

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
Empowerment
3516 N. Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90031

TELEPHONE: (213) 485-1588
FAX: (213) 485-1836
Toll Free 1 (866) LA HELPS

HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

BOARD MEETING

October 21, 2020

6:00pm

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88445221007>

Meeting ID: 884 4522 1007

Phone Dial in: +1-669-900-6833 Code: 88445221007

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Call to order by President, Anastasia Mann at 6:02pm**
2. **Roll Call by Secretary, Britta Engstrom.** Quorum was established with 16 board members present at time of roll call. Absent: Business Chair Oren Katz, Environment Chair Barbara Witkin, & Area 5 Chair Bob Mansell. First Vice President Orrin Feldman joined at 6:14 & Area 9 Chair Richard Klug joined at 6:44pm.
3. **Approval of September 2020 Minutes.** President Anastasia Mann made the motion to approve the minutes, Secretary Britta Engstrom 2nd. The motion passed 16-0.
4. **Housing Chair Election**
Candidates: Sara Steffan & Starr Scesniak

Sara Steffan was elected Housing Chair.
5. **Public Official Reports**
 - a) CD4 –Field Deputy, Alice Roth, Office of Councilmember David Ryu stated that the Councilmember Ryu sends his regards and that he hopes everyone is wearing face coverings and social distancing. Visit <http://davidryu.lacity.org/> for resources and info on Covid-19 and key initiatives the Councilmember is working on. Alice reminded everyone that there is no trick or treating this year. Universal CityWalk is an official vote center and ballot drop off location. Visit <https://www.universalstudioshollywood.com/web/en/us/things-to-do/citywalk> for details, voting at this location is from Oct. 24-Nov. 3rd.
 - b) CD13 – Sean Starkey, Office of Councilman Mitch O’Farrell stated that DOT parking enforcement is back in effect (street sweeping is back) so make sure you move your cars etc. Sean spoke about motions that the Councilman has made. The Salvation Army is in the process of reopening their 30

bed, 24 hour, year round shelter. Additionally, lights are in the process of being installed at Smith Park on Sycamore and Franklin.

- c) Mayor's Office, Central Area NC Rep, Angie Aramayo stated that there is a pilot program for free flu shots for LA residents. Visit www.coronavirus.lacity.org/flushot for details. Angie encouraged stakeholders to visit www.StayHoused.org for resources, workshops and legal help regarding basic tenant rights.
- d) 50th Assembly District-Josh Kurpies, Office of Assemblyman Richard Bloom stated that Oct. 15th was the date set for the state budget – at this time there will be no additional budget cuts, but cuts that were made previously will continue. They are hosting a panel discussion on Oct. 27th on the "State of Hate". CalTrans currently has a back log 4,000 customer service requests and they are prioritizing where life, infrastructure or property are in danger. Graffiti removal/trash etc. is the fourth priority.
- e) 3rd Supervisorial District, Erin Seinfeld, Office of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl encouraged stakeholders to vote and to visit www.lavot.net if anyone has questions. There will be ballot drop boxes at Hollywood Bowl, local libraries, and Universal CityWalk. There will be another food distribution event at the Hollywood Bowl on Tuesday, Oct. 27th, recipients will receive a 20lb box of fruit, meat and veggies.
- f) Neighborhood Prosecutor, Hollywood Division, Ethan Weaver provided an update on party houses. He has filed 4 additional cases and will file and additional 3 tomorrow. Officer Brett Cohen has been and instrumental partner in the party house cases.
- g) Hollywood Bowl/Stratiscope, Angela Babcock stated that the Bowl will do food distribution on Oct. 27th and it will be a voting center starting on the 24th.
- h) LAPD – Hollywood & North Hollywood Divisions

Officer Brett Cohen stated that the overall number of party houses is down, but there is an increase of Halloween parties, most have been from long term residences. He continues to ask for additional traffic enforcement on Mulholland. Tour buses have started to emerge again. He reminded stakeholders to stop at stop signs, no "California stops".

Officer Kurtis Delbar stated that the suspect on Fredonia who was appearing on Ring cameras with a gun has been arrested. He stated that overall, crime is down but aggravated assault is up 25%/ Grand theft auto is up due to car keys being left in the cars.

6. President's Report (Anastasia Mann)

- a) 2021 NC Election Update from Lanee Basulto, Election Administrator. Renee McDade, City Clerk's Office, also provided answers during the discussion.

Due to public health and safety concerns the neighborhood council elections for 2021 will be held by mail. The HHWNC election will be on March 16, 2021.

Candidate Filing Begins: November 13, 2020

Candidate Filing Ends: December 28, 2020

Vote-By-Mail Application Begins: January 15, 2021

Deadline to Receive Postmarked Ballots: March 19, 2021

Official Results Due/Certification Deadline: April 1, 2021.

Ballots will be mailed 29 days before the election. Voters must confirm and show proof that they are stakeholder. Ballots must be postmarked by election day. There will also be ballot drop boxes.

- b) Hollywood Walk of Fame Master Plan Update Daniel Halden, Director, Heart of Hollywood-CD13 with Q&A (10-15 min)

Details from the plan can be viewed at <https://heartofhollywood.la/>
The Master Plan can be found at <https://heartofhollywood.la/walk-fame-master-plan>

The big idea: the street is a place for everyone. This includes providing more space for people, enhancing landscaping, simplifying access and parking, improving alternative mobility option, celebrating Hollywood history and identity and increasing safety and accessibility for all.

Virtual Roundtable Dates: 10/27, 11/10, 11/18, 11/25, 12/3, 12/10, & 12/16

Daniel can be reached at Daniel.halden@lacity.org

- c) 2021-22 Election - "Discuss and confirm Appointment of Election Ad Hoc Committee & Chair"

Motion: HHWNC approve Second Vice President Jane Crockett as the election chair, the ballot drop off locations to be Durant Library & Hollywood Bowl and the hours of ballot drop off to be 12-8pm.

President Anastasia Mann made a motion, First Vice President Orrin Feldman 2nd. The motion was approved unanimously 19-0.

- d) Next meeting date is November 18, 2020. (No HHWNC Board meeting in December)

7. Treasurer's Report (Matt Shichtman)

- a) Approve September Monthly Expenditure Report

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

President Anastasia Mann made the motion, Treasurer Matt Shichtman 2nd. The motion was approved 18-0.

8. Committee Reports

- a) **Business (Oren Katz)**

- i. Latest report from Budget Advocates Committee

Julia Moser spoke about how the main concern of the committee is the city's \$200-400 million shortfall this year. She encouraged board members and stakeholders to visit the new website: <https://www.budgetadvocates.com/>

The Budget Advocate Committee will be hosting a Town Hall on Nov. 14 on equity & budgeting, more details to come.

- b) **Infrastructure (Danielle Mead) in conjunction with Treasurer Matt Shichtman, Public Safety Chair Paul Jenkins and Community & Youth Chair Jeremy Saunders**

- i. Social Justice Ad Hoc Committee

The City of Los Angeles and DONE are encouraging neighborhood councils to address social justice issues. HHWNC should join other NCs who have established social equity and racial justice ad hoc committees to advise their board on these important issues.

Motion: HHWNC shall establish a Social Justice Ad Hoc Committee to advise the Board and committees on issues affecting underserved and under-represented communities within HHWNC, by outreaching to stakeholders, gathering stakeholder input and building coalitions with other NCs and organizations, for the period of October 22 through April 21.

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

President Anastasia Mann appointed the Ad Hoc Committee to consist of: Infrastructure Chair Danielle Mead (Committee Chair), Public Safety Chair Paul Jenkins, Treasurer Matt Shichtman, and Community & Youth Chair Jeremy Saunders.

c) **Public Safety (Paul Jenkins)**

- i. Upcoming Public Safety Meeting - RYLAN Reimagined on October 28th at 6pm

The ReadyYour Los Angeles Neighborhood is an emergency preparation program focused on neighbors helping each other during and after disasters. Knowing and checking on the well being of our neighbors is even more important during the current pandemic. The Los Angeles Emergency Management Department has developed a procedure to facilitate the program through online meetings. Jackie Tamayo of the EMD will provide training on how to create a RYLAN block during the pandemic.

The meeting is scheduled for October 28th at 6 pm.

Co-Chair will be Area 8 Chair Serra Aladag.

- ii. Vehicle Exhaust Noise Letter to Council Members

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 and Encino).

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, 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.

HHWNC strongly supports the need to end this unnecessary, very disruptive sound pollution.

Motion: The Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council requests that Councilmembers Ryu and O'Farrell 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, Area 4 Chair Naomi Kobrin 2nd.

The board discussed and the motion was tabled.

9. **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.

-Mister Konik spoke about his concern for vehicle exhaust and cars idling in his area.

10. **Adjournment at 8:58pm.**

Attachments for Agenda item 11. c) ii. 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 Storable

President
Paul Storiato

Vice President
Stephanie Jaeger

Secretary
Maria Sosyan

Treasurer
James Askew

Sgt. At Arms
Allan K. Salinas



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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