

IT'S OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. LET'S BUILD A COMMUNITY.



West Hills Neighborhood Council

P.O. Box 4670, West Hills, CA 91308-4670
818-254-WEST



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MAIL@WESTHILLSNC.ORG

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FINAL MEETING MINUTES
February 4, 2016
deToledo High School
22622 Vanowen Street, West Hills, CA 91304

ATTENDANCE

Present: Aida Abkarians, Eric Augusztiny, Sandi Bell, Simone Best, Thomas Booth, Dan Brin, Margery Brown, Anthony Brosamle, Bob Brostoff, Esperanza Butler, Nicole Flessati, Carolyn Greenwood, Bonnie Klea, Steve Randall, Reeyan Raynes, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Barry Seybert (arrived 7:10), Ron Sobel, Michael Teitlebaum, Bobbi Trantafello, Alec Uzemeck, Jacquie Young and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Absent: Ed Young

OPENING BUSINESS

President and Co-Chair Dan Brin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Secretary Nicole Flessati called roll and announced an initial attendance of 24 board members, establishing a quorum. Vice President and Co-Chair Charlene Rothstein led the Pledge of Allegiance. September 2015 meeting minutes were approved.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

President Dan Brin announced the upcoming Neighborhood Council Elections. Ed Young was injured but is expected to make a full recovery but is not in attendance due to the injury. Note the passing of two members of our community that passed away in a fire the day before the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dusty Russell - Announced a bill calling for a moratorium of injections into the well, the legislation is in the State Assembly. The senator is working on developing priority for the year, to focus on teacher shortage here in los angeles. In addition to all that, he is here to recognize the work of the neighborhood council and one member in particular, Reeyan Raynes. She wants to recognize a volunteer of the month award to honor his work.

CD 12 – Ron Rubine, Field Deputy mentioned that the no parking signs will be going up. Councilman is working with authorities to help the displaced families of the Aliso Gas leak move

back into their homes in a realistic timeframe. There will be a closed hearing on the Haynes Street Bridge on February 19.

Assembly member Debabneh was in attendance. His office is working with the Gas company and has asked for regulations from them to ensure that a leak doesn't happen again. Another good year for the state budget a \$170 million dollar budget. That means more money for in-state schools to allow for more acceptance to avoid losing promising students to other states - this includes Community College, Cal State, and UC's. They are reinvesting in social security, environmental protections are in place, like the Chatsworth pond situation where state money doesn't make its way to the local areas, including to the local schools. One of his office is frugal and is insisting on a rainy day fund. Gov. Brown took a \$60 billion deficit and in 3 years made it flat, there is now a rainy day fund to allow for market dips in a bullish economy. Working hard on affordable housing. We need to update our roads. He's the chair of the banking finance committee, worked on regulating virtual currency and looking at ways to implement card chip technology - which is safer and has increased fraud protection. Payday lending is another issue in California, they are trying to prevent the debt trap caused by abusing these funding options. His office is trying to work on alternatives for those community members that do not have access to regular loans or family like from Credit Unions and other community based options. He's also working on fraud calls like the IRS scam as well as other email scams. He says the Government would never ask for your personal information via telephone calls or emails. Call his office if you have any concerns about the aforementioned topics.

Howard Ketchum our independent election coordinator spoke to the board about the upcoming election.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elections are taking place this spring and will have online voting option. Registration for online voting runs from mid-November to April 10.. Get more information on the 2016 Neighborhood Council Board Elections at www.empowerla.org/elections or call 818-293-VOTE (8683).

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

16-0001 - Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the WHNC's December 2015 spending reports. A vote was taken (roll call) and the spending report was approved. 21 votes to pass and 2 ineligible and 1 absent votes.

16-0005 - Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the WHNC's January 2016 spending reports. A vote was taken and the spending report was approved with 21 yes votes and 2 ineligible and 1 absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Rowe asked the board to allocate more of the money from the budget to the West Valley Food Pantry.

Co-Chair Char Rothstein urged members of the public to come to this month's Zoning and Planning Committee meeting to discuss the small lot division ordinance.

Everet Kang, Vice President of Architecture and Planning of D.R. Horton spoke to the board about the development at 8500 Fallbrook Ave that they purchased from California Home Building. His goal is to build the best product and increase property values for all neighbors. He is proposing changing the design and reducing the size of the houses, going from 3 stories to all

2 stories.

Lori Yalem spoke to the board about her concern regarding the Small Lot Sub Divisions being approved for development in West Hills and asked that the council support the desires of the neighbors and stakeholders in regards to the development size. She is urging the council to develop more parks and to keep track of the quimby funds from these ongoing developments. She also recognized that the community needs a dog park.

Aisso Fernandez and Lili Lozano from the West Valley Boys and Girls Club College Bound program spoke to the board about the program.

OLD BUSINESS

15-0058 - Discussion and possible action on a Community Impact Statement supporting a City Council resolution in favor of the Restore Honor to Service Members Act.

Tony seconded the motion to support the resolution. A vote was taken, no opposing, the motion passes unanimously. (no abstentions)

15-0047 - Discussion and possible action regarding a Community Impact Statement supporting City Council motion to support the operations at the Greek Theater. 17 yes 2 no and 1 ineligible.

Bonnie Klea left at 8:30

Nicole Flessati left at 8:35

Eric Augusztiny left at 8:35

16-0003 – Discussion and possible action regarding proposed Bylaw amendments regarding Board vacancies

Proposal passed with 19 yes, 0 nay, 0 abstention, 4 absent, 1 ineligible and of stakeholders present 4 yes, 1 no and 1 abstain.

16-0006 – Discussion and possible action on a resolution pertaining to the Aliso Canyon methane gas leak

Motion passed with friendly amendment of the words “for West Hills and adjacent communities”, unanimously.

16-0007 – Discussion and possible action on CF15-1138-S1/Serving and Housing LA's Homeless/New Account

Matter tabled until next meeting.

Bob Brostoff announced that there will be training for MAP Your Neighborhood at 6 pm on March 2, 2016 at the Platt Library.

Meeting adjourned 9:25

DATE: January 7, 2016.

Council File 14-1500-S2

Honorable City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The West Hills Neighborhood Council requests that the following Community Impact Statement be attached/added to Council File 14-1500-S2 regarding Operations of the Greek Theater.

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The West Hills Neighborhood Council is for the Greek Theater Operations proposal if it is amended based on the following provision: That an impartial Structural Engineer determines if the grandstands are structurally safe and will not need additional work to maintain their integrity.

Furthermore, this Community Impact Statement is based on the action taken at the regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting on January 7, 2016, when the West Hills Neighborhood Council adopted the following motion by a vote of ___ yes, ___ no, ___ abstaining and directed that a Community Impact Statement be filed reflecting its position.

MOTION: "The West Hills Neighborhood Council urges the Los Angeles City Council to adopt Greek Theater proposal and to consider the following general comments: To ensure that all safety standards are met and that the theater will be operated in a manner that will maintain the high standards from the previous operator.

Sincerely,

Joanne M. Yvanek-Garb
Chair, Government Relations Committee and Board Member

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, more than 100,000 American veterans who served in the military during World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraq, and Afghanistan received less than honorable discharge from the military because of their sexual orientation, often resulting in a loss of benefits to which they should have been entitled, such as veterans' health care and GI bill tuition assistance; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, Congress and the President repealed the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy to eliminate this institutionalized discrimination and allow all members of the military to serve their country freely and openly, regardless of their sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, despite the change in policy, estimates are that nearly 114,000 LGBT service members who were discharged over the years under prior policies continue to suffer from tarnished military records, often preventing them from receiving the veterans' benefits they rightfully earned; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2015, Senator Brian Schatz and Congressman Mark Pocan introduced companion measures S1766 and HR3068, respectively, proposing the enactment of the "Restore Honor to Service Members Act"; and

WHEREAS, if enacted, the Restore Honor to Service Members Act would streamline the process through which veterans who were unduly discharged solely because of their sexual orientation can have their military record corrected to reflect an honorable discharge, thereby becoming eligible for any veterans' benefits they are due; and

WHEREAS, on numerous occasions, the City of Los Angeles has gone on record in strong support of the legislation and policies that uphold the rights of all individuals and eliminate all forms of discrimination, including sexual orientation, and these two federal measures are consistent with Council Policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for the "Restore Honor to Service Members Act," HR 3068 (Pocan) and S1766 (Schatz), which would simplify and streamline the administrative process to allow veterans who received less-than-honorable discharges solely because of their sexual orientation to clear their military record and become eligible for all benefits and veterans' services to which they should be entitled.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Karetz
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]
[Signature]

NOV 13 2015

ORIGINAL

[Handwritten initials]

CASH Status Analysis							
Category Identifier	Budget Category	Budget (A)	Cash Deposited to Date (B)	Undeposited Funds (C) = A - B	Cash Spent to Date (D)	Cash In-Bank Remaining Balance (E) = B - D	Uncommitted Budget Balance (F) = A - D
100	Operations	\$17,588.00	\$9,304.33	\$8,283.67	\$6,005.38	\$3,298.95	\$11,611.32
200	Outreach	\$8,295.00	\$7,691.68	\$603.32	\$3,456.72	\$4,234.96	\$4,809.58
300	Community Improvement	\$150.00	\$33.68	\$116.32	\$0.00	\$33.68	\$150.00
400	NPG	\$8,967.00	\$2,741.18	\$6,225.82	\$750.00	\$1,991.18	\$8,217.00
500	Elections	\$2,000.00	\$443.58	\$1,556.42	\$0.00	\$443.58	\$2,000.00
	TOTAL	\$37,000.00	\$20,214.45	\$16,785.55	\$10,212.10	\$10,002.35	\$26,787.90

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL DECLARATION			
<p>We, <u>Bobbi Trantafello</u> (Treasurer Name) and <u>Dan Brin</u> (Signer Name), declare that we are the Treasurer and Signer, respectively of the <u>West Hills</u> Neighborhood Council (NC) and that on <u>Jan 7, 2016</u> (date adopted), a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held by the <u>West Hills</u> NC with a quorum of <u> </u> board members present and that by a vote of <u> </u> (number) yes, <u> </u> (number) no, and <u> </u> (number) abstentions the West Hills NC adopted the Monthly Expenditure Report for the month of <u>April</u> (month), 2015-2016 (year).</p>			
Treasurer Signature		Signer's Signature	
Print Name	BOBBI TRANTAFELLO	Print Name	DANIEL BRIN
Date	1/7/2016	Date	1/7/2016
NC Additional Comments			

Revision Date 9-18-14

Agenda Item 16-0001

**Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee Meeting
December 3, 2015
Approved recommendations to the WHNC Board**

Proposed WHNC Bylaws amendments

Section 6: Vacancies on the Board

Vacancies on the Board shall be filled using the following procedure:

- A. When a *seat becomes vacant* ~~vacancy is created~~ on the Board, a notice shall be posted ~~immediately~~ *within 72 hours* on the WHNC website, ~~and by posting a notice~~ in a public place, by sending an email via the WHNC email list, and by announcing it at the next *regular* board meeting.
- B. *Timelines and details for the process shall be detailed in the WHNC Standing Rules.*

~~B. Any qualified Stakeholder interested in filling a vacant seat on the Board shall submit an application to the Secretary within 30 days after posting of the vacancy. Such application forms may be available on the WHNC website or may be obtained by written request to the secretary of the WHNC.~~

~~C. The Secretary shall immediately transmit the application to the Chair of a designated committee for review and action.~~

~~D. The designated committee shall meet within 15 days of the filing deadline. The committee shall review the applications to ensure that the applicants are eligible to hold the office and are otherwise qualified to undertake the level of participation expected of Directors of the Board of the WHNC.~~

~~E. The committee shall submit all applications and shall make a recommendation of a qualified candidate to the President within ten (10) business days of its decision. The President shall have the filling of the vacancy placed on the agenda for a vote at the next Board meeting.~~

CASH Status Analysis							
Category Identifier	Budget Category	Budget (A)	Cash Deposited to Date (B)	Undeposited Funds (C) = A - B	Cash Spent to Date (D)	Cash In-Bank Remaining Balance (E) = B - D	Uncommitted Budget Balance (F) = A - D
100	Operations	\$17,588.00	\$13,872.96	\$3,715.04	\$7,312.18	\$6,560.78	\$10,275.82
200	Outreach	\$8,295.00	\$9,846.71	-\$1,551.71	\$3,915.85	\$5,930.86	\$4,379.15
300	Community Improvement	\$150.00	\$73.09	\$76.91	\$0.00	\$73.09	\$150.00
	NPG	\$8,967.00	\$5,071.15	\$3,895.85	\$750.00	\$4,321.15	\$8,217.00
500	Elections	\$2,000.00	\$962.64	\$1,037.36	\$0.00	\$962.64	\$2,000.00
	TOTAL	\$37,000.00	\$29,826.55	\$7,173.45	\$11,978.03	\$17,848.52	\$25,021.97

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL DECLARATION			
<p>We, <u>Bobbi Trantafello</u> (Treasurer Name) and <u>Dan Brin</u> (Signer Name), declare that we are the Treasurer and Signer, respectively of the <u>West Hills</u> Neighborhood Council (NC) and that on <u>FEB 4, 2016</u> (date adopted), a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held by the <u>West Hills</u> NC with a quorum of <u> </u> board members present and that by a vote of <u> </u> (number) yes, <u> </u> (number) no, and <u> </u> (number) abstentions the <u>West Hills</u> NC adopted the Monthly Expenditure Report for the month of <u>April</u> (month), 2015-2016 (year).</p>			
Treasurer Signature		Signer's Signature	
Print Name	BOBBI TRANTAFELLO	Print Name	DANIEL BRIN
Date	2/4/2016	Date	2/4/2016
NC Additional Comments			

Revision Date 9-18-14



West Hills Neighborhood Council

*"It's our neighborhood.
Let's build a community."*

February 9, 2016

OFFICERS

Daniel Brin
*President
Co-Chair*

Charlene Rothstein
*Vice President
Co-Chair*

Nicole Flessati
Secretary

Bobbi Trantafello
Treasurer

Bob Brostoff
Controller

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Aida Abkarians
Eric Augusztiny
Simone Best
Anthony Brosamle
Margery Brown
Esperanza Butler
Carolyn Greenwood
Bonnie Klea
Steve Randall
Reeyan Raynes
Bill Rose
Barry Seybert
Ron Sobel
Bobbi Trantafello
Alec Uzemeck
Joanne Yvanek-Garb
Ed Young
Jacqueline Young

PAST PRESIDENTS

Stephen Lenske
Ed Youngblood
Chuck Gremer

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michelle Ritchie

Councilman Mitchell Englander
Council District 12
200 North Sprint Street, Room 405
Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: West Hills Neighborhood Council Resolution
Aliso Canyon Gas Leak

Dear Councilman Englander:

The methane gas leak in Aliso Canyon near Porter Ranch is an environmental disaster that has created hazards to human health and long-term impacts on the Earth's atmosphere. At its meeting on February 4, 2016, the board of the West Hills Neighborhood Council approved the following resolution.

"The residents of West Hills are strongly concerned that the methane passing over the San Fernando Valley presents an immediate threat to human health and it contains carcinogenic components that may create long-term illnesses.

"Be it resolved that the West Hills community requires information about the consequences of the gas leak and what actions should be taken to mitigate harmful effects. We request that air sampling and testing be done in West Hills and adjacent communities. Further, the results should be made public and recommendations made so that families may take appropriate steps.

"In the past, during periods of heavy smog, people were told by the AQMD about climate conditions and level of exposure. On bad days, children were kept inside of schools without outside activity and other limitations were placed on the public to minimize harm. We recommend that a similar warning system be set up for residents so they are made aware of hazards and can act accordingly. The use of social media and traditional means could be effective for these purposes.



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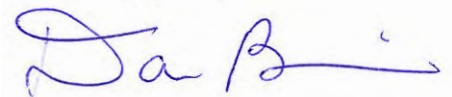


“It is clear that the leak must be corrected immediately, but this accident is a wake-up call for local politicians, legislators and regulators. The present infrastructure must be examined, repaired or replaced, have safety devices installed and have regular state inspections. These recommendations should be made into laws with severe consequences enough to avoid the harm that could be repeated in the future.

“We are told the Gas Company did not break any laws or regulations in operating its plant and that the developers’ plans were approved without consideration that new homes would be built next to an industrial site, but this disastrous accident did occur.

“All parties, developers and zoning commissions, should completely evaluate the interface of major industrial operations and housing developments, because these types of operations and developments are present in West Hills and other parts of the San Fernando Valley.”

Very truly yours,



Dan Brin, President/Co-Chair
West Hills Neighborhood Council

cc: Senator Fran Pavley
cc: Assembly Member Matt Dababneh
cc: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

CF-15-1138-S1, LA Homeless/New Account*

((No this is not the Council File I brought before the Board at the January meeting—that was CF-15-0211 (Cedilla-Bonin))

From the Ad hoc Committee on Homelessness with a recommendation to support.

In the past, the City and County of Los Angeles focused independently on solutions to homelessness. Now, for the first time, they are implementing a collaborative plan.

The long-term strategy to combat homelessness begins with the Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy**. It is the collaborative efforts of the City, County and nonprofits to end homelessness in L.A. City and County over the next 10 years.

It uses best practices from all around the country and of course our own proven best practices. Focus will be on immediate housing and more immediate housing, addiction services, medical and mental health care, training, hiring, and the City's interaction with homeless people.

The Ad hoc Committee on Homelessness is following the implementation of the Strategy as its components (motions) make their way through the City's Homelessness and Poverty Committee to the Mayors desk. We are also watching the Board of Supervisors move actions forward. We will report to you from time to time on the implementation process and will come back to you with additional CIS requests.

CF-15-1138-S1** is a 4 part motion

The first action is to open a new bank account specifically for the deposit of funds to combat homelessness. If you reference the Comprehensive Homeless Strategy, page 199 "Budget", you can read all about funds and funding, public and private grants and the like.

Second action, have the CAO and CLA report on a multi-year spending plan prioritizing permanent supportive housing, shelter and services for homeless folks.

3rd action, find any un-budgeted and un-allocated revenues that can be deposited on a one time basis into the account and report back as soon as possible, but no later than mid-year.

4th action, report back on existing appropriations as soon as possible, but no later than mid-year.

Motion: The Ad hoc Committee recommends a yes vote on CF15-1138-S1, and that this decision be added to the Council File as a Community Impact Statement.

*CF-15-1138-S1 is attached to this email.

**Comprehensive Homeless Strategy is attached to this email.

MOTION HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

HOUSING

The homelessness crisis is a moral, humanitarian and public health crisis that affects every resident of the City of Los Angeles. Suitable and permanent shelter is a basic need, and the lack thereof can have a damaging effect upon physical and mental health. Groups who have historically been discriminated against, such as ethnic minorities, disabled persons, persons with mental illness, women, children and youth, have been disproportionately affected by the city's lack of affordable and suitable housing.

On July 2nd, 2015 the Homelessness and Poverty Committee was created to act immediately and boldly in addressing homelessness. The Homelessness and Poverty Committee has directed City staff to develop a strategic plan for homelessness, which it expects to hear this December. Among the issues being heard in Committee and expected to be incorporated into the plan are cost-effective housing strategies and the gap between supply and demand for housing for the homeless; expanded outreach and services; strategies to improve City interactions with individuals experiencing homelessness; programs to divert people from homelessness at the time they are in the care of emergency responders and health care providers; and opportunities to better coordinate with County and other partners.

In responding to the challenges of homelessness, it is of critical importance that the City maintain and improve upon its collaboration with the County of Los Angeles, which is generally responsible for social services. A stronger collaboration with the County of Los Angeles would make it possible for people to receive regular medical and mental health care, as well as provide assistance for substance abuse and addiction among other much-needed services that would address the root causes of homelessness.

The City of Los Angeles has weathered the national recession and today stands on significantly improved financial footing. It can now claim the highest budget reserves in the city's history. In order to ensure that the Homelessness and Poverty committee is able to put forth an effective strategy for providing housing options for those living on our streets, the City of Los Angeles should capitalize on the fiscally responsible actions taken in recent years and work toward providing additional resources to be used to take people off the streets and into homes.

These additional resources could be used to fund a number of successful models to move people from the streets and into housing or permanent shelter. A universe of potential options could include: construction of permanent supportive housing; creation of a city program to provide vouchers for rapid rehousing or interim housing; improvements to existing programs that could expedite the process of moving people into housing; financing of an expanded system of emergency or specialized shelters and safe parking; and the provision of storage facilities and restrooms for people without shelter. This one-time investment can also leverage other government or philanthropic funding.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Controller be authorized and instructed to create a new account in the Unappropriated Balance (UB) entitled Serving and Housing LA's Homeless;

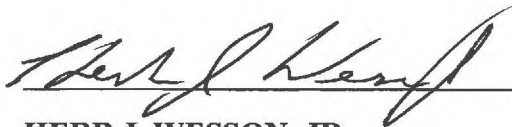
SEP 22 2015

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) be instructed to develop and report to the Council a multi-year spending plan to reduce homelessness in the City of Los Angeles by using a number of funding sources with the goal of committing up to, but not limited to, \$100 Million of city-accessible funds. The plan should be developed under the direction of the Homelessness and Poverty Committee, in consultation with the Mayor's Office, County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Homeless Authority and appropriate City Departments by January 1, 2016. The Plan should prioritize providing permanent supportive housing, shelter and services to persons experiencing homelessness, including homeless persons with disabilities, and should identify ways to leverage this investment to ensure an on-going revenue stream to support the program.

I FURTHER MOVE that the CAO report back in the mid-year financial status report or sooner with the identification of any un-budgeted and un-allocated revenues that may be transferred and/or deposited on a one-time basis to the Serving and Housing LA's Homeless UB account;

I FURTHER MOVE that the CAO report back in the mid-year financial status report or sooner with the identification of existing appropriations within the FY 2015-16 Budget that the City Council and Mayor may consider to re-program and re-appropriate towards the Serving and Housing LA's Homeless UB account.

PRESENTED BY:



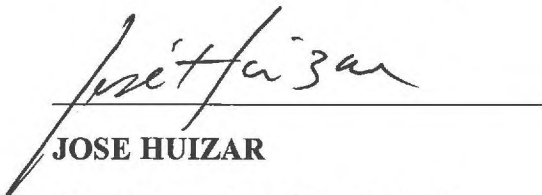
HERB J. WESSON, JR.

Councilmember, 10th District



PAUL KREKORIAN

Councilmember, 2nd District



JOSE HUIZAR

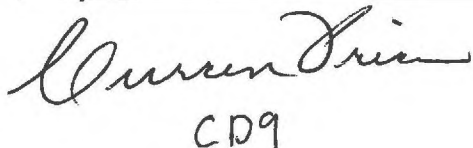
Councilmember, 14th District



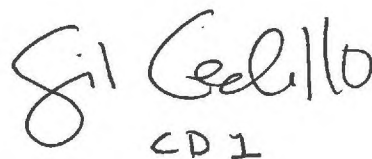
MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



CD9



CD 1