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## WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

### **JOINT BOARD AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING AGENDA Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 6:30 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, paste the following link into your browser: <https://zoom.us/j/95876172481>

**To call in by phone**, dial (669) 900-6833, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: **958 7617 2481**

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.

1. Call to order and Establish Quorum
2. Approve minutes of December 21, 2022
3. Co-Chair Comments
4. Public Comment

#### **Old Business**

None

#### **New Business**

5. Discussion and possible action on how to disseminate the West Hills Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Plan
6. Safety Tips for the new year
7. Next Meeting – February 15, 2023 and Adjournment.

**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](mailto:ethics@lacity.org). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto: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](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 via email [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto: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](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)

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



## West Hills Neighborhood Council

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### **JOINT BOARD AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes Telephonic and Online December 21, 2022 at 6:30 PM**

Attendance: Saif Mogri, Steve Randall, Faye Barta, Brad Vanderhoof, Clarice Chavira and Bob Brostoff.  
Other Attendees: Joan Trent

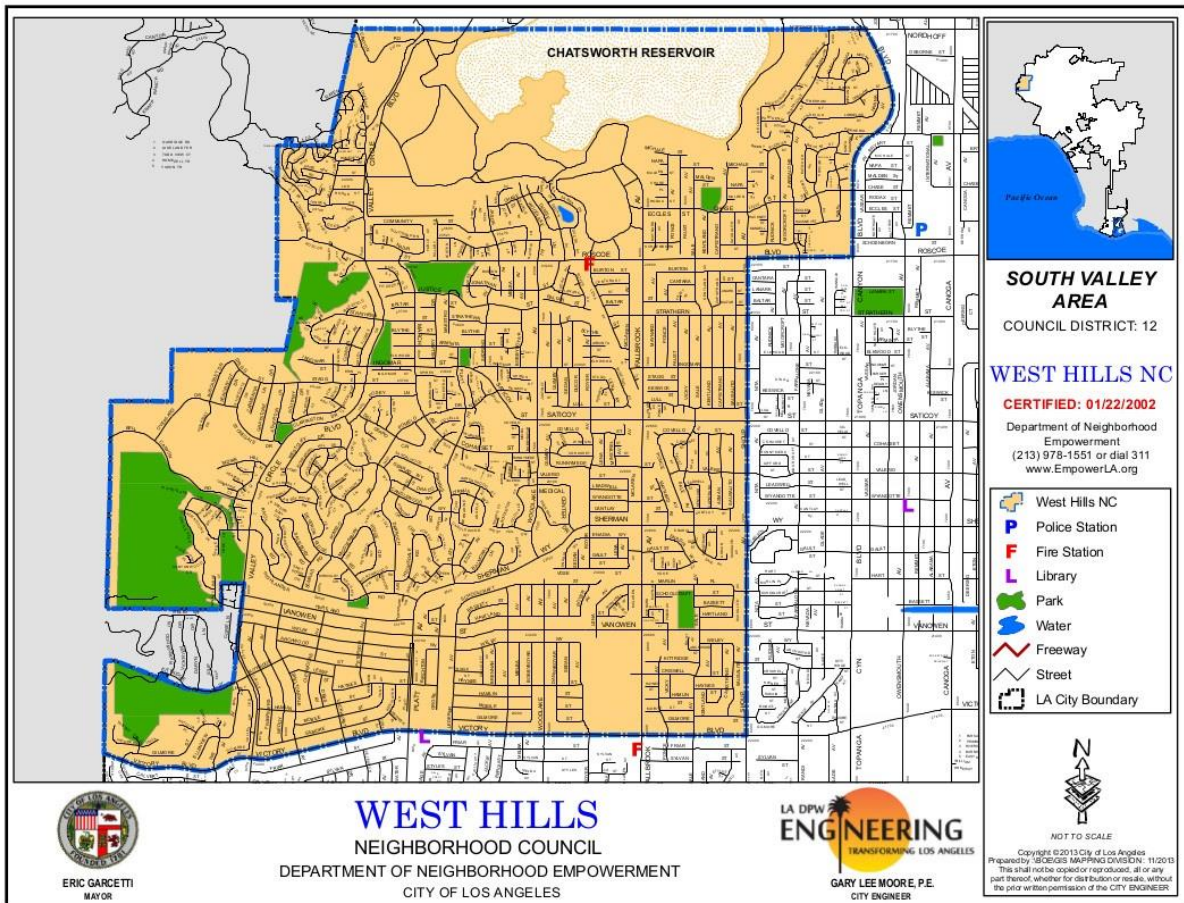
1. Co-chair Bob Brostoff called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM and quorum was established.
2. Approve minutes from November 16, 2022: The minutes were approved as amended.
3. Co-Chair Comments: There were no comments.
4. Public Comment: None

#### New Business

5. Provide Update on CERT Training – Bob stated that a CERT class is scheduled to start on January 4, 2023 at the Islamic Society of West Valley. The class will be held at 7 PM every Wednesday for seven weeks. The participants must attend all the seven classes to obtain the CERT certificate. If a class is missed, it can be made up at another location.
6. Review and Discussion on West Hills Neighborhood Council Emergency Response Plan – The edited plan was approved by the Committee and will be forwarded to the Board for approval in the January 2023 meeting.
7. Safety Tips for Holidays – Saif Mogri made a presentation on some of the safety tips posted online by LAPD and highlighted safe shopping tips, safety tips for children and decorations at home.
8. Next Meeting – January 25, 2023
10. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 PM.

# WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

January 5, 2023



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## 1. Purpose

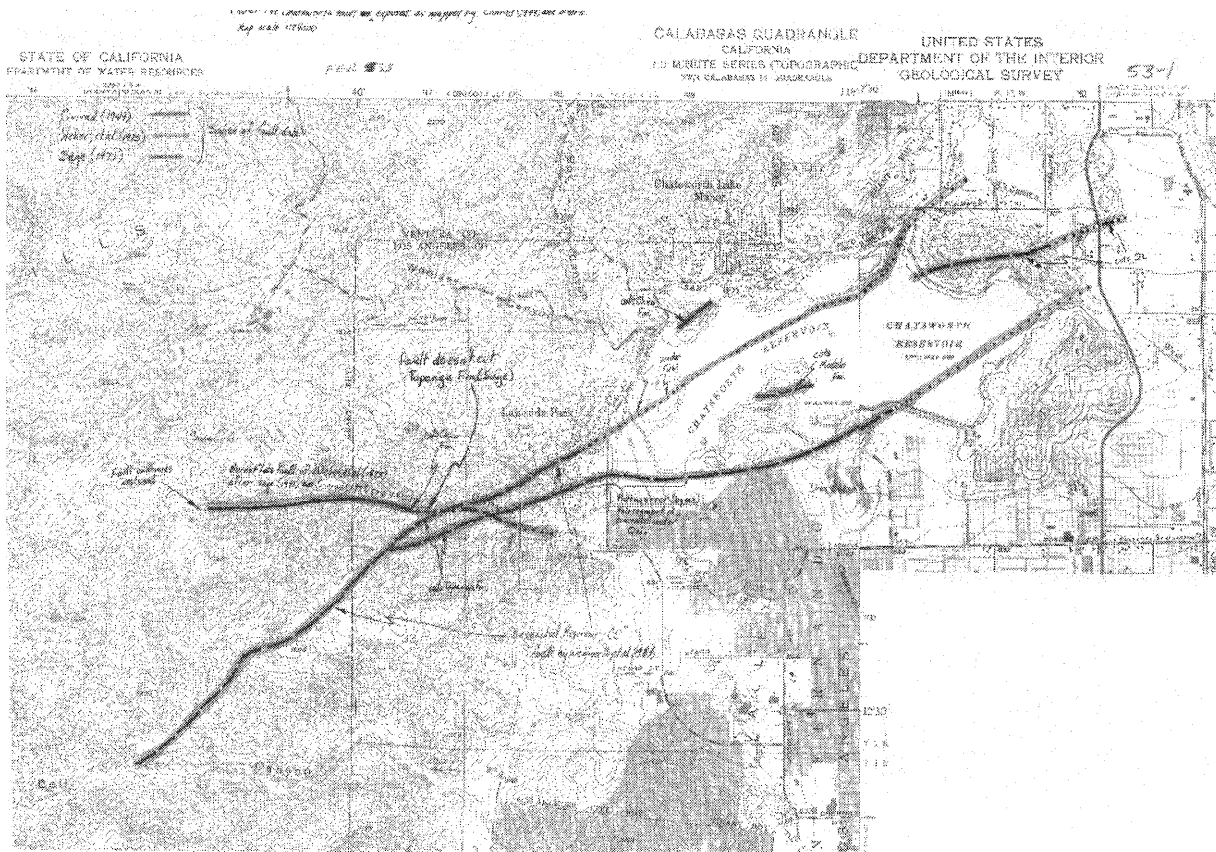
Stakeholders of West Hills need to be prepared for a large-scale disaster and learn how to take care of family, friends and neighbors when city services (police, fire, 911) may not be available for several days or weeks. This is the expected scenario here in Southern California after the next large earthquake or fire.

The West Hills Neighborhood Council (WHNC) has prepared this emergency response plan for all stakeholders in case of a major disaster. This plan involves the use of trained Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers, trained medical stakeholders, stakeholders with special skills, and just plain folks as well as RYLAN (Ready Your LA Neighborhood, formerly Map Your Neighborhood).

This plan provides important emergency preparedness and response information to all stakeholders in West Hills. It is limited in detailed planning to West Hills.

## 2. Seismic Analysis of the West Hills Area

Although there are no apparent active earthquake faults within West Hills, there is one called the Chatsworth Fault that runs through the Chatsworth Nature Preserve in an east-west direction on the north edge of West Hills.



There have been two significant earthquakes in recent years that have affected West Hills severely. The first was the 6.6-magnitude Sylmar earthquake on February 9, 1971, which damaged about 1/3 of the structures in the San Fernando Valley.

The second was the 6.7-magnitude Northridge earthquake on January 17, 1994. It also caused severe damage throughout the San Fernando Valley, including West Hills, as well as other parts of Los Angeles County.



Here is some more information on the Northridge earthquake:

It occurred at 4:30 a.m. and was centered one mile south-southwest of Northridge on the thrust fault known as the Pico Fault. Several other faults experienced minor shifts during the earthquake and its aftershocks.

The Northridge earthquake produced the strongest ground motions ever recorded in an urban setting in North America. Damage was widespread. Sections of major freeways collapsed, parking structures and office buildings collapsed, and apartment buildings suffered irreparable damage. Damage to wood-frame apartment houses was widespread in the San Fernando Valley and Santa Monica areas.

The West Hills area contains some liquefaction and landslide areas identified by the State of California.

### **3. Disaster Preparation and Training**

A key component of the WHNC Emergency Response Plan includes the Los Angeles Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. All stakeholders who are 18+ years old should take this important free training program. Information is available on the WHNC's website at [www.westhillsnc.org](http://www.westhillsnc.org) and [www.cert-la.com](http://www.cert-la.com). The 17.5-hour class covers the following topics over the course of seven weeks, meeting once a week for 2 ½ hours per session:

- Introduction & Disaster Awareness
- Incident Command Center (ICS) and Disaster Psychology
- Disaster Medical Operations part 1
- Disaster Medical Operations part 2
- Fire Suppression and Hazardous Materials
- Light Search and Rescue
- Terrorism and CERT

The WHNC organizes periodic CERT training classes. Please see the WHNC website for details at [westhillsnc.org](http://westhillsnc.org)



Ready LA provides an online training manual for RYLAN. It can be reached [at:](#)

<https://www.readyla.org/sites/g/files/wph1731/files/2021-04/%20rylan-emergency-preparedness-guide-english-digital.pdf>.

RYLAN is similar to the old Map Your Neighborhood plan. It has been adapted for use in Los Angeles.

The American Red Cross' First Aid Training courses incorporate the latest scientific guidelines that align with Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) *Best Practices for Workplace First Aid Training Programs*. In addition, they now provide group First Aid Training programs, both online and in-person. To see the schedule of classes, you can visit this link:

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class>

#### **4. What to Do/How to Prepare for a Disaster**

- Disasters are major events that can strike anywhere and anytime.
- Through the use of the RYLAN program, you and your neighborhood can set up disaster teams that will be coordinated by a central team. Ideally, these teams should at least include one stakeholder who is CERT trained.
- Disaster team leaders should be solicited through presentations to local elementary school PTSA groups.
- Training of leaders should be held in coordination with the West Hills Neighborhood Council's Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee (PS&EP Committee).
- Traditional 911 and first-responder capabilities, such as, fire, police, medics, and utility personnel, will be overwhelmed and unable to immediately assist individuals and homeowners.
- Therefore, preparing our neighborhoods to be able to respond immediately is vital.
- Neighbors will likely be the first ones available to offer assistance.
- Research has shown that neighbors who are prepared are more effective in their response to a disaster and have an increased capacity to be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours after a disaster.

- Self-help RYLAN teams should have 15-20 households because the first hour after a disaster is vital and the size of your team must be manageable. RYLAN provides excellent guidance on what to do next.
- The WHNC will coordinate the training and information of RYLAN groups.

## **5. What to Do After a Disaster**

- Begin by taking care of yourself, your family, your home and your immediate neighbors.
- If it is safe, proceed to your designated meeting area.
- On your way to any safe and available meeting area, look for “OK/HELP” signs.

## **6. Evacuation & Staging Areas**

- Locations of pre-determined Red Cross locations will be listed if available.
- Locations of WHNC meeting areas will be listed. Such locations might include private schools, religious organizations, and/or local business sites.

## **7. Types of Alerts**

- **Earthquakes:**

Earthquake Warning California uses state-of-the-art ground motion monitoring, as well as a variety of alerting methods to deliver warnings to people via cell phones before the strongest shaking arrives. Seconds to tens of seconds of alert can provide opportunity to take life-saving actions such as “drop, cover, and hold on” and put devices into safe modes. The speed of the alert will vary depending on one’s distance from the origin of the earthquake. The closer one is to origin, the quicker one will receive the alert. In some cases people may receive an alert once they feel shaking or after an earthquake passes.

For the first time, you can receive warning of an earthquake before you feel shaking. Earthquake Warning California can give you seconds of notice using the following tools:

- MyShake App
- Android Earthquake Alerts
- Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs).

**When you receive an alert or feel shaking, “drop, cover, and hold on!”**

Please visit the website at <https://www.shakealert.org> for more information

- **Wildfires:**

Cal Fire offers to send you text messages to keep you updated about **fires** in your area. You can sign up on the website:

<https://plan.readyforwildfire.org/>