

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



## West Hills Neighborhood Council

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### Joint Environment Committee/Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee/West Hills Neighborhood Council

Amended Agenda 10-09-2016

## Meeting Agenda

Thursday October 13, 2016 6:30 PM– 7:30 PM  
At West Hills Hospital – First Floor Conference Room  
7300 Medical Center Drive, West Hills, CA 91307

This meeting is open to the public. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Those who wish to speak during the meeting may be asked to complete a Speaker Card. 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.

### Call to order

### Public Comment

### New Business

1. Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to the WHNC Board to support the letter recommended by the board of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance that calls for LADWP to reach 100% renewable energy by 2030, to refrain from any new investments in fossil fuel infrastructure, and to ensure that all residents of Los Angeles reap the benefits of this transition.
2. Discussion and possible action on a policy regarding the distribution of Neighborhood Watch Signs.
3. Open discussion on any other matter that does not require a vote.

### Meeting Adjournment

**Public Input:** The public is requested to fill out a Speaker Card 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, an issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

**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](http://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](http://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 the WHNC's executive director via email at [Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org](mailto:Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org).

**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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org).

Dear Mayor Garcetti, Los Angeles City Council, and LADWP:

We write to request that the City of Los Angeles's Department of Water & Power (LADWP) develop a plan and concrete timeline to transition its portfolio to 100% renewable energy no later than 2030. We support a rapid timetable and ask that Los Angeles **complete the transition to 100% clean, renewable energy by 2030 or sooner based on new technologies that become available. In addition, we ask that Los Angeles commit to making no new fossil fuel infrastructure investments during this transition period.** We also request that LADWP **include strategies to ensure that the economic and environmental benefits and opportunities linked to this energy transition are shared by all residents of Los Angeles.**

We are running out of time. Staying below 1.5°C of global warming, and well below a catastrophic 2°C of warming, will require aggressive action to undo our dependence on fossil fuels and achieve 100% clean energy.

To this end, we further oppose any new fossil fuel investments planned by the city. LADWP's 2015 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) calls for the city to increase its use of natural gas to power our grid, with the city spending a total of \$2.2 billion to repower our coastal gas-generating stations to comply with cooling regulations, plus a further \$500 million to replace the coal-fired Intermountain Power Plant with gas generation. These expenditures will soon become stranded investments as we move toward renewable energy—i.e., they will be sunk costs with no way to get a return on the investment. Let's use these funds to transition to clean energy rather than waste them on infrastructure that will soon become obsolete.

Fossil fuels degrade our air quality and require significant amounts of much-needed fresh water. Additionally, the continued use of natural gas comes at great risk to Los Angeles residents and the environment. The Porter Ranch gas leak lasted 112 days and displaced over 15,000 residents from their homes, disrupting lives and businesses for months. Residents, their children, and their pets suffered from health problems such as rashes, bloody noses, headaches, and nausea, and residents continue to report health problems from ongoing leaks.

In addition to health and safety concerns, the methane that makes up natural gas is an extremely potent greenhouse gas. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change now states that, pound for pound, methane from the oil and gas industry traps 34 times more heat than a pulse of carbon dioxide over a 100-year time frame, and traps 86 times more heat over a 20-year time frame. Research shows that methane escapes into the air at an alarming rate at all stages of production, distribution, storage and end-use.

Transitioning to a 100% renewable grid will not only protect our climate and our communities, it will also increase the City's potential to create more local jobs. Investments in clean, renewable energy create more jobs than the same investments in coal, oil and gas.

We know that oil and gas infrastructure is inherently dangerous. Recent disasters like Porter Ranch and the ExxonMobil refinery explosion, as well as ongoing health problems associated with neighborhood drilling like at the Murphy Well Site on West Adams (among many others, particularly in South Los Angeles) have shown us that we cannot continue our dependence on fossil fuels. We urge you to support the process of transitioning Los Angeles to 100% renewables by 2030, so that we can join San Diego, San Francisco, and San Jose in becoming national leaders on clean energy.

Sincerely,