



CITY OF
LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



P.O. BOX 4670, WEST HILLS, CA 91308
WWW.WESTHILLSNC.ORG
MAIL@WESTHILLSNC.ORG

WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

In conformity with the September 16, 2021 enactment of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) and due to concerns over Covid-19, the West Hills Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely with a call-in option or internet based service option. All are invited to attend and participate.

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

- **To attend online** via Zoom Webinar: Paste the following link into your browser: <https://zoom.us/j/98920654217>
- **To call in by phone**, dial (669) 900-6833, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: **989 2065 4217**, then press #.

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

AB 361 Updates -Public comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting, only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council’s control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

<p><u>Opening Business</u></p> <p>Call to Order</p> <p>Roll Call – Establish Quorum</p> <p>Pledge of Allegiance</p>		<p>Co-Chairs: Mrs. Charlene Rothstein Dr. Faye Barta</p> <p>Secretary: Mr. Brad Vanderhoof</p> <p>Co-Chair: Dr. Faye Barta</p>
<p><u>Induction of new board member into the WHNC Board of Directors</u></p> <p>Miriam Schimmel</p>		<p>Mrs. Charlene Rothstein Dr. Faye Barta</p>
<p><u>Opening Business Cont.</u></p> <p>Approve Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2023</p> <p>Senior Lead Officer Report</p> <p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>Controller’s Report</p> <p>Comments From the Co-Chair(s)</p>		<p>Secretary: Mr. Brad Vanderhoof SLO Barbu; SLO Garza</p> <p>Treasurer: Ms. Carolyn Greenwood</p> <p>Controller: Mr. Saif Mogri</p> <p>Co-Chairs: Mrs. Charlene Rothstein Dr. Faye Barta</p>

<p><u>Announcements</u></p> <p>Office of Assemblyman Jesse Gabriel Council District 12 Department of Neighborhood Empowerment Los Angeles County Supervisor District 3</p> <p>LAUSD District 3 Budget Advocates</p>		<p>Mr. Jack Trent-Dorfman, Field Representative Mr. Colin Crews, District Director Ms. Atziri Camarena Mr. Blake Clayton, West Valley/Mt. Communities Field Deputy & Caseworker TBD Mr. Glenn Bailey</p>
<p><u>Public Comment</u></p> <p>Comments & statements from stakeholders or interested parties on subjects <u>NOT</u> on this meeting’s agenda. (<i>Requires Speaker Card</i>)</p> <p>*The Council affords an opportunity to members of the public to address the Council on items of interest that are within the Council’s jurisdiction. The Council is not permitted to take action on items that are not identified on the agenda. The Council reserves the right to limit speakers’ time if necessary to provide an adequate opportunity for all to be heard.*</p>		<p>Dr. Faye Barta</p>
<p><u>Certificate of Appreciation</u></p> <p>Ms. Sarah Martin</p>		<p>Dr. Faye Barta</p>
<p><u>Council Announcements</u></p> <p>Committee & Liaison Reports</p>		<p>West Hills Neighborhood Council</p>
<p><u>New Business</u></p> <p>23-0004 - Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the WHNC’s December 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (3 Minutes Max)</p> <p>23-0005 - Discussion and possible action to create a WHNC Instagram account with Board Member Alejandro Phillips as the Instagram administrator, and authorization for Alejandro Phillips to post on Instagram on behalf of the WHNC with approval of the Communications and Outreach Committee Chair. (5 Minutes Max)</p> <p>23-0006 - Discussion and possible action on Assembly Bill 2449 (“AB 2449”), effective as of January 1, 2023, regarding teleconference participation by members of legislative bodies for and during public meetings. (10 Minutes Max)</p> <p>23-0007 - Discussion and possible action on submitting a Community Impact Statement (“CIS”) on Council File 23-0002-S16, Los Angeles Neighborhood Council System / Remote Meetings / Ralph M. Brown Act Amendment (to allow Neighborhood Councils to meet virtually in perpetuity). (10 Minutes Max)</p>		<p>Mrs. Carolyn Greenwood, Co-Chair Budget Committee Mr. Saif Mogri, Co-Chair Budget Committee</p> <p>Mr. Brad Vanderhoof, Chair Communications & Outreach Committee</p> <p>Mrs. Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Co-Chair Government Relations Committee Ms. Clarice Chavira, Co-Chair Government Relations Committee</p> <p>Mrs. Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Co-Chair Government Relations Committee Ms. Clarice Chavira, Co-Chair Government Relations Committee</p>

<p>23-0008 - Discussion and possible action on submitting a Community Impact Statement (“CIS”) Council File 23-002-S17, Local Legislative Bodies / Virtual Meetings / Ralph M. Brown Act Amendment (to allow Neighborhood Councils to meet virtually in perpetuity). (10 Minutes Max)</p> <p>23-0009 - Discussion and possible action regarding proposed statement regarding the need of Neighborhood Councils to continue to meet virtually. (10 Minutes Max)</p>		<p>Mrs. Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Co-Chair Government Relations Committee Ms. Clarice Chavira, Co-Chair Government Relations Committee</p> <p>Mrs. Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Co-Chair Government Relations Committee Ms. Clarice Chavira, Co-Chair Government Relations Committee</p>
<p><u>Adjournment</u></p>		

Public Input At Neighborhood Council Meetings: Members of the public who call in by telephone are requested to 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 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

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.

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 Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org



Neighborhood Council Oath

I **<NAME>** pledge to represent my Neighborhood Council and Stakeholders with dignity, integrity, and pride.

I will encourage other points of view,
even when they differ from my own.

I will respect, value, and consider everyone's opinion.

I will adhere to all local, state and federal laws as well as hold other board
members accountable to do the same.

I will find the good in my neighborhood,
praise it ,and promote it.

I will work to honor diversity, build community,
forge bonds with neighboring communities,
and promote participation in city governance
and the decision-making processes,
to improve the quality of life for all Stakeholders.

To the neighborhood council system, to my neighbors,
and to neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles,

I pledge to do this to the best of my ability.



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BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 5, 2023

Revised January 16, 2023

The Board shall take official action by a simple majority of yes and no votes cast by the Directors present at a duly noticed regular or special Board meeting, not to include abstentions. There shall be no proxy voting.

PRESENT: Faye Barta, Sandi Bell, Dan Brin, Bob Brostoff, Clarice Chavira, Sriya Datla, Carolyn Greenwood, Glenn Jennings, Bonnie Klea, Vinura Kotuwelle, Kent Mariconda (left 8:55 p.m.), Rosi Mariconda (left 8:52 p.m.), Saif Mogri (left before Item 23-0003), Mark Neudorff, Alejandro Phillips, Steve Randall, Bill Rose, Char Rothstein, Anthony Scarce, Myrl Schreiber, Joan Trent, Brad Vanderhoof, and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

ABSENT: Aida Abkarians, Bryan Newman, Azarine Rushenas, and Miriam Schimmel

President Charlene Rothstein called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Secretary Brad Vanderhoof called roll and established quorum.

Vice President Faye Barta led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Induction of new board member into the WHNC Board of Directors: President Rothstein said Ms. Schimmel will be inducted at the February meeting because she is out of the country and unable to attend the meeting tonight to take the NC oath.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2022 and Special Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2022: Chris Rowe disagreed with changing comments made by a stakeholder with regard to agenda item 22-0099.

The December 1, 2022 minutes were approved as amended.

The December 15, 2022 minutes were approved.

Senior Lead Officer Report: There were no Senior Lead Officers present.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Carolyn Greenwood presented the report. The only charges that were not regular recurring expenditures were for the Beautification event and the Halloween event flyers. The WHNC has \$29K available funds.

23-0001 - Approval of the WHNC's November 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER):

Roll Call Vote:

Aida Abkarians	Absent
Faye Barta	Yes
Sandi Bell	Yes
Dan Brin	Yes
Bob Brostoff	Yes
Clarice Chavira	Yes
Carolyn Greenwood	Yes

Glenn Jennings	Yes
Bonnie Klea	Yes
Vinura Kotuwelle	Yes
Kent Mariconda	Yes
Rosi Mariconda	Yes
Saif Mogri	Yes
Mark Neudorff	Yes
Bryan Newman	Absent
Alejandro Phillips	Yes
Steve Randall	Yes
Bill Rose	Ineligible
Charlene Rothstein	Yes
Anthony Searce	Yes
Miriam Schimmel	Absent
Myrl Schreibman	Yes
Joan Trent	Yes
Brad Vanderhoof	Yes
Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Yes

Yes – 21, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 3, Ineligible – 1, Recused – 0
The MER is approved.

Controller’s Report: Controller Saif Mogri verified the MER is accurate.

Comments from the Co-Chair(s): President Rothstein wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Announcements:

Mr. Jack Trent-Dorfman, Office of Assemblyman Jesse Gabriel, said the Toy Drive was a huge success. Battalion Chief Thomas Gikas, LAFD, said the calls in West Hills are mainly medical. There have been 4 or 5 attic fires in the battalion caused by improperly maintained heating units.

Taleen Keuroghilan, Office of Congressman Brad Sherman; said redistricting went into effect two days ago. The Congressman has secured a two million dollar grant for the Valley Rescue Mission and a one million dollar grant for Tree People.

The Congressman will be holding a telephonic Town Hall meeting on February 2. Colin Crews, District Director for CD12, said Council member Lee will Chair the Public Works Committee, Vice Chair the Neighborhood Beautification Committee, and serve on both the Planning and Land Use and Public Safety Committees.

Ms. Atziri Camarena, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, gave a summary of the NC election process. The candidate filing period for the region encompassing West Hills is February 18 to April 4. Board members seeking reelection must file as candidates. The Department will provide information and hold workshops.

Mr. Blake Clayton, West Valley/Mt. Communities Field Deputy & Caseworker, Los Angeles County Supervisor District 3, said the new supervisor Horvath will have a staff up and running in a month or so. They plan to continue working on the Santa Susana Field Lab cleanup.

Certificate of Appreciation

The WHNC presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Blake Clayton for his service to the community as Field Deputy in the supervisor’s office. Best Wishes were expressed to Blake by many.

Announcements Part Two

Glenn Bailey, Budget Advocates, said the Budget Advocates will sponsor a Town Hall meeting on February 11 at 2:00 PM to have DONE General Manager Raquel Beltran discuss and explain the department budget.

Old Business

22-0080 - All American BBQ relocating to 6719 Platt Avenue and Vanowen Street, former location of the Crown Wok restaurant: Item was sent back to committee.

22-0084 - WHNC participation in the Department of Water and Power Memorandum of Understanding – DWP MOU: Item tabled to February.

New Business

23-0002 - Event Approval Form and Budget in the amount of \$50 for the Beautification Event at El Escorpion Park, on January 28, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Roll Call Vote:

Aida Abkarians	Absent
Faye Barta	Yes
Sandi Bell	Yes
Dan Brin	Yes
Bob Brostoff	Yes
Clarice Chavira	Yes
Carolyn Greenwood	Yes
Glenn Jennings	Yes
Bonnie Klea	Yes
Vinura Kotuwelle	Yes
Kent Mariconda	Yes
Rosi Mariconda	Yes
Saif Mogri	Absent
Mark Neudorff	Yes
Bryan Newman	Absent
Alejandro Phillips	Yes
Steve Randall	Yes
Bill Rose	Ineligible
Charlene Rothstein	Yes
Anthony Scearce	Yes
Miriam Schimmel	Absent
Myrl Schreibman	Yes
Joan Trent	Yes
Brad Vanderhoof	Yes
Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Yes

Yes – 20, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 4, Ineligible – 1, Recused – 0
The event is approved.

Saif Mogri left the meeting.

23-0003 – West Hills Neighborhood Council Emergency Response Plan

Steve Randall moved to amend the Emergency Response Plan to be an Emergency Preparation Plan. Myrl Schreibman seconded.

Kent Mariconda and Rosi Mariconda left the meeting during this item.

Roll Call Vote on the propose amendment:

Aida Abkarians	Absent
Faye Barta	Yes
Sandi Bell	No
Dan Brin	Yes

Bob Brostoff	Yes
Clarice Chavira	Yes
Carolyn Greenwood	Yes
Glenn Jennings	Yes
Bonnie Klea	No
Vinura Kotuwelle	Yes
Kent Mariconda	Absent
Rosi Mariconda	Absent
Saif Mogri	Absent
Mark Neudorff	Yes
Bryan Newman	Absent
Alejandro Phillips	Yes
Steve Randall	Yes
Bill Rose	Yes
Charlene Rothstein	Yes
Anthony Scarce	Yes
Miriam Schimmel	Absent
Myrl Schreibman	Yes
Joan Trent	Yes
Brad Vanderhoof	Abstain
Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Yes

Yes – 16, No – 2, Abstain – 1, Absent – 6, Ineligible – 0, Recused – 0
The amendment is approved.

Roll Call Vote on the amended document:

Aida Abkarians	Absent
Faye Barta	Yes
Sandi Bell	Yes
Dan Brin	Yes
Bob Brostoff	Yes
Clarice Chavira	Yes
Carolyn Greenwood	Yes
Glenn Jennings	Yes
Bonnie Klea	Yes
Vinura Kotuwelle	Yes
Kent Mariconda	Absent
Rosi Mariconda	Absent
Saif Mogri	Yes
Mark Neudorff	Yes
Bryan Newman	Absent
Alejandro Phillips	Yes
Steve Randall	Yes
Bill Rose	Yes
Charlene Rothstein	Yes
Anthony Scarce	Yes
Miriam Schimmel	Absent
Myrl Schreibman	No
Joan Trent	Yes
Brad Vanderhoof	Yes
Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Yes

Yes – 19, No – 1, Abstain – 0, Absent – 5, Ineligible – 0, Recused – 0
The WHNC Emergency Preparation Plan is approved.

President Rothstein adjourned the meeting at 9:01 PM.



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Glenn Jennings	Yes
Bonnie Klea	Yes
Vinura Kotuwelle	Yes
Kent Mariconda	Yes
Rosi Mariconda	Yes
Saif Mogri	Yes
Mark Neudorff	Yes
Bryan Newman	Absent
Alejandro Phillips	Yes
Steve Randall	Yes
Bill Rose	Ineligible
Charlene Rothstein	Yes
Anthony Searce	Yes
Miriam Schimmel	Absent
Myrl Schreibman	Yes
Joan Trent	Yes
Brad Vanderhoof	Yes
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Clarice Chavira	Yes
Carolyn Greenwood	Yes
Glenn Jennings	Yes
Bonnie Klea	Yes
Vinura Kotuwelle	Yes
Kent Mariconda	Yes
Rosi Mariconda	Yes
Saif Mogri	Absent
Mark Neudorff	Yes
Bryan Newman	Absent
Alejandro Phillips	Yes
Steve Randall	Yes
Bill Rose	Ineligible
Charlene Rothstein	Yes
Anthony Searce	Yes
Miriam Schimmel	Absent
Myrl Schreibman	Yes
Joan Trent	Yes
Brad Vanderhoof	Yes
Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Yes

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The event is approved.

Saif Mogri left the meeting.

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Kent Mariconda and Rosi Mariconda left the meeting during this item.

Roll Call Vote on the propose amendment:

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Sandi Bell	No
Dan Brin	Yes

Bob Brostoff	Yes
Clarice Chavira	Yes
Carolyn Greenwood	Yes
Glenn Jennings	Yes
Bonnie Klea	No
Vinura Kotuwelle	Yes
Kent Mariconda	Absent
Rosi Mariconda	Absent
Saif Mogri	Absent
Mark Neudorff	Yes
Bryan Newman	Absent
Alejandro Phillips	Yes
Steve Randall	Yes
Bill Rose	Yes
Charlene Rothstein	Yes
Anthony Scarce	Yes
Miriam Schimmel	Absent
Myrl Schreibman	Yes
Joan Trent	Yes
Brad Vanderhoof	Abstain
Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Yes

Yes – 16, No – 2, Abstain – 1, Absent – 6, Ineligible – 0, Recused – 0
The amendment is approved.

Roll Call Vote on the amended document:

Aida Abkarians	Absent
Faye Barta	Yes
Sandi Bell	Yes
Dan Brin	Yes
Bob Brostoff	Yes
Clarice Chavira	Yes
Carolyn Greenwood	Yes
Glenn Jennings	Yes
Bonnie Klea	Yes
Vinura Kotuwelle	Yes
Kent Mariconda	Absent
Rosi Mariconda	Absent
Saif Mogri	Yes
Mark Neudorff	Yes
Bryan Newman	Absent
Alejandro Phillips	Yes
Steve Randall	Yes
Bill Rose	Yes
Charlene Rothstein	Yes
Anthony Scarce	Yes
Miriam Schimmel	Absent
Myrl Schreibman	No
Joan Trent	Yes
Brad Vanderhoof	Yes
Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Yes

Yes – 19, No – 1, Abstain – 0, Absent – 5, Ineligible – 0, Recused – 0
The WHNC Emergency Preparation Plan is approved.

President Rothstein adjourned the meeting at 9:01 PM.

Monthly Expenditure Report



Reporting Month: December 2022 Budget Fiscal Year: 2022-2023

NC Name: West Hills Neighborhood Council

Monthly Cash Reconciliation					
Beginning Balance	Total Spent	Remaining Balance	Outstanding	Commitments	Net Available
\$31296.55	\$1922.70	\$29373.85	\$1695.75	\$0.00	\$27678.10

Monthly Cash Flow Analysis					
Budget Category	Adopted Budget	Total Spent this Month	Unspent Budget Balance	Outstanding	Net Available
Office	\$36071.38	\$1922.70	\$24043.85	\$1695.75	\$22348.10
Outreach		\$0.00		\$0.00	
Elections		\$0.00		\$0.00	
Community Improvement Project	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Neighborhood Purpose Grants	\$4830.00	\$0.00	\$4830.00	\$0.00	\$4830.00
Funding Requests Under Review: \$0.00		Encumbrances: \$0.00		Previous Expenditures: \$10104.83	

Expenditures						
#	Vendor	Date	Description	Budget Category	Sub-category	Total
1	THE WEB CORNER, INC	12/01/2022	WHNC email service	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$150.00
2	eBay O 13-09440-66475	12/07/2022	Bulletin Board for posting of WHNC agendas in a public place	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$296.20
3	JAY JAY LOCK SECURITY	12/19/2022	Keys for new WHNC Bulletin Board for posting of agendas	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$52.56
4	RACKSPACE EMAIL & APPS	12/22/2022	WHNC email service	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$67.34
5	APPLEONE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES	12/05/2022	WHNC Executive Assitant	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$1356.60
Subtotal:						\$1922.70

Outstanding Expenditures						
#	Vendor	Date	Description	Budget Category	Sub-category	Total
1	APPLEONE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES	01/10/2023	WHNC Executive Assistant	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$1695.75
Subtotal: Outstanding						\$1695.75

Office of the City Clerk

Administrative Services Division

Neighborhood Council (NC) Funding Program

Board Action Certification (BAC) Form



NC Name: **West Hills Neighborhood Council** Meeting Date: **August 4, 2022**

Budget Fiscal Year: **2022-2023** Agenda Item No: **22-0058**

Board Motion and/or Public Benefit Statement (CIP and NPG): **Discussion and possible action on approving an amended 2022-2023 Budget to include rollover of \$9,401.38 for a total 2022-2023 fiscal year budget of \$41,401.38**

Method of Payment: (Select One) Check Credit Card Board Member Reimbursement

Vote Count

Recused Board Members must leave the room prior to any discussion and may not return to the room until after the vote is complete.

Board Member's First and Last Name	Board Position	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Ineligible	Recused
Aida Abkarians	rd Member At L	X					
Faye Barta	rd Member At L	X					
Sandi Bell	rd Member At L	X					
Dan Brin	rd Member At L	X					
Bob Brostoff	rd Member At L				X		
Clarice Chavira	rd Member At L	X					
Tariq El-Atrache	rd Member At L				X		
Carolyn Greenwood	rd Member At L	X					
Glenn Jennings	rd Member At L	X					
Bonnie Klea	rd Member At L	X					
Vinura Kotuwelle	rd Member At L	X					
Kent Mariconda	rd Member At L	X					
Rosi Mariconda	rd Member At L	X					
Saif Mogri	rd Member At L				X		
Mark Neudorff	rd Member At L	X					
Bryan Newman	rd Member At L	X					
Steve Randall	rd Member At L	X					
Bill Rose	rd Member At L	X					
Charlene Rothstein	rd Member At L	X					
Tony Scarce	rd Member At L				X		
Myrl Schreiber	rd Member At L	X					
Joan Trent	rd Member At L	X					
Brad Vanderhoof	rd Member At L	X					
Joanne Yvanek-Garb	rd Member At L	X					
Board Quorum: 18	Total:	20	0	0	4	0	0

We, the authorized signers of the above named Neighborhood Council, declare that the information presented on this form is accurate and complete, and that a public meeting was held in accordance with all laws, policies, and procedures. The above was approved by the Neighborhood Council Board, at a Brown Act compliant public meeting where a quorum of the Board was present.

Authorized Signature: *Charlene Rothstein* Authorized Signature: *Carolyn Greenwood*
 Print/Type Name: **Charlene Rothstein** Print/Type Name: **Carolyn Greenwood**
 Date: **August 4, 2022** Date: **August 4, 2022**



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AB 2449: New Brown Act Rules for a Zoom-Friendly World

USA | September 16 2022

On September 13, 2022, the Governor signed Assembly Bill 2449 (Rubio) (“AB 2449”) into law, amending certain portions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act”) relating to teleconference participation by members of legislative bodies for and during public meetings. The new law amends existing requirements set forth in Government Code section 54953 to facilitate virtual meetings in the absence of a state of emergency by removing some of the barriers that proved to be burdensome and unrealistic during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Previously, Government Code section 54953 set out various requirements for members of a legislative body participating in public meetings through teleconferencing. It allowed for teleconference meetings under the “traditional rules” and under “AB 361.” To quickly review, the traditional teleconference rules include: (1) posting meeting agendas at all teleconference locations; (2) identifying all teleconference locations in the notice and agenda; and (3) making accessible each teleconference location to the public. AB 361 allowed legislative bodies to conduct their meetings via teleconference without adhering to the requirements listed above; however, AB 361 only applied during a declared state of emergency.

AB 2449 creates an opportunity for less than a majority of the board (up to 2 members of a 5-member board; up to 3 members of a 7-member board) to attend via teleconference under certain conditions when the majority of the board (a quorum) participates from a single physical location open to the public. When a quorum of the legislative body participates in a physical location open to the public, AB 2449 authorizes the remaining board members to participate remotely under two specific circumstances:

(1) **Just cause:** The member notifies the legislative body at the earliest possible opportunity, including at the start of a regular meeting, of their need to participate remotely for “just cause,” including a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely at the given meeting. A member of the legislative body may not use the provisions of this clause for more than two meetings per calendar year.

“Just cause” is defined as any one of the following circumstances: (1) childcare or caregiving of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely; (2) a contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person; (3) a need related to a physical or mental disability; or (4) travel while on business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.

(2) **Emergency Circumstances:** The member requests the legislative body to allow them to participate in the meeting remotely due to “emergency circumstances,” and the legislative body takes action to approve the request. “Emergency circumstances” means a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person. The legislative body shall request a general description of the circumstances relating to the member’s need to appear remotely at the given meeting. This description generally need not exceed 20 words and shall not require the member to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information that is already exempt under existing law. For the purposes of this clause, the following requirements apply:

(a) A member shall make a request to participate remotely at a meeting pursuant to this clause as soon as possible.

(b) the legislative body may take action on a request to participate remotely at the earliest opportunity. If the request does not allow sufficient time to place proposed action on such a request on the posted agenda for the meeting for which the request is made, the legislative body may take action by majority vote on the emergency circumstances request at the beginning of the meeting.

AB 2449 imposes additional teleconferencing requirements, similar to the requirements imposed under AB 361, when less than a majority attends remotely for “just cause” or “emergency circumstances,” as described above. The additional requirements include, but are not limited to:

- The legislative body must provide a way for the public to remotely hear, visually observe, and remotely address the legislative body, either by a two-way audiovisual platform or a two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting.
- When providing notice of the time and agenda of a meeting, the legislative body must also provide notice of how the public can access the meeting and offer comments. The agenda must identify and include an opportunity for the public to attend and directly address the legislative body through a call-in option, an internet-based service option, and in-person. The legislative body also may not require public comments to be submitted **prior** to the meeting but must provide an opportunity for the public to address the body in real time.
- The legislative body must implement a procedure for receiving and resolving requests for reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities, and must give notice of such procedure in each instance notice of the meeting time is given or an agenda is posted.
- Members participating through remote teleconferencing must participate through both audio and visual technology and members must publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member and the general nature of the member’s relationship with the individual.

Please note that these provisions will only be required if a member of a legislative body is participating by teleconferencing due to “just cause” or “emergency circumstances.” Legislative bodies may always meet via teleconference by following the “traditional rules,” and AB 361’s state of emergency authorization remains valid until January 1, 2024.

AB 2449 provides that a member may not participate in meetings solely by teleconference due to “just cause” or “emergency circumstances” for a period of more than three consecutive months or 20 percent of the regular meetings for the local agency within a calendar year. If the legislative body regularly meets less than 10 times a year, a board member may not participate remotely in more than two meetings.

The provisions of AB 2449 will remain in effect until January 1, 2026.

Atkinson Andelson Loya Ruud & Romo - Nicolle A. Falcis,, Kathryn E. Meola, Davina F. Harden and Jeffrey A. Hoskinson

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles (City) with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government 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, recognizing that virtual meetings have allowed much easier access to the neighborhood council process for Angelenos, with far more members of the public participating in each meeting from the convenience of their own home—creating greater equity in the process and fostering the health of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, AB-2449 last year made amendments but failed to specifically address the needs of the Neighborhood Council system; and

WHEREAS, the 99 Neighborhood Councils in Los Angeles all have unique communities, needs, technology abilities, access to public meeting spaces; and

WHEREAS, in person meetings may jeopardize the health and safety of vulnerable Angelenos, due to ongoing risk from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is not realistic to expect the Neighborhood Council system to be able to carry out “hybrid” meetings effectively, both due to budget and technology limitations; and

WHEREAS, Neighborhood Councils wish to have the option to meet virtually in perpetuity; and

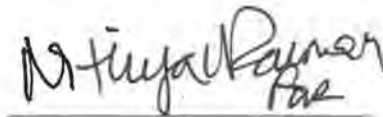
WHEREAS, the ability for Neighborhood Councils to meet virtually will end with state and local emergency orders expiring; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, with the concurrence of the Mayor, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program, Sponsorship or Support for legislation to amend the Ralph M. Brown Act to permit the City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Council system to choose to operate remote meetings indefinitely.

PRESENTED BY:



HUGO SOTO-MARTÍNEZ
Councilmember, 13th District



JOHN LEE
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

PK

JAN 10 2023

RESOLUTION

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, prior to the outset of the COVID pandemic, the Ralph M. Brown Act placed such significant restrictions on the use of teleconferencing or virtual meetings that this tool was rarely used; in particular, the Brown Act required that all teleconferencing locations be open to the public; and

WHEREAS, when COVID restrictions prevented in-person meetings, on March 17, 2020, the Governor signed Executive Order #N-29-20, which modified the Brown Act to permit local governing bodies to meet virtually; the State Legislature subsequently enacted AB 361, which would until January 1, 2024 authorize virtual meetings, but only during a declared state of emergency and when state or local health officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing or when meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and the State Legislature most recently enacted AB 2449, which allows for virtual participation by individual members of a local legislative body, but only upon a showing of just cause and for a limited number of meetings, and still requires a quorum of the legislative body to meet in a physical location that is open to the public; and

WHEREAS, AB 361 and AB 2449 fail to fully recognize that virtual meetings make it easier for people to participate in local government meetings as members of the public, and because the Brown Act applies to boards, commissions and advisory bodies created by a local legislative body, the strict limits on virtual meetings also reduces the pool of people who are able to serve on these bodies; and

WHEREAS, these restrictions on virtual meetings especially burden people with family care obligations, less-flexible work schedules, physical limitations and/or who do not have access to a car, which is a particular problem in jurisdictions like the City of Los Angeles whose residents are spread across large geographic areas; and allowing virtual meeting has especially benefited the 99 Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils with nearly 2,000 volunteer Board members;

WHEREAS, in Los Angeles, public attendance and comment has increased substantially during the period during which virtual meetings have become standard practice;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislative action that would amend the Ralph M. Brown Act to allow local legal legislative bodies, including appointed boards, commissions, advisory bodies, and Neighborhood Councils, to continue to

PK

JAN 10 2023

conduct most meetings virtually in the absence of any special circumstances, subject to appropriate safeguards to ensure full and robust opportunities for public participation, including by persons who lack means of digital access.

CO-PRESENTED BY: 
BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

CO-PRESENTED BY: 
PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

If CIS approved, proposed language to include in CIS:

The West Hills Neighborhood Council supports urgent changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act which would allow Neighborhood Councils the option, at the Neighborhood Council's discretion, to hold board and committee meetings either remotely (i.e. via telephone or online) without disclosing our location or other personal information, or in-person, including the following reasons:

1. Neighborhood Council board members are unpaid volunteers who often have obligations beyond volunteer duties, such as self-care, child and elder care and work obligations.
2. Neighborhood Council board members may have transportation or mobility limitations that make physical attendance difficult or impossible.
3. Remote access to meetings allows more stakeholders to participate in meetings and to serve on boards.
4. In-person meetings should be at the Neighborhood Council's discretion as they may pose a danger to some of the board members.
5. The Ralph M. Brown Act's requirement that each teleconference location be identified and accessible to the public is outdated and poses a danger to board members who volunteer to participate in a Neighborhood Council.