

City of Los Angeles
Voices Neighborhood Council
Special Board Meeting



Saturday, April 8, 2023, 10:00 am
Vermont Square Branch Library

Eric Chavez, Area 1
Javonne Sanders, Area 2
Abasi Patton, Area 3
Edward Garren, Area 4
Parker Rand, At-Large
Matthew Crawford, Corresponding Secretary
Dulce Vasquez, Vice Chairperson



Emmanuel Alcantar, Education
Vacant, Youth
Elizabeth Ebow, Housing
Estuardo Mazariegos, Community-Based
Sunny Keaton, Parliamentarian
Jason Saunders, Recording Secretary
Edward Garren, Treasurer

Jaime Rabb, Chairperson

Special Board Meeting – CANDIDATE FORUM

Saturday, April 8, 2023

10:00 AM

Location: Vermont Square Branch Library (Downstairs Multipurpose Room)

1201 W. 48th St.

Los Angeles, CA 90037

PUBLIC COMMENTS The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” 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 Council, and given to the first 10 persons who submit Speakers Cards to the Recording Secretary.

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.

AGENDA FOR 4/8/23

Call to Order

Roll Call

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.	0423-01a	General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items <i>(limit 3 minutes per speaker)</i>	10 min.
2.	0423-02a	Brief Overview of Neighborhood Councils and Standing Committees	5 min.

3.	0423-03a	Formal Candidate Introductions Candidate statements or remarks are limited to 2 minutes per person	22 min.
4.	0423-04a	Moderated Q&A with Candidates, facilitated by Jaime Rabb, current Chair of Voices NC Each candidate will have 1 minute to answer each question.	33 min.
5.	0423-05a	Audience questions & comments	10 min.
6.	0423-06a	Candidates Closing remarks (1 minute each)	11 min.

Adjourn

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

- Vermont Square Library Resources Wall, 1201 W. 48th St.
- www.voicesnc.org
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s [Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)

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, 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 of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org

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

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 chair@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 Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

Voices NC Council Liaisons

Council Liaison	Meeting Time	Assigned Member	Alternate Member
1. SLAANC	Third Thursday of the month (6:30pm)	Matthew Crawford	Estuardo Mazariegos
2. LAPD 77 th C-PAB	Second Thursday of the month (6:00pm)	Jaime Rabb	Matthew Crawford
3. LAPD Southwest C-PAB	First Monday of the month (6:30pm)		
4. Homelessness	Every Other Month (TBD) (6:30pm)	Elizabeth Ebow	
5. Resilience/Disaster Preparedness	TBD		
6. Budget Advocate	First Monday of the month (7:00pm)		
7. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance	Third Sunday of the month (6:30pm)	Emmanuel Alcantar	
8. LA LGBTQ+ Alliance of Neighborhood Councils	TBD		

Voices NC Council Financial Responsibilities

Primary Signer	2 nd Signer	Alternate Signer	1 st Bankcard holder	2 nd Bankcard holder
Edward Garren (Treasurer)	J. Rabb	M. Crawford	J. Rabb	M. Crawford

Voices NC Standing Committees

All meetings are open to the public and will be posted on 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.

Standing Committees	Assigned Member	Description
1. Beautification, Outreach and Programming (BOP)	Sara Zurita (stakeholder) & Jaime Rabb (Co-Chairs)	The BOP Committee will have the responsibility to discuss issues, promote partnerships on projects and brainstorm ideas to encourage greater community involvement and support. The 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. Also 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 Chair selects meeting site, date and time and meets as directed in these Bylaws.
2. Budget & Finance	Vacant	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.
3. Planning & Land Use	Edward Garren & Estuardo Mazariegos (Co-chairs)	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.
4. Senior Services		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.
5. Youth & Education		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.
6. Health & Safety		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.

Candidates for Voices Neighborhood Council Elections 2023

Term: 2 years

Chairperson

Gustyn K. Cook
Douglas Jessop

Community/Non-Profit Representative

Vacant

Vice Chairperson

Jason Saunders

Housing Advocate Representative

Vacant

Treasurer

Vacant

Education Representative

Emmanuel Alcantar

Recording Secretary

Vacant

Area 1 Representative

Estuardo Mazariegos

Corresponding Secretary

Matthew N. Crawford

Area 2 Representative

Eric S. Chavez

Parliamentarian

Vacant

Area 3 Representative

Abasi Patton

At-Large Representative

Javonne Sanders

Area 4 Representative

Edward Garren
Chrismen Oliver

Moderated Questions:

Each candidate will have no more than 1 minute to answer each question.

1. What are the top 3 priorities that you plan to address as a board member and how will you accomplish this?
2. Each board members role involves a substantial amount of time and commitment that can involve sitting on a standing committee, representing the Voices NC at other on-going meetings such as the South Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (SLAANC), and working on other initiatives engaging stakeholders. How do you plan to address the time commitment as a volunteer?
3. What about our community makes you most proud to be a resident or stakeholder and why?

Preguntas para los candidatos:

Cada candidato vas a tener uno minto para responder por cada pregunta.

1. ¿Cuáles son las 3 cosas principales que hará como miembro del consejo vecinal y cómo lo hará?
2. Cada miembro del consejo de vecindario dedica mucho tiempo a realizar diversas tareas, como asistir a un comité, representar al consejo de vecindario en otras reuniones, como la Alianza de Consejos de Vecindarios del Sur de Los Ángeles (SLAANC), y trabajar en otros temas en el barrio. ¿Cómo piensa abordar el compromiso de tiempo como voluntario?
3. ¿Qué en nuestra comunidad te hace sentir más orgulloso de ser residente y por qué?