



CITY OF
LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BOARD AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING AGENDA

Monday, November 22, 2021 @ 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.

To attend online via Zoom Webinar, click or paste the following link into your browser: <https://zoom.us/j/97175160378>

To call in by phone, dial (669) 900-6833, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: 971 7516 0378, then #

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.

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.

- Call to Order
- Review minutes from October 25, 2021
- Comments from the Co-Chairs
- Public Comment

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion and Possible Action on Council File 21-0002-S13 - closure of Whiteman Airport
- Discussion and Possible Action on Council File 21-1342 - Tax Assessment on EV charging system companies
- Discussion and Possible Action on Hybrid NC meetings - no council file assigned

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

WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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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

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



West Hills Neighborhood Council

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JOINT GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Telephonic and Online

Thursday October 25, 2021

Revised October 25, 2021

Attendance: Faye Barta, Clarice Chavira, Saif Mogri, Mark Neudorff, Steve Randall, Joan Trent, Brad Vanderhoof, and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Committee Members Absent: Aida Abkarians, and Myrl Schreibman

Other Board members in attendance: None

Guests: Reeyan Raynes, and Christina Walsh. Brown Act Violation and Call_In_User1 joined near the end of the meeting

- Co-chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.
- Review minutes from September 2021: The minutes were approved.
- Comments from the Co-chairs: Joanne explained the reason for this October 25th special meeting is that technical difficulties during the regular October 18th committee meeting denied public access. The Co-chairs appointed Clarice Chavira and Mark Neudorff to the committee.
- Public Comment: None

OLD BUSINESS

- Wording of the Language for the Code of Conduct: Christina Walsh said she supports the Code of Conduct as written by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) and feels it is important for accountability. Reeyan Raynes said there should be a due process requirement instead of a removal at will policy. Mark Neudorff said he would like to see a letter drafted by the co-chairs stating concerns with the policy for the committee to vote on. Clarice Chavira said the DONE General Manager is appointed by the Mayor and should not have power over volunteers elected by the public. She said the suspension for not signing of the Code of Conduct within 30 days is a new requirement and she finds the whole policy offensive. Christina Walsh said the policy is necessary because the grievance process does not work. Reeyan Raynes said the appeal should be handled by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners and a Neighborhood Council Grievance Panel should be one of the first steps in due process.

Steve Randall moved to write a letter with the following rewrite for section 6 of the draft policy. Joan seconded.

*6. If a Board Member or Committee Member is ~~alleged~~ **found through due process** to have violated either the City's Workplace Equity Policy or the Commission's Code of Conduct, the Department, with written approval from the General Manager, may immediately suspend the Board Member or Committee Member for a period of up to ~~90~~ **30** days. Said Board Member or Committee Member shall not be eligible to act on any matter*

that comes before their Neighborhood Council Board or Committee and shall not be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum of the Neighborhood Council Board or Committee.

*b. The Department shall be the sole decision-maker with respect to a suspension. The Board Member or Committee Member may ~~not~~ appeal the suspension decision **through the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.***

NEW BUSINESS

- Council File 21-0760, amend City Charter to include "City of Los Angeles" to the definition of "local" in Section 371a. of the City Charter:

CIS in Support

Aida Abkarians – Absent, Faye Barta – Yes, Clarice Chavira – Yes, Saif Mogri – Yes, Mark Neudorff – Yes, Steve Randall – Yes, Myrl Schreiber – Absent, Joan Trent – Yes, Brad Vanderhoof – Yes, Joanne Yvanek-Garb – Yes

The CIS is approved unanimously and will be sent to the WHNC Board.

- Council File 21-0776, for the Fire Department to report with recommendations on the Los Angeles Fire Code as it relates to the definition of residential zoning classification for transitional and supportive housing occupancy type: Reeyan Raynes suggested contacting the Fire Protection Bureau with questions. No action taken.
- Co-chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb adjourned the meeting at 8:18 PM.

The next meeting of this committee is November 15, 2021, online and telephonic.

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, on November 12, 2020, a single-engine plane was approaching the Whiteman Airport in Pacoima when the pilot radioed the control tower to signal that the plane was malfunctioning before tragically crashing on a residential street just a few hundred feet short of the airport's runway; and

WHEREAS, this accident is a reminder of the public safety threat that the Whiteman Airport poses to the Pacoima community; and

WHEREAS, the Whiteman Airport, owned and operated by the County of Los Angeles, is also a significant source of air pollution to the region, increasing the surrounding communities' exposure to hazardous pollutants; and

WHEREAS, a 2007 report by Pacoima Beautiful, a community-based non-profit pursuing environmental justice initiatives for the region, funded by an Environmental Protection Agency grant identified the Whiteman Airport as the largest toxic source emitter in Pacoima; and

WHEREAS, closure and redevelopment of the Whiteman Airport would present an economic opportunity to create housing and jobs for the surrounding community, which has long-endured the environmental harm caused by this airport; and

WHEREAS, there is a clear need to address and mitigate the environmental and public safety risks this airport presents to the Pacoima community;

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 2021-2022 State and Federal Legislative Programs SUPPORT for any legislation or administrative action that would shut down the Whiteman Airport and mitigate the public safety and health risks the Whiteman Airport poses to the surrounding City residents, including the performance of a full environmental analysis of airport activity.

PRESENTED BY: _____
MONICA RODRIGUEZ (verbal)
Councilmember, 7th District

SECONDED BY: _____
NURY MARTINEZ (verbal)
Councilmember, 6th District

MOTION

In 2019, the City of Los Angeles committed to increasing the percentage of zero-emission vehicles on city roads to 25 percent by 2025, 80 percent by 2035, and 100 percent by 2050. However, incentives, infrastructure, consumer awareness, and fleet electrification are all needed to meet LA's electric vehicle goal. Key among these will be continuing to expand LADWP's electric vehicle rebate program, residential and commercial charger incentives, streetlight and curbside charger programs, electric car sharing, and consumer outreach. To hit these targets, according to the International Council on Clean Transportation, by 2030 direct current fast chargers in Los Angeles will need to grow by a factor of 33 to about 3,900 chargers, while public Level 2 chargers will need to increase by a factor of 8 to about 21,500 chargers. The rollout of EV infrastructure through various City interventions and incentives will be critical to meeting our long-term emissions goals. Gasoline stations in the City of Los Angeles are currently taxed the retail sales rate of \$1.27 per \$1,000 in gross receipts for the sale of fuel.


However electric vehicle (EV) charging companies have been assessed varying tax rates depending on how they sell the electricity for EV usage and how any related subsidies for those payments are arranged between the charging company and EV manufacturers. These discrepancies in how the tax is administered for EV charging stations has resulted in some companies receiving tax assessments at the business tax rate of \$4.25 per \$1,000 in gross receipts which is much higher than the rates currently assessed for other methods of EV charging sales as well as the sale of gasoline.

To eliminate any ambiguity around the rate which EV charging companies have paid gross receipts tax, the City should clarify that the sale of electricity by commercial EV charging companies to a consumer or by prepayments of such electricity in the form of subscription or certain plans with electric vehicle manufacturers fits squarely in the retail sales category of the code, and that penalties and interest for companies that have paid more than \$1.27 per \$1,000 in gross receipts since locating in Los Angeles should be waived.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Council instruct/request the Office of Finance, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, Chief Legislative Analyst and City Attorney as needed, to:

1. Report on the feasibility of implementing an ordinance that would codify the sale of electricity by commercial EV charging companies directly to a consumer or by prepayments of such electricity in the form of subscription or certain plans with electric vehicle manufacturers as a business, activity that falls within retail sales category of the City Municipal Code, as well as the feasibility of waiving any penalties and interest for companies that have paid on a tax basis other than retail sales since beginning operations in Los Angeles; and
2. Given the City's stated commitment to expanding the use of zero-emissions vehicles and the need to expeditiously permit EV charging infrastructure, report on the feasibility of creating an environmental/energy sustainability sub-category in the code that would provide for additional incentives, such as reduced business tax rates for EV charging companies operating in the City.

PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:




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