintain the Council budget current and report any issues to the Board.
<b>3. Outreach</b>	J. Rabb	The Outreach Committee shall be charged with continuing to outreach to the VNC stakeholders by utilizing any acceptable and Board approved forms of media (e.g. flyers, newsletters, print, television/electronic media, signs, banners, website, etc.) to inform stakeholders regarding projects and events. The content and method of distribution must be pre-approved by the Board.
<b>4. Planning &amp; Land Use</b>	P. Rand	The Planning & Land Use Committee shall review, take public input, report on and make recommendations of actions to the Board on any land use, beautification, and planning issues affecting the community in order to improve the health and quality of life of its citizens. The committee also reviews and recommends action regarding building development projects requiring land use permits within the VNC boundaries; advocates positions on land use and building design for the betterment of the community; and

		considers and provides recommendations to Council on other topics, such as rezoning, applications, development permits, and any subdivision that require council approval.
<b>5. Senior Services</b>	Vacant	The Senior Services Committee addresses the needs of senior citizens in the community and provides an environment where seniors can discuss current issues, share ideas and voice their concerns. The committee will be supportive of programs and services that provide seniors with maximum vitality and independence. It will identify, monitor and address issues that have impact upon seniors' quality of life. The committee will promote "Healthy Aging" by creating an environment where individual differences and needs are recognized; by promoting multicultural awareness, understanding and interaction; and by serving as a bridge to access government information and resources.
<b>6. Youth &amp; Education</b>	A. Gray, K. Guevara	The Youth & Education Committee addresses the issues, concerns, programs and services related to the education of children, youth and adults and developing specific strategies and policies for influencing and achieving constructive outcomes within schools, classrooms, and other education/learning centers that serve the Voices community. Additionally, this committee has the general responsibility to discuss issues, foster collaboration on projects, and brainstorm ideas to encourage greater community involvement/support and participation.
<b>7. Health &amp; Safety</b>	S. Nieto	The Health & Safety Committee seeks opportunities to organize and forums to mobilize the community in seeking safety practices. This includes partnering with Neighborhood Watch, Volunteer Safety Task Force (to enhance the Services provided by the School Crossing Guards), School Crossing Guards, Los Angeles Police Department Senior Lead Officers and Traffic Division and the Los Angeles Fire Department. Representatives of VNC will work to formalize a relationship with these City agencies and other entities responsible for "safety issues" in our community.