



CITY OF
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CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BOARD AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, August 18, 2026 @ 6:30 PM

**Chaminade College Preparatory -- Condon Center, 2nd Floor
23241 West Cohasset Street, West Hills, CA 91304**

Enter Chaminade through the Cohasset Street Entrance between Woodlake and Platt Avenues. Enter 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 January 1, 2026 enactment of California Senate Bill 707 (Durazo) and LA City Council File 23 1114, the West Hills Neighborhood Council Beautification Committee Meeting, will be conducted in person. All are invited to attend and participate.

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 and Establish Quorum
2. Approval of Minutes of the July 2026 Meeting
3. Comments and Announcements from the Chairs
4. Public Comment
5. Discussion and Possible Action to Clear Overgrowth on Pedestrian Bridges
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Future Cleanup Events for September 2026 and November 2026
7. Discussion and Possible Action on CF 26-1050: City's Internal Spacing Guidelines/Policy and Infrastructure Improvements/Modernize
8. West Hills Park Updates – if available, including discussion of efforts to make Orcutt Ranch a Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Right-Of-Way (ROW) Letters
9. Strike Team Reports
10. Suggestions for the September Agenda
11. Adjournment

The next meeting of this committee will be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

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. California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(3).

The 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. California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(4).

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 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. California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(5).

A legislative body that provides a time 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 paragraph (5), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed. California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(6)(A).

A legislative body that does not provide a time 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 paragraph (5), or otherwise to be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment. California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(6)(B).

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) ethics@lacity.org/lobbying. 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.commission@lacity.org. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960. 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.ritchiwhnc@gmail.com

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 Traducción: Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte michelle.ritchiwhnc@gmail.com



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 21, 2026 @6:30 PM
revised July 21, 2026

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 Beautification Committee meeting, not to include abstentions. There shall be no proxy voting.

Attendance: Brenda Citrom, Glenn Jennings, Kim Koerber, Heidi Manning, Brad Vanderhoof, and Zhelbert Zohrabian

Other Board members present: None

Chair Brad Vanderhoof called the meeting to order at 6:44 PM. A quorum was established.
The June meeting minutes were approved.

Comments and Announcements from the Co-Chair(s): None

Public Comment: None

Numbers refer to agenda items.

5. Action to Clear Overgrowth on Pedestrian Bridges: This was based on a stakeholder request. Brad will investigate which of the two bridges in West Hills is referenced and if there is actually a serious problem. If needed a strike team effort will be initiated.

6. Future Cleanup Events for August 2026 and July 2026: Zhelbert suggested valley Circle near Valley Circle Terrace. Brenda suggested Ingomar west of Platt. Glenn suggested the east side of Valley Circle from Strathern to Roscoe. The cleanup will be August 22 from 8 to 11 AM on Valley Circle From Strathern to Roscoe. The September location will be determined at the August meeting.

7. West Hills Park Updates – if available, including discussion of efforts to make Orcutt Ranch a Monarch butterfly sanctuary: No new information. Heidi suggested trying to partner with the West Valley Garden Club to clean and weed the small area with a milkweed designation near the garden plots. This will be easier after the rain. Heidi will bring it up at the next Garden Club meeting.

8. Right-Of-Way (ROW) Letters: No new suggestions.

9. Strike Team Reports: Kim will work on the planter on the southwest corner of Woodlake and Saticoy.

10. Suggestions for the August Agenda: None

Chair Brad adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

The next scheduled meeting of this committee August 18, 2026, 6:30 PM, Chaminade Condon Center.

MOTION

Los Angeles continues to experience the growing impacts of climate change, with increasingly frequent and prolonged extreme heat events threatening public health, straining energy infrastructure, and disproportionately affecting neighborhoods with limited shade and tree canopy. Urban trees are among the City's most effective natural assets for mitigating the urban heat island effect, improving air quality, reducing stormwater runoff, lowering energy consumption, enhancing pedestrian comfort, and creating healthier, more resilient communities.

Recognizing these benefits, the City has adopted ambitious climate action, sustainability, and urban forestry goals that seek to expand tree canopy throughout Los Angeles. However, despite significant investment in tree planting programs, opportunities to plant new street trees remain constrained by internal administrative tree-spacing guidelines that were developed decades ago and may no longer reflect current engineering practices, transportation design standards, or advances in urban forestry.

Recent research conducted by USC Dornsife's Spatial Sciences Institute and Public Exchange found that Los Angeles maintains some of the nation's most restrictive internal street tree spacing standards. The study concluded that modernizing these administrative guidelines could significantly increase the number of viable tree planting locations, particularly within neighborhoods that experience the greatest urban heat burdens, while continuing to maintain public safety, protect infrastructure, and preserve operational functionality.

Importantly, many of these spacing requirements exist as internal departmental policies rather than requirements established by ordinance, providing the City with an opportunity to review and update existing practices through coordinated administrative action. Revisiting these guidelines would allow the City to align its urban forestry policies with current best practices while advancing its climate resilience, environmental justice, and sustainability objectives.

Accordingly, it is appropriate for the City to evaluate whether existing tree-spacing standards unnecessarily limit opportunities to expand the urban forest and to identify policy and infrastructure improvements that will maximize future tree planting efforts.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Bureau of Street Services - Urban Forestry Division, Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Bureau of Street Lighting, Bureau of Engineering, Department of Water and Power, Department of City Planning, and any other relevant departments, with assistance from the City Administrative Officer, to report within 90 days with recommendations to modernize the City's internal Tree Spacing Guidelines.

PRESENTED BY

JOHN S. LEE

Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY

Eunisses Acunanday

AUG 04 2026

ORIGINAL