

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OFFICERS

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HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

C/O Department of Neighborhood
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HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

BOARD MEETING

November 18, 2020

6:00pm

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89005891527>

Meeting ID: 890 0589 1527

Phone Dial in: +1-669-900-6833 Code: 89005891527

MINTUES

1. **Call to order by President, Anastasia Mann at 6:01pm**
2. **Roll Call by Secretary, Britta Engstrom.** Quorum established with 17 people. Absent: Environment Chair Barbara Witkin, Area 2 Chandan St Clare, Parks & Open Space Chair Jeff Masino, and Area 9 Chair Richard Klug.
3. **Approval of October 2020 Minutes.** President Anastasia Mann made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, 2nd by Business Chair Oren Katz. The minutes were approved 17-0.
4. **Guest Speaker: Assemblymember Richard Bloom, District 50**

Assemblymember Bloom spoke to the board and stakeholders and stated:

- They have processed over 1,900 EDD cases for people not receiving the correct or any payment.
- The budget was passed – 11 billion dollars ahead of projection in terms of revenue received
- The COVID crisis has inhibited the ability to pass legislation
- AB 1788 passed which bans certain rat poisons (or rodenticides) due to the unintended destructive downstream consequences on people, animals and wildlife.
- AB 1766 is bill that addresses the significant data gap between the needs of clients living with severe mental illness and the available housing and care options.
- AB 598 passed which gives insurance coverage for hearing aides (covered by some polices not all) for minors/children. The Governor has provided a fund for those children who are not covered by their parent's polices.
- They will be getting sworn in on December 6th.
- Visit his website <https://a50.asmdc.org/> for more information.

5. **Public Official Reports**

- a) CD4 –Field Deputy, Madelynn Taras, Office of Councilmember David Ryu told informed stakeholders their office is putting together a transition plan so any cases or concerns can be transferred over.
- b) CD13 – Sean Starkey, Office of Councilman Mitch O’Farrell thanks CD4 stated that regarding homelessness, the Collette Center was just opened for the first weekend of rain. The Salvation Army 30 bed shelter got approved and will open in the next month or two and that The Orchid should be in the city’s possession in January (40 room hotel). In addition, they are looking at a location on Santa Monica Blvd. Sean stated that the Las Palmas Senior Center is going into design for a remodel (design will take 6 months and start it in end of 2021 which includes landscaping). The ballot boxes from the November election will be permanent and will be back in the future for next elections. He also mentioned that LADWP is offering a \$500 grant for low income end of month deadline.

Public Comment: Tamra B

- c) 46th Assembly District, Stephanie Mkhlian, Office of Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian provided an update on how they are handling many EDD cases and that there is now an online platform to use. They have partnered with Krekorian’s office for an annual food & toy drive, donating to local valley partners. The food drive is Dec. 10th at 10am.
- d) 50th Assembly District-Josh Kurpies, Office of Assemblyman Richard Bloom was in attendance.
- e) 25th Senatorial District, Vickere Murphy, District Representative, Office of Anthony Portantino stated that they are continuing to work on EDD issues and cases. She explained the increase in Bank of America card fraud.
- f) 3rd Supervisorial District, Erin Seinfeld, Office of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl stated that there is a surge of COVID 19 cases and will be a revision to the health order that goes into effect Friday, Nov. 20. Non-essential retail establishment must close 10pm-6am. Non-essential businesses can operate at 25% capacity. If we get to over 2,000 hospitalizations a day then we will have a 3 week lock down. Cal Fresh (food stamps) has added Albertsons, Safeway and Vons to the online grocery providers that you can use your EBT card at.
- g) 26th Senate State District, Liliana Pond, Office of Senator Ben Allen introduced herself.
- h) Hollywood Bowl/Stratiscope, Angela Babcock was in attendance.
- i) LAFD – Chief Hogan reminded stakeholders that if you see any fires (cooking, warming etc.) to let LAFD know as they don’t want any fires anywhere. Make sure to sign up for the alert system if you have not, visit www.lafd.org/alerts to sign up. He also mentioned that they are making adjustments to the wildfire cameras at Mt. Lee.
- j) LADWP – Michael Ventre, Senior Public Relations Specialist shared that the deadline for the CARES grant is Sunday which provides \$500 for folks who are struggling during COVID to pay for their utilities bills (not just LADWP but gas, cell phone etc.). He mentioned that customer service lines have been tied up because of it, so if you have a routine matter you may want to hold off on calling until after the CARES deadline to avoid long wait times.
- k) LADOT – Brian Gallagher stated that the street restriction and tour bus studies will start after Thanksgiving. Mulholland will be at the top of the list and then they will proceed with other locations. The study requires that some criteria must be met on the total number of buses, so they will count each location twice. Brian talked about how there is a two-phase approach to make Pyramid Place a one way street. At Hollywood Bowl & Oden they’ve approved a left hand turn lane from Highland. Brian will be turning in an idling report to the City Council soon. Commercial vehicles or buses cannot idle for more than 5 min. without being eligible for a ticket, but enforcement will be an issue, so no signage will be put up in locations unless LAPD is willing to enforce.

- l) Neighborhood Prosecutor, Hollywood Division, Ethan Weaver stated Justin Wolfchief is the new SLO (filling in for Ralph Sanchez). If you are dealing with a partyhouse problem please email Ethan & Justin.

SLO Wolfchief stated that the major problems continue to be speed racing on Mulholland and night as well as the overlooks. He will start towing cars at the overlook (Hollywood Bowl & Universal). He can be reached at 213 952 4364.

Officer Brian White was present and also commented on the increase in illegal Party House activities and ordinance enforcement.

- m) LAPD – Hollywood & North Hollywood Divisions

LAPD Hollywood Captain Steve Lurie stated that:

- Hollywood crime wise overall is down 13% , but there has been a 60% increase in violent crimes involving shootings. The victim population is usually out of town guests/visitors. Many gang members are coming from out of state.
- Captain Lurie feels fortunate that not many police officers have gotten COVID.
- Regarding mask enforcement, they are waiting for order from the mayor. They have been in the business of educating and providing mask instead of enforcement
- There will be a reorganization happening in the next 2-3 weeks, you'll see "new LAPD articles" regarding the \$150million budget cut meaning that 475 police officers will be cut. LA has one of the smaller police forces for large cities with approximately 9,300 officers (compared to NY-40k and Chicago 20k). This means that they will have to stop the HOPE program (homeless outreach) and he estimates that about 20 police officers will be lost from the Hollywood entertainment district. Resources will be focused on the vital organs (911 calls/emergencies to be prompt and professional).

Officer Kurtis Delbar, North Hollywood stated that car break ins continue to be an issue as many people are leaving their keys in their cars outside of their homes or convenience stores.

Public comment: Allen Forrest

6. President's Report (Anastasia Mann)

- a) **Motion:** Board authorizes President Mann to thank and acknowledge Councilmember David Ryu and his staff and thank them for their attention to our issues during his term in office.

President Anastasia Mann made the motion, Area 4 Chair Naomi Kobrin 2nd. The motion passed 18-0.

- b) **Motion:** Board authorizes President Mann to welcome newly elected CD4 Councilwoman Nithya Raman to her position and offer our assistance and availability to familiarize her with the issues within our boundaries.

President Anastasia Mann made the motion, Area 8 Chair Serra Aladag 2nd. The motion passed 18-0.

Meghan Choi from CM elect Raman's office introduced herself, discussed the transition and took Q&A. Reach out to the Campaign line e-mail: contact@nithyafortheciry.com if you have questions.

- c) Next meeting date is January 20, 2021 (Inauguration Day). President Mann asked the board if they wanted to change the date as it is Inauguration Day. The consensus was to not change. No HHWNC Board meeting in December.

7. **Public Safety (Paul Jenkins)**

- i. Vehicle Exhaust Noise Letter to Council Members

Continued from the previous board meeting. The discussion is scheduled to include LAPD SLOs and a Community Traffic Officer. We will also review rules for unnecessary idling.

Late-night street racing, burnouts, and donuts have increased throughout the entire HHWNC area and have adverse effects on the mental health, quiet enjoyment and rest of all of our stakeholders in the proximity to major streets. These streets include Mulholland Drive, Hollywood Blvd., Sunset Blvd., La Brea, Cahuenga, and Highland, among many others. Motion to support the NoHo Neighborhood Council in their motion to request an increase in fines associated with excessive vehicle exhaust noise (see attachments: Vehicle Sound Letter.pdf and Encino.pdf).

Motion: The Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council requests that Councilmembers in CD4 & CD13 request that the City Attorney and other City Departments investigate increasing fines for excessive noise from vehicle exhausts and formally introduce a motion so City Council may vote to implement the increase in fines, including a tier of increased fines for repeat offenders.

President Anastasia Mann made the motion on behalf of Public Safety Chair Paul Jenkins 2nd by Public Safety Chair Paul Jenkins. This item was withdrawn due to the lack of jurisdiction by local law enforcement.

8. **First Vice-President's Report (Orrin Feldman)**

- a) Processes & Procedures Ordinance Release -The Planning Department issued a Processes and Procedures Ordinance Rerelease on November 10th. The proposed ordinance's rerelease is the City's latest attempt to streamline the administrative procedures which the Planning Department uses when reviewing proposed projects which include discretionary entitlement requests. If the ordinance is adopted, the ordinance would change who gets notified about proposed projects, which proposed projects will be reviewed administratively, rather than at public hearing, and how appeals may be made.

First Vice-President Orrin Feldman gave an update on the 691 page document.

- b) 3077 Cahuenga - report on City Planning Commission's 11/5/20 hearing approving a proposed apartment building.

First Vice President Orrin Feldman provided an update on the five hour hearing.

Public Comment: Tamra B

9. **Treasurer's Report (Matt Shichtman)**

- a) Board Member Reimbursements – None
- b) Approve October Monthly Expenditure Report

Motion: The Board of the Hollywood Hills West NC approves the October 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report submitted by Treasurer Matt Shichtman.

President Anastasia Mann made the motion, 2nd Business Chair Oren Katz. The motion was approved 16-0.

c) NC Domain Renewal

Motion: HHWNC approves \$45.81 to renew of the NC’s website domain and associated services (email domain, DNS, etc.)

The motion was withdrawn as it was approved by the City Clerk already.

10. Second Vice President’s Report (Jane Crockett)

a) 2021 HHWNC Election Update

HHWNC Election Date: March 16, 2021
Candidate Filing Begins: November 13, 2020
Candidate Filing Ends: December 28, 2020
Release of Certified List of Candidates: January 15, 2021
Vote-By-Mail Application Begins: January 15, 2021
Ballot Mailing Period Begins: February 15, 2021
Vote-By-Mail Application Period Ends: March 9, 2021
Deadline to Receive Postmarked Ballots: March 19, 2021
Official Results Due/Certification Deadline: April 1, 2021

Second Vice President Jane Crockett spoke about how they will be utilizing social media for outreach due to the pandemic.

Candidate Filing City Clerk website: <https://clerk.lacity.org/candidate-filing>

11. Committee Reports

a) **Area 3 (Brian Dyer) HCPU2 Ad Hoc / Area 4 / Housing / Infrastructure**

i. Update on new Board binders and setting up new Board Member training

The digital version will be available on the www.hhwnc.org website.

ii. Stakeholder update and motion on proposed HCPU2’s “Community Plan Implementation Overlays.” (Hollywood Draft CPIO 2020 posted on HHWNC website)

Motion: that the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council 1.) oppose the “Review Procedures for Projects Involving Eligible Historic Resource’s Determination” that the Director of Planning has final, unappealable judgement on what is Historic and what is not without a process for neighborhood input, and 2) that there by an oversight board including, but not limiting members to City Chartered Neighborhood Councils, Hollywood Heritage, the Conservancy, Neighboring HPOZs, Homeowner Associations, and other affected interested parties.

President Anastasia Mann made the motion, 2nd by Area 4 Chair Naomi Kobrin.

Area 3 Chair Brian Dyer made a motion to amend the language in the motion to remove “neighboring HPOZs”. Business Chair Oren Katz 2nd, the motion passed 16-1.

New Motion: that the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council 1.) oppose the “Review Procedures for Projects Involving Eligible Historic Resource’s Determination” that the Director of Planning has final, unappealable judgement on what is Historic and what is not without a process for neighborhood input, and 2) that there by an oversight board including, but not limiting members to City Chartered Neighborhood Councils, Hollywood Heritage, the Conservancy, Homeowner Associations, and other affected interested parties.

The motion passed 16-1.

- iii. Stakeholder update and motion on proposed HCPU2’s “Community Plan Implementation Overlays.” (Hollywood Draft CPIO 2020 posted on HHWNC website)

Motion: that the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council requests any CPIO projects be reviewable by an oversight board including, but not limiting members to City Chartered Neighborhood Councils, Hollywood Heritage, the Conservancy, Neighboring HPOZs and Homeowner Associations, and other affected interested parties.

President Anastasia Mann made the motion, 2nd by Area 4 Naomi Kobrin.

Area 3 Chair Brian Dyer made a motion to amend the language in the motion to remove “neighboring HPOZs”, 2nd by Housing Chair Sara Steffan. The motion passed 16-1.

New Motion: that the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council requests any CPIO projects be reviewable by an oversight board including, but not limiting members to City Chartered Neighborhood Councils, Hollywood Heritage, the Conservancy, and Homeowner Associations, and other affected interested parties.

President Anastasia Mann made the new motion, Area 4 Chair Naomi Kobrin 2nd. The motion passed 16-1.

b) **Community & Youth Relations (Jeremy Saunders)**

- i. Rescue Rock Neighborhood Purpose Grant

Rescues Rock is requesting a \$5,000 neighborhood purpose grant from HHWNC.

Speaker: Kristen Stavola, Rescues Rock Inc.

Motion: HHWNC approves a \$5,000 neighborhood purpose grant to Rescues Rock Inc.

President Anastasia Mann recused herself.

First Vice-President Orrin Feldman introduced the topic. Community & Youth Relations Chair Jeremy Saunders made the motion and Area 3 Chair Brian Dyer 2nd. The motion passed 16-0.

Public Comment: Jennifer Sawalha

c) **Outreach (Kyle Naumovski)**

- i. Topic: Social Media & Newly Elected Chairs

With the increased use and popularity of social media platforms as a form of communication, digital socialization and activism there is a need for the future HHWNC area chairs to have online presence on the major social media platforms.

Neighborhood council area chairs can utilize their social media presence to improve the transmission of information from the neighborhood council's outreach chair to their area stakeholders in times of urgency and need for example: NC elections, advisory etc.

This social presence network will also allow for better representation of Area stakeholders and overall better communication of important information from the NC to the public.

12. **Public Comments** – Comments from the public on agenda items and non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. Public comments are limited to 2 minutes per speaker.

None

13. **Adjournment at 10:13pm.**

Attachments for Agenda item 7.i. Public Safety



September 3, 2020

RE: Excessive vehicle exhaust noise

Dear Councilmember Koretz,

At the Encino Neighborhood Council's August 26th 2020 General Board meeting, under quorum, the following motion was discussed and voted on.

Description:

In August of 2017, the ENC supported the NoHo Neighborhood Council in their motion to request an increase in fines associated with excessive vehicle exhaust noise. Since receiving our letter of support no action has been taken by City Council to increase these fines. Excessive vehicle exhaust noise has increased since 2017 with many exhausts sounding like rapid fire from automatic weapons. LADP has received calls from Stakeholders believing the sounds are gunshots when the noise emanates from vehicles. Late night street racing has also increased throughout the entire City, including the Valley with evidence of burnouts on Ventura Blvd. in Encino.

After discussion and comments the ENC voted on the following motion:

MOTION; EXE-20-08-0124: The Encino Neighborhood Council requests that Councilmember Koretz request that the City Attorney and other City Departments investigate increasing fines for excessive noise from vehicle exhausts and formally introduce a motion so City Council may vote to implement the increase in fines, including a tier of increased fines for repeat offenders.

The motion passed unanimously: 16 (Y), 0 (N), 0 (A)

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Garay

Alex Garay
Encino Neighborhood Council
President

Cc: Councilmember Koretz, Joan Pelico, Chris Givens, Jeffrey Ebenstein, Debbie Dyer Harris, Paul Storiato

President
Paul Storiato

Vice President
Stephanie Jaeger

Secretary
Maria Sosyan

Treasurer
James Askew

Sgt. At Arms
Allan K. Salinas



Mary Backos
Jeffrey Brown
Paula June Cantu
Teresa Cicala
Sara Cravens
Ken Dorfman
Misha'el Elie
Andre Gaona
Peter Haderlein
David Malver
Rob McGrath
Todd Mouser
Dima Overtchenko
Allyson Sereboff
Joanna Stein
Cheryl Tenbush
Russell Wolff

September 21, 2020

Mayor Eric Garcetti
Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils
NoHo Area Stakeholders

Re: Vehicle Exhaust Noise in NoHo, throughout the City of Los Angeles, and the State of California.

THIS ISSUE IS IMPORTANT AND CAN NO LONGER BE IGNORED!

The NoHo Neighborhood Council voted in favor to support this letter requesting that the City of Los Angeles take action on Vehicle Sound Enhancements.

Since our original letter in 2017 on this issue, little to none has been discussed by our leaders to curb the loud noise in our community from the sound of enhanced exhaust systems from vehicles. Some vehicle exhaust systems are even manipulated to copy the sound of rapid gunfire, which causes wasted LAPD time and money when mistaken for actual gunfire.

This issue is no longer tolerable to many of our stakeholders. There **MUST** be decisive action on this issue.

In an April 22, 2020, Los Angeles Times article, it was reported that since the year 2000, over 179 people were killed in street racing incidents in Los Angeles County. As stated in our letter in 2017, these despicable sounds often “act as a mating call for street racing.”

As a city, we are very careful to regulate the sounds coming from airplanes above, yet ignore the horrifying and dreadful sounds manipulated on the ground for the sole purpose of attracting and diverting attention. This diverted attention is disturbing the peace at unprecedented levels never before imagined.

State and city governments have the power to regulate this. We ask that our city not only begin regulating Vehicle Exhaust Sound Enhancements, but also suggest that our city leaders request assistance from our state representatives to aggressively bring this excessive street noise to an end.

In addition, these sounds from our streets and side streets can have a negative psychological impact on the following:

- Those suffering from PTSD
- Children
- Seniors
- Pets

The NoHo Neighborhood Council also kindly requests the support of ALL neighborhood councils in the City of Los Angeles to send this issue to their public safety committee chair to write a letter urging their councilmember to immediately act on this dire issue.

Sincerely,
Paul Storiato
President



NoHo Neighborhood Council
PaulStoriato@gmail.com