



CITY OF
LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

SPECIAL JOINT BOARD AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025 @ 7:30 P.M.
Chaminade College Preparatory – Condon Center 2nd Floor
23241 W. Cohasset Street, West Hills, CA 91304

Enter Chaminade through the Cohasset Street entrance between Woodlake and Platt Avenues. Drive through the parking lot, bear left and continue over the hill until you see the Condon Family Technology Center on the left. Park in the nearest lot.

In conformity with the October 6, 2023 enactment of California Senate Bill 411 (Portantino) and La City Council Approval on November 1, 2023, the West Hills Neighborhood Council Government Relations Committee meeting will be conducted virtually, telephonically and in person. All are invited to attend and participate.

- To attend online via Zoom Webinar: Click or paste the following link into your browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88391608200>
- To call in by phone, dial (669) 900-6833, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: **883 9160 8200**, then press #.
- To attend in person, please attend Chaminade College Preparatory – Condon Center 2nd Floor, 23241 W. Cohasset Street, West Hills, CA 91304

This meeting is open to the public. Doors open 10 minutes before the meeting starts. 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.

1. Call to Order / Establish a Quorum: Joanne Yvanek-Garb Chair___ Aida Abkarians___ Saif Mogri___ Steve Randall___ Joan Trent___ Faye Barta___ Myrl Schreiberman___ Brad Vanderhoof, Secretary ___
2. Comments from the Chair.
3. General Public Comment.
4. Review and Approval of May and June Meeting Minutes.
5. Discussion and Possible Action of the closure of the Paris Olympics and the baton being passed to our Mayor, we should discuss how the Neighborhood Council system can participate in the LA 2028 Olympics since we know our city better than they do. This is based on my being invited to a meeting of a committee with the Mayor. This meeting has been postponed due to our wildfires.
6. Discussion and Possible Action of how our NC can assist the wildfire victims.
 - A. Clothing and food drive – possibly utilizing, in conjunction with John Lee’s office, our Valentine’s Dance as a contribution point.
 - B. Other suggestions
7. Federal and State Income Tax payments and filing of forms extensions per attached Brad Sherman memo.

SB 411 Updates: If a Neighborhood Council has a quorum of board members in a physical location, board members who wish to join the meeting via teleconferencing must adhere to AB 2449 rules and regulations. If a Neighborhood Council does not have a quorum of board members in a physical location, they must adhere to SB 411 rules and regulations. In the event of a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the eligible legislative body's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the eligible legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1. The eligible legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comments in real time. Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the eligible legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate. (i) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph, provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.(ii) An eligible legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment. (iii) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

Public Input: 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 committee.

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, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org

Public Posting of Agendas - WHNC agendas are posted for public review at Platt Village, on the Southside of Pavilions, closest to Nothing Bundt Cakes at 6534 Platt Avenue, West Hills, CA 91307 or at our website, www.westhillsnc.org You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to [L.A. City's Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)

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 Section 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 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 our website: www.westhillsnc.org or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the WHNC's executive director via email at michelle.ritchie@westhillsnc.org

Reconsideration and Grievance Process - For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and 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 Chaminade High School January 22, 2024

Revised June 27, 2024

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

Attendance: Aida Abkarians, Faye Barta, Clarice Chavira, Joan Trent, Brad Vanderhoof,
and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Committee Members Absent: Saif Mogri, and Mark Neudorff

Other Board Members Present: Glenn Jennings, Carolyn Poppert

1. Call to Order / Establish a Quorum: Co-chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum was established.
2. Comments from the Co-Chairs: None
3. General Public Comment: None
4. Approve November 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes: The minutes were approved.
5. Future agenda items: None

Co-chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb adjourned the meeting at 7:25 PM.

The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for February 26, 7:30 PM, Chaminade High School.

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JOINT GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING MINUTES Chaminade High School June 2, 2024 Revised June 27, 2024

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

Attendance: Aida Abkarians, Faye Barta (virtual under SB411), Joan Trent, Brad Vanderhoof, and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Committee Members Absent: Saif Mogri, Steve Randall, and Myrl Schreiberman

Other Board Members Present: Kim Koerber, Carolyn Poppert, and Char Rothstein

1. Call to Order / Establish a Quorum: Co-chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. A quorum was established.

2. Comments from the Co-Chairs: None

3. General Public Comment: None

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes: There were no minutes available for review.

5. Community Impact Statement City Council (CIS) and Resolution to Council File 23-1027-S2 – Charter Reform Commission Establishment:

CIS in support if amended to have at least two of the five commissioners selected by the appointed commissioners be from Neighborhood Councils (one from the LA Basin and one from the SFV).

Aida Abkarians – Yes, Faye Barta – Yes, saif Mogri – Absent, Steve Randall – Absent, Myrl Schreiberman – Absent, Joan Trent – Yes, Brad Vanderhoof – Yes, Joann Yvanek-Garb – Yes
Yes – 5, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 3, Recusal – 0

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

6. Resolution or letter to City Council regarding the heavy hand the City is applying to Neighborhood Councils requiring additional trainings and constant oversight causing delays by the City Clerk and EmpowerLA offices: There was consensus to request a meeting with the Mayor. Discussion on a possible letter found agreement on the following points. a. reference to City Charter Section 9 b. use Valentine's Day Dance as an example of the excessive event approval period, c. use as an example the statement a contract was needed for the Memorial Day Parade even though it was a one-time event with a cost under \$1000 (this is a question on the NC funding training test).

Co-chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for July 15, 7:30 PM, Chaminade High School.

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JOINT GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING MINUTES Chaminade High School August 19, 2024 Revised September 6, 2024

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

Attendance: Aida Abkarians, Saif Mogri, Joan Trent, Brad Vanderhoof, and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Committee Members Absent: Faye Barta, Steve Randall, and Myrl Schreibman

Other Board Members Present: Kim Koerber

1. Call to Order / Establish a Quorum: Chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM. A quorum was established.
2. Comments from the Chair: None
3. General Public Comment.
4. Review and Approval of May and June Meeting Minutes: There were no minutes available for review..
5. As the Paris Olympics have closed and the baton was passed to our Mayor, we should discuss how the Neighborhood Council system can participate since we know our city better than they do: Joanne said we could write a letter to Mayor Bass suggesting NC volunteers work the games. Aida suggested getting tickets and giving them to the public.

Chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for September 16, 7:30 PM, Chaminade High School.



CONGRESSMAN

BRAD SHERMAN

SERVING THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AND PARTS OF THE WESTSIDE



 818-501-9200

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Tax Information for January Fire Victims

Deadline Extended

On January 13th, we sent you an email dealing with the extension of deadlines by the IRS and the California Franchise Tax Board. That email also described property tax issues, deadline extensions for filing your return and payment of taxes available to everyone in Los Angeles County whether you're in the fire area or whether you're even affected by the fire. Generally, all income tax payment and filing deadlines have been extended to October 15, 2025 for all residents and businesses in all of L.A. County.

For details, see our previous e-mail - [Click Here](#).

Disaster Relief Grants and Income Taxation

Disaster relief benefits from FEMA, from other federal programs or from the state of California are tax exempt for both federal and state purposes.

Casualty Disaster Losses and Insurance Reimbursements

- **Individuals** - For more information on Casualty Disaster and Theft Loss – [Click Here](#).
- **Businesses** – For more information on Business Casualty Disaster and Theft Loss – [Click Here](#).
- The **IRS Toll-Free Disaster Assistance Hotline** is available to help answer your questions at **866-562-5227**.

Victims of the Palisades Fire may deduct their casualty loss as an itemized deduction you can take the deduction on your 2024 or your 2025 tax return (the one due April 2026). Reducing your 2024 tax liability will increase your refund and then provide you cash at a difficult time. The amount of the deduction is typically the amount you lost as a result of the disaster, reduced by the insurance proceeds you expect to receive or have already received.

Importantly, you may not take a casualty loss for your home in excess of your “basis” in your home, plus what you paid for the various personal property that was damaged or destroyed.

Your “basis” in your home is the amount you paid for it, increased by what you paid for home improvements. If you have used your home as a rental or as business property you may have taken depreciation deductions in previous years, which reduce the basis in your home.

If the amount you receive from insurance exceeds your basis in your home, the excess is treated as capital gain. If the home is your primary residence and has been for at least 2 of the last 5 years, the first \$250,000 of such gain (\$500,000 for a married couple), is tax exempt.

The purpose of this email is to just give you the basics. You will want to consult with your own tax professional.

Please see recent Malibu Times article where I discuss FEMA and SBA benefits [Malibutimes.com Congressman-Brad-Sherman-Advocates-For-Fire-Victims-Federal-Aid-and-Recovery-Efforts](https://www.malibutimes.com/congressman-brad-sherman-advocates-for-fire-victims-federal-aid-and-recovery-efforts)

[Click Here For Additional Wildfire Resources](#)



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