



CITY OF
LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BOARD AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING AGENDA

Monday, June 14, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

This meeting of the West Hills Neighborhood Council Beautification Committee will be conducted online via Zoom Webinar and telephonically. All are invited to attend and participate.

To attend online via Zoom Webinar, click or paste the following link into your browser:
<https://zoom.us/j/99272551544>

To call in by phone, dial toll-free **833-548-0276**, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: **992 7255 1544#**.

This meeting is open to the public. Comments on matters not on the agenda will be heard during the Public Comment period. Those who wish to speak on an agenda item will be heard when the item is considered.

1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum
2. Approval of Minutes of the May 2021 meeting
3. Comments and Announcements from the Chairs
4. Public Comment
5. Discussion and Possible Action Board Event Approvals for July, August, and September cleanups
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Resuming Providing Pre-packaged Snacks at Beautification Events
7. Discussion and Possible Action on Beautification Committee Funding requirements for Fiscal Year 2021/2022
8. Discussion and Possible Action on an Event with City Street Services Department (in person or by ZOOM) to be held jointly by the Beautification, Government Relations, and Streets and Transportation Committees
9. LA City Park Maintenance Updates -- including reports from members regarding conditions of our local parks
10. Discussion and Possible Action on the Orcutt Ranch Monarch Butterfly Project
 - a. Mayor's Pledge
 - b. Letter to Councilmember Lee
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Murals
12. Discussion and Possible Action on other Beautification Projects and prior suggested projects:
 - a. Attracting nurseries/garden shops to beautify an area and then get "free publicity" for the cleanup
 - b. Fire hydrant painting
 - c. Post office update
 - d. Spring Plantings – locations and sponsors –
 - e. Suggestions for dog poop left by careless neighbors
 - f. Any new ideas???
11. Discussion and Possible Action on ROW Letters
12. Suggestions for the July Agenda
13. Adjournment - ***The next meeting of this committee will be held on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 6:00 PM.***

Public input at Neighborhood Council meetings: When prompted by the presiding officer, members of the public may address the committee on any agenda item before the committee takes an action on the item by punching in *9 (if calling in by phone) or by clicking on the “raise hand” button (if participating online through Zoom) and waiting to be recognized. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the committee 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 committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of said committee.

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. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org.

Public Posting of Agendas: WHNC agendas are posted for public review at Shadow Ranch Park, 22633 Vanowen St., West Hills, CA 91307 or at our website, www.westhillsnc.org. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to the City of Los Angeles Early Notification System at www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index.

The Americans With Disabilities Act: 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 three business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting via email NCsupport@lacity.org or calling (213) 978-1551. If you are hearing impaired please call 711.

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 meeting where such writing was considered or by contacting the WHNC’s executive director via email at Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org. Requests can be made for a copy of a record related to an item on the agenda.

Reconsideration and Grievance Process: For information on the WHNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the WHNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website, www.WestHillsNC.org.



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC DRAFT MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, May 18, 2021

Committee members in attendance: Faye Barta, Dan Brin , Jessica Fuentes, Heidi Manning, Steve Randall, Anthony Scarce, Myrl Schreibman, Joan Trent, and Brad Vanderhoof.

Absent: Tom Booth, Kian Gholibiek, Olivia Naturman.

Also in attendance: Christian Kiillkkaa, Christina, Glenn Jennings, and Jill Mather.

1. Committee Co-chair Faye Barta called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. A quorum was established.
2. The April, 2021, minutes were approved, with the addition of the three absentees.
3. Chair Comments: Brad Vanderhoof stated he would love to do more beautification projects, but that the pandemic has temporarily prevented us from doing so.
4. Public Comment: Christina said she did not have any comments at this time, but would speak during item #7 discussion. Jill Mather said she was invited to attend by Heidi Manning and was herself a member of the Chatsworth NC Beautification Committee.
5. Discussion on Board Event Approvals for May and June Cleanups: Faye announced that the May and June cleanups have both been approved. The May Cleanup Event will be on the north side of Victory between Fallbrook and Royer and, if we have time, will continue north on Fallbrook to Criswell on May 29 at 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM. The committee will provide water. There will not be any food served and there will not be a canopy and table and there is a necessity of maintaining "social distancing", everyone must bring and wear their own masks and the cleanup group must be limited to 25 persons, all due to Covid restrictions, REQUIRED by the City. Hopefully after the COVID restrictions are lifted, as members suggested, we can seek more engagement with the public, evolve cleanups into fun projects, and outreach with contests to improve lawns and gardens and motivate people to clean up. The June cleanup will be held on June 26, 2021, on Valley Circle, meeting at Lazy J Park, from Ingomar and going to Roscoe.
6. Event with City Street Services Department (in person or by ZOOM) held with the Beautification, Government Relations, and Streets and Transportation Committee: Since there has not been any movement on this project, and since the new Board Members will be seated soon, this matter will be tabled.
7. Future of Community Cleanups and LA City Park Maintenance: Attendees Christina and Mr. Christian Kiillkkaa, a landscape architect , and Tony Scarce explained the 140- tree removals planned at Orcutt Ranch Park and the need to preserve the native milkweed which the monarch butterflies require during their migration through Orcutt Ranch Park. Suggestions on efforts to take to make people aware of the action needed immediately to save the milkweed, such as obtaining a neighborhood purpose grant, approaching Orcutt to allow residents to take milkweed to plant at their homes, to bring in CSUN Botany experts to assist and to try to obtain a grant from the City to fund all of this. The butterfly migration and the park's tree removal issues were tabled to allow more research into these issues.
8. Other Beautification Projects: The dog poop issue reared its ugly head. Most committee members had numerous suggestions on how to handle this problem and how other areas around Southern California were handling this issue.

Since it is clear that the City and Rec and Parks are not interested in poop bag stations, this item was tabled for further discussion and opportunity to revisit this issue.

9. R.O.W. Letters: Brad reported he will provide an update on the Delmon house at our next meeting. No other locations were suggested.

10. Strike Team Reports: Dan said he is still taking signs down. Steve mentioned a severe tree branch overhang on his street (Eccles) with branches hanging so low at two homeowners' homes that it is impossible to walk on the sidewalk underneath the overgrowth. Brad said that the City rules provide that if there is such an overhang over a right-of-way that the offending overgrowth can be trimmed by anybody. Steve Randall and Anthony Searce volunteered to talk with the two homeowners about removing the offending overgrowth.

11. June Agenda: The butterfly habitat will again be discussed at the June meeting.

Co-chair Faye Barta adjourned the meeting at 7:16 PM.

The next meeting of this committee will be held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 6:00 PM



**MAYORS
MONARCH
PLEDGE**

Mayors' Monarch Pledge

The monarch butterfly is an iconic North American species whose multigenerational migration and metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly has captured the imagination of millions of Americans.

We, the undersigned mayors and heads of local or tribal government, are deeply concerned about the decline of the monarch butterfly population. Both the western and eastern monarch populations have experienced significant declines. Less than one percent of the western monarch population remains, while the eastern population has fallen by as much as ninety percent. Monarch scientists attribute the population decline to degradation and loss of summer breeding habitat in the U.S., and loss of winter habitat in south-central Mexico and coastal California.

Cities, towns, counties, and communities have a critical role to play to help save the monarch butterfly. Municipalities can provide habitat at public parks, median strips, community gardens, schools, and municipal buildings like recreation centers and libraries. Events such as community workshops, native plant giveaways, and monarch festivals, can educate residents about the cultural significance of monarchs and how to create habitat. Simple changes in landscaping ordinances or other policies can make a big difference for the monarch too.

We recognize the importance of creating monarch and pollinator habitat at parks, gardens, and other green spaces, that every member of our community can equally enjoy. Our work to help save the monarch butterfly intentionally engages all parts of our communities, ensuring that historically marginalized communities are not left out of the work or the many benefits this work will create.

When mayors speak up and take a stand, our communities notice. Therefore, we hereby commit to help restore habitat for the monarch and encourage our residents to do the same, so that these magnificent butterflies will once again flourish across the continent.

Sign the pledge at www.nwf.org/mayorsmonarchpledge

Mayors' Monarch Pledge

- Help Make L.A. a City for Monarch Butterflies –

Dear Mayor Garcetti, please help make Los Angeles a city supporting our native monarch butterflies by signing the NWF (National Wildlife Federation) Mayors' Pledge, on December 1st 2021

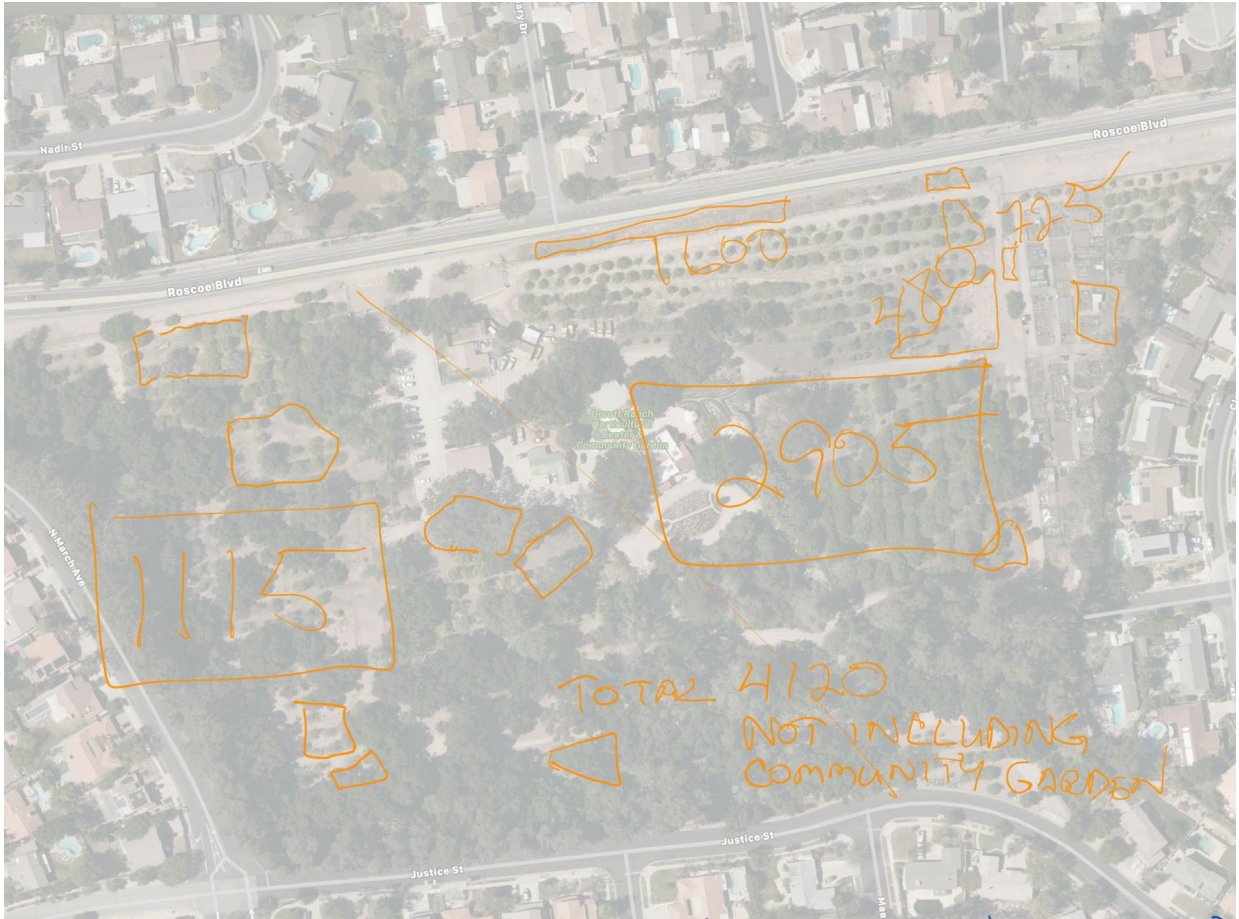
Los Angeles can be a leader in helping save the monarchs by being the largest city in the country to take the Mayors' Monarch Pledge.

In California, the monarch butterfly population has plummeted by over 95% since the 80's. By planting and protecting the California native plants, especially California native Milkweed, which provide nectar, larval food and egg laying habitat---our city can significantly renew and support their sustainability.

Already, more than 389 U.S. cities, municipalities, and other communities have committed to create habitat for the monarch butterfly and pollinators, and to educate resident about how they can make a difference at home and in their community.

We want Los Angeles to join this list at the top to save and protect or treasured monarch butterflies.

We have identified and mapped over 4000 existing native milkweed plants at Orcutt Ranch Horticultural Center in West Hills. We want Orcutt Ranch to be designated as a Monarch Butterfly Habitat. We believe this would be the largest Habitat in LA County. We will work with your office and CD12 to accomplish this designation.



ORCUTT RANCH 6/9/21 NARROWLEAF NATIVE MILKWEED COUNT (SOURLED LOCAL)

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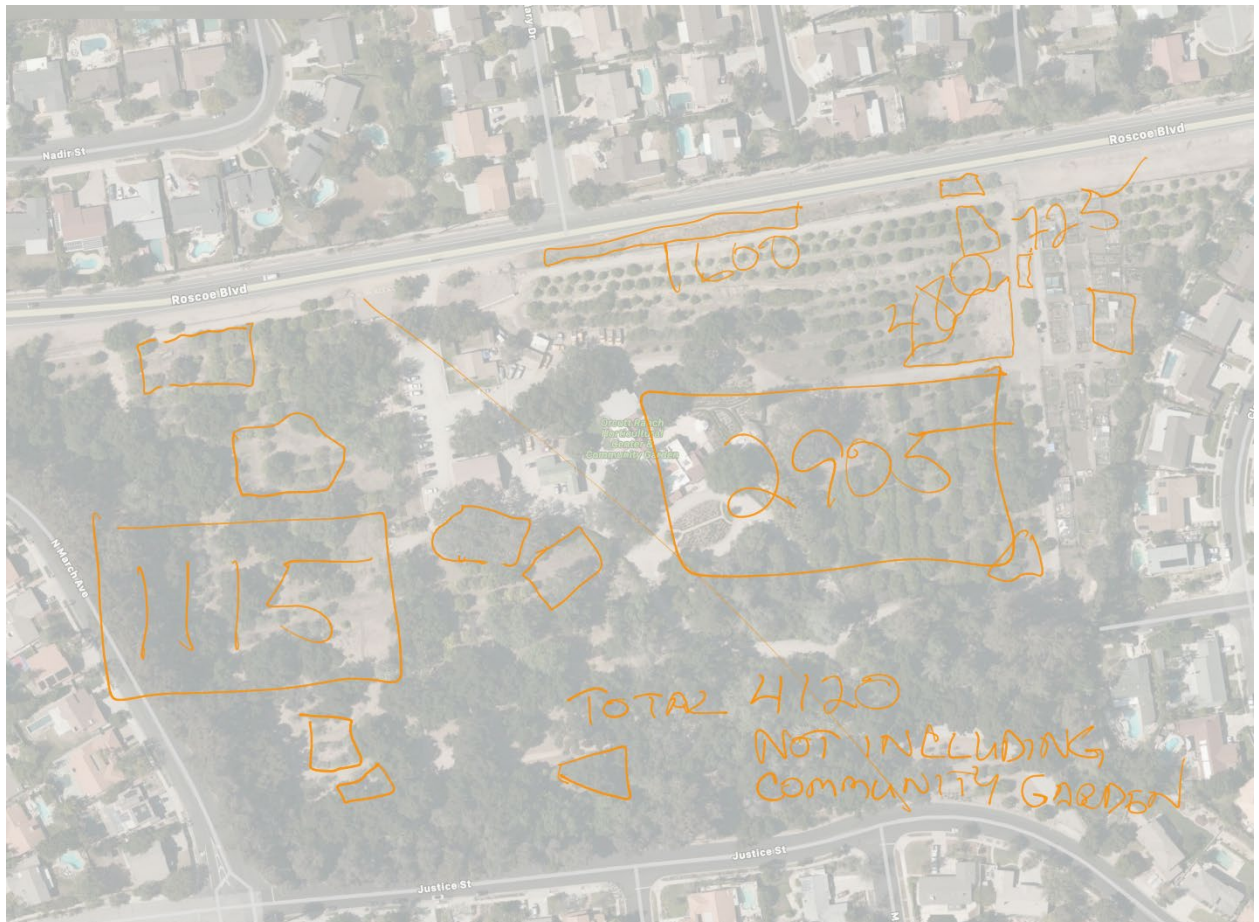
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We request John Lee introduce a motion to the PLUM Committee to designate Orcutt Ranch Horticultural Center a protected Monarch Butterfly Habitat. This would allow protection of already identified California native milkweed plants and planting of additional plants.



ORCUTT RANCH 6/9/21 NARROWLEAF NATIVE MILKWEED COUNT (SOURCED LOCAL)



MAYORS MONARCH PLEDGE

DATE

Mayor Garcetti
City of Los Angeles

Dear Mayor Garcetti

We are writing to encourage you to sign the National Wildlife Federation's "[Mayors' Monarch Pledge](#)" and join a transnational coalition of communities, mayors, and heads of local and tribal government recognized across the U.S., Mexico, and Canada, in efforts to sustain the monarch butterfly population for generations to come. The Mayors' Monarch Pledge is currently accepting new pledges between December 1 and March 31 this year and I hope you will consider joining.

The migration of monarch butterflies is one of the natural world's most epic journeys. Though each monarch weighs as little as a paper clip, monarchs fly up to 3,000 miles from their summer homes in America's backyards and grasslands to wintering grounds in South-Central Mexico's mountain forests and along California's coast. Unfortunately, in recent years, the monarch butterfly populations have plummeted at an alarming rate. This decline threatens to deprive future generations of the wonder and beauty of the monarch — and is an ominous sign of the worsening health of ecosystems. Both the western and eastern monarch populations have seen significant declines in the past few decades. Less than one percent of the western monarch population remains, while the eastern population has fallen by as much as ninety percent.

These declines are a troubling indicator of the current global wildlife crisis and are a possible risk for our future food supply. Monarch butterflies, as well as bees, bumblebees, birds, bats, and other butterfly species, help move pollen from one plant to another, fertilizing flowers and making it possible for plants to produce the food needed to feed people and wildlife. More than a third of the food that we eat requires pollinators to grow. Yet many of these pollinators are declining, with habitat loss, pesticides and climate change all contributing.

Monarchs need all of us to make our homes, businesses, schools, and community spaces more monarch and wildlife-friendly. Towns, cities, and counties have a critical role to play to help save the monarch butterfly. Municipalities can provide monarch habitat at public parks, median strips, community gardens, and municipal buildings. City properties like recreation centers and libraries can host demonstration gardens and serve as community hubs where residents can learn how to help. Communities can change ordinances and adapt their comprehensive plans to support the recovery of the monarch butterfly. Educating residents about how and where to grow milkweed is

also a key piece for success. By working with municipal mayors, local, state, and national partners, we will restore and enhance habitat for monarchs and other wildlife right where people live, work, learn, play and worship.

To implement the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community, the program involves three main steps:

1. [Take the online pledge](#) between December 1 and March 31 each year and select at least 3 action items out of 30 that your community will work on related to monarch conservation.
2. Initiate the specified actions your community selected throughout the year.
3. Track and report your progress by submitting an annual report by December 1.

The National Wildlife Federation is here to support you with these steps by sharing best practices on our resources page, through posts on our public Facebook group, newsletter updates, webinars, and more. Visit www.nwf.org/MayorsMonarchPledge/About/Overview for more information and access to our FAQs.

West Hills, in our community, we are working with California Native Plant Society, and we look forward to supporting you and the city in implementing the pledge. If we work together, we can make our community a safe harbor for monarch butterflies.]

Until now, saving the monarchs has often been viewed as someone else's job. By joining forces through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, we are declaring that era over. Together, we will ensure that future generations have the chance to enjoy this iconic butterfly. We hope you will join us in making monarch butterfly conservation a priority in your community by taking the Mayors' Monarch Pledge today (www.nwf.org/MayorsmonarchPledge).

West Hills Neighborhood Council.