

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



## West Hills Neighborhood Council

P.O. Box 4670, West Hills, CA 91308-4670  
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### **FINAL MEETING MINUTES**

**December 1, 2016**

De Toledo High School (DTHS)  
22622 Vanowen Street, West Hills, CA 91307

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** Aida Abkarians, Sandi Bell, Simone Best, Thomas Booth, Dan Brin, Bob Brostoff, Margery Brown, Carolyn Greenwood, Bonnie Klea, Steve Randall, Reeyan Raynes, Charlene Rothstein, Myrl Schreiber, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Michael Teitelbaum, Joan Trent, Alec Uzemeck, Brad Vanderhoof, Ed Young and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

**Absent** Anthony Brosamle, Olivia Naturman, Bill Rose and Bobbi Trantafello

#### **OPENING BUSINESS:**

President and Co-Chair Dan Brin called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Secretary Carolyn Greenwood called roll. Co-Chair Charlene Rothstein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of November 3, 2016, were approved as amended

The WHNC's November 2016 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) was not ready for review as yesterday was month's end and the necessary information was not available.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

Dan Brin stated he wanted to take this opportunity to talk about the number of traffic fatalities in West Hills. There were four such accidents since April of this year. The fatalities this year were: April 11, 2016: Pia Botz and her daughter, Erica Botz, Roscoe and Jason; October 24, 2016: Eric Block, Sherman Way and Woodlake Avenue; November 9, 2016: Alexandra Post, Vanowen Street and Berquist Avenue; November 13, 2016 Angel Arroya and Erik Garcia, Vanowen Street at Platt Avenue. He asked for a moment of silence to acknowledge their passing.

The Streets and Transportation Committee is working on how to address this problem.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No one was present from the Council District, LAPD or other government agency. Council District 12 District Director Ron Rubine did contact Mr. Brin and advised him that the Haynes Street Bridge project is moving along. They are just waiting for input from the various agencies involved.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Mr. Pablo Barajas on his retirement from the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks.

A Certificate of Appreciation was given to the West Hills Spikes, Pony Baseball 12U Division, who competed in the finals in Cooperstown, New York.

## **COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Education Committee – LAUSD is holding a CEQA scoping meeting December 6<sup>th</sup> at Haynes Center for Enriched Studies.

Streets and Transportation Committee – If you see any street racing or cars doing donuts, call LAPD.

Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee – Spring Fest is scheduled for April 15, 2017 at Shadow Ranch Park. A car show will be held at the event. If you are interested in obtaining a neighborhood watch sign, go to the WHNC website for instructions.

Environment Committee –The meeting will be held December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Homelessness Committee – The Homeless Resource Referral is complete and posted on the WHNC website. The committee is working with the Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority (LAHSA) to recruit volunteers for its Homeless Count on January 24, 2017. Looking for 80 volunteers, if interested, contact either Ms. Simone Best or Mr. Thomas Booth.

Zoning & Planning – Ms. Charlene Rothstein stated that the City hasn't yet sent a Letter of Determination regarding de Toledo High School's request for changes to its Conditional Use Permit, but changes are expected related to de Toledo closing at 10:00 p.m. and allowing use of the facility on Saturdays with a maximum capacity of 450. Other recommendations will be referred to in the forthcoming City letter. Ms. Rothstein also stated that the committee may cancel its December 13 meeting, as there is nothing pressing at this time.

Community Center – LAUSD Board Member Scott Schmerelson's office is exploring location options within the area, perhaps at the new Highlander Road School.

Beautification Committee – Don't forget cleanup this Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Communications – This Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> is Motors for Toys at Anthem Blue Cross.

Budget Advocates – They have been meeting with various departments and hope to have the new white paper completed in a week or two.

Board Member Joan Trent left at 8 p.m.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**16-0099**– Discussion and possible action on allocating up to and including \$125.00 from the new \$5000.00 allocation for Fall Fest or from the existing Fall Fest funds for entertainer

After discussion and clarification the recommendation was approved with 19 ayes, 0 noes, 5 absent and 1 ineligible.

**16-0100**– Discussion and possible action on allocating additional \$500 from the new \$5000 allocation for making copies for committees.

Recommendation was corrected deleting “for committees.” Recommendation approved as corrected with 17 ayes, 0 noes, 2 abstentions, 5 absent and 1 ineligible.

**16-0101** – Discussion and possible action on allocating \$1,035.00 for WHNC pop up canopy

Item tabled until next month.

**16-0102** – Discussion and possible action on CF16-1178, Rapid Rehousing and LA RISE Pilot.

Resolution approved with 20 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstention and 5 absent.

**16-0097** – Discussion and possible action on authorizing a letter to Keith Mozee of the L.A. City Bureau of Street Services.

With a couple of recommended changes, motion to send a letter of Commendation to Keith Mozee was approved with 20 ayes, 0 noes and 5 absent.

**Meeting adjourned 8:35 p.m.**

## HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

### MOTION

Homelessness is an ongoing issue in the City of Los Angeles with a wide variety of social and economic causes and implications, a broad range of neighborhood impacts and overwhelmingly difficult solutions that will take a great deal of time to implement. In light of this crisis, the City has dedicated millions of dollars for a broad range of services to house, heal, and employ the city's homeless. The Coordinated Entry System has the potential to greatly improve service delivery, providing a wide range of paths for the homeless to access critical, often life-saving services and offering a "no wrong door" approach based on their individualized need.

However, even with Coordinated Entry, it is largely incumbent on each homeless individual to seek the right combination of services to meet their needs. Much of the overall homeless population may not be aware of the full range of programs for which they are eligible and which may change their lives. Furthermore, individual providers often don't coordinate with each other to pair complementary programs and avoid duplication of services.

Even in the best of circumstances, when a homeless individual does not suffer from debilitating mental health or substance abuse challenges, changing that person's life often requires a significant investment in services. A rapid re-housing voucher by itself only offers a six month respite of housing and opens the possibility for recidivism back onto the street without a sustainable source of income when the voucher expires. Similarly, enrolling a homeless person into a job training program without offering a place for that person to live and adapt to a housed way of life will prevent them from re-entering the mainstream job market. In a vacuum, each of these programs is hugely important, but each only provides half the solution to bringing an individual permanently out of homelessness.

The budget for fiscal year 2016-2017 included funding for rapid re-housing vouchers (CES Rapid Rehousing for Singles and Youth Systems) and for The Los Angeles Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA RISE), a program through which participants can receive job training, get paid work experience and eventually transition into the workforce.

LA RISE hopes to expand further into the San Fernando Valley, a region with a rapidly growing homeless population that often is overlooked in terms of services. Another region of the city with the largest homeless population outside of skid row is South Los Angeles. This region has struggled with access to jobs and job skills training and connections for job placement.



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LA RISE is working with Chrysalis and the Sun Valley and South LA WorkSource Centers to begin serving twenty five new participants each in the Valley and South Los Angeles.

For many homeless individuals, true housing success comes from both a roof over their head and an income to pay for it. A pilot to bring these services together can explore how housing and employment together can create a viable path to lifelong independence. It would be a tremendous benefit for those twenty-five participants if their upcoming participation in LA RISE was paired with a rapid re-housing voucher to create a more comprehensive path out of homelessness.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council REQUEST that the Los Angeles Homeless Services Agency (LAHSA) and the Department of Economic & Workforce Development (EWDD) REPORT to the Council on creating a pilot program that combines rapid re-housing vouchers and transitional social enterprise jobs through LA RISE into one linked program for 25 individuals who are homeless in the San Fernando Valley and 25 individuals who are homeless in South Los Angeles.

Presented by: Paul Kerkorian  
PAUL KREKORIAN  
Councilmember, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

Presented by: Marcueece Harris-Dawson  
MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON  
Councilmember, 8<sup>th</sup> District

Seconded by: Mary Matthey

**Community Impact Statement Recommendation**

To: West Hills Neighborhood Council Board  
 From: Subcommittee on Homelessness  
 Date Approved by Committee: 11/21/16  
 For Board Consideration on: 12/1/16  
**RE: 16-1178 Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) / Pilot Program**

**Motion or Recommendation of committee:** The Homelessness subcommittee unanimously recommends a “FOR” vote by the WHNC Board of Directors on CF 16-1178 Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) Pilot Program.

**Summary:** This motion is to request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and the Department of Economic & Workforce Development (EWDD) to report to the Council on creating a pilot program that combines rapid re-housing vouchers and transitional social enterprise jobs (job training) through LA RISE into one linked program for 25 individuals who are homeless in the San Fernando Valley and 25 individuals who are homeless in South Los Angeles (aka Skid Row).

The desired outcome is to provide homeless individuals with a roof over their heads and the job training (income) to pay for the roof in order to build the foundation for a more comprehensive path out of homelessness and to eventually transition into the workforce.

**Fiscal Impact Report:** No additional impact on the General Fund. Funded in the approved Annual Budget for fiscal year 2016-2017

VOTE BY Board

Quorum: \_\_\_\_\_

For	
For if amended	
Against	

Against unless amended	
No Position Council file discussed but NC could not muster enough votes either way	
Neutral Position	

Mr. Keith Mozee  
Director, Resurfacing and Reconstruction Division  
Bureau of Street Surfaces  
Department of Public Works  
City of Los Angeles  
1149 S. Broadway, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear Mr. Mozee:

The West Hills Neighborhood Council wants to let you know how much we appreciate the impressive work your department has done in our neighborhood over the past year.

As volunteers deeply involved in city government, we have a glimpse of the challenges you confront on a daily basis while serving 3.8 million residents who live in a 470-square mile area.

Yes, people in a democracy may complain — that’s why our system of government works as well as it does — but they also should give credit where it is due, and credit is definitely due to you, your division and the entire Bureau of Street Services.

There remains much work to be done in West Hills and across Los Angeles and we look forward to working with you in getting it done. Right now, though, we want to be sure you are aware that your service is not taken for granted.

Sincerely,

The West Hills Neighborhood Council

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Dan Brin  
WHNC President & Co-Chair

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Charlene Rothstein  
WHNC Vice President & Co-Chair

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Barry Seybert  
Co-Chair  
Streets & Transportation Committee

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Anthony Brosamle  
Co-Chair  
Streets & Transportation Committee

CC: Mr. Nazario Saucedo  
Mr. Kevin James  
Hon. Eric Garcetti