

## Harbor Gateway North General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Held via Zoom Webinar

Present: David Matthews (Chair), Franz Rodriguez (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), La Juana Mitchell (Treasurer), John Ward (District 1), Joan Jacobs (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Arvie Powell (District 4), Jackie Jackson (District 6), Vanessa Johnson (District 7), Angela Springs (District 8), Larry Morrison (Community Organization Representative), Richard Lee (Youth Advocate), Elijah Thomas (Youth Representative), Janet Mitchell (Outreach/Communications Representative), and Eva Pace (At Large Representative)

**1) Welcome/Introductions:** Chair David Matthews called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Vice Chair Franz led the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence in honor of Southeast LAPD Officer Philip Sudario who was a 25-year veteran and died from COVID-19 and all of the others in Los Angeles County who have died during the pandemic.

**3) Speaker: LA County Metro explains Metro Micro, on-demand rideshare service:** Sam Haas said that the new on-demand Metro Micro rideshare service was designed in conjunction with the new NextGen zones. User can travel point to point within a ridership zone for \$1 per ride until June 30, when fare rates will be re-evaluated. The goals are to retain ridership on Metro, grow the number of riders, improve the customer experience, and get riders to their employment, health services, and transit/mobility/destinations. The program started December 2020 and will extend until December 2023. Metro Micro uses smaller vehicles which hold up to ten people and travel within a zone for one to five mile trips. Wait times are guaranteed to be no more than fifteen minutes. The service helps to avoid the need for multiple transfers. Metro will be hiring drivers from local communities. Currently there are two active zones: Watts/Willowbrook, which operates 5 am to 11 pm seven days a week, and LAX/Inglewood, which operates 5 am to 10 am and then 2 pm to 7 pm to serve those working in the airport area. There is a free app for cell phones and a rider can also call 323- 466-3876 or 323-GO METRO. Riders can use their TAP cards to pay for the rides or a credit card tied to the cell phone app. Rides can be pre-booked in advance and one can book the type of seat, such as an accessibility73- seat. The drivers are Metro employees.

**4) How to use MyLA311, GardenaDirect, and TheWorks (LA County) apps to report service issues:** Donna Arechea, Director of the 311 Call Center, showed a PowerPoint and said that the service can be used to report all City service requests, using either the free cell phone app, the online web portal at myla311.lacity.org, or the 311 call center, which is open Monday through Friday from 7 am to 7 pm and 8 am to 4:45 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. You can also call 213-473-3231. Report needed sidewalk repairs, street tree issues, illegal dumping, graffiti, potholes, and even pay your LADWP bills via the MyLA311 app. You can also follow the City's Twitter feed via the app. The ability to report abandoned vehicles will be added in the next six months. She cautioned that not every request made will have a quick response. Graffiti removal takes three to five days currently. The response to homeless encampments can take ninety days. Street repairs and sidewalk repairs are dependent on the City budget. The COVID-19 pandemic, hiring freeze, and mandated furlough days are also slowing things down. However, it is important to keep making the requests so that the City is aware of the need for services in an area.

Stakeholders then raised various issues:

- need for speed humps and flashing lights on the stop sign in the 600 block of W. 117<sup>th</sup> Street,
- Non-response of parking enforcement for abandoned vehicles in District 4

- Tree branches near a power line in a District 8 backyard (call LADWP) and trash and debris in the backyard (contact Building and Safety Department)
- Asphalt used to unevenly repair a sidewalk in District 5 on Athens Blvd. (City's backlog of sidewalk repair requests is 40,000)
- Increase in number of gophers in District 8 and a coyote sighting
- A suggestion to paint a mural to discourage graffiti in District 4 (Office of Community Beautification) and need for more public trashcans on the streets to discourage littering (Bureau of Sanitation)
- Abandoned vehicles reported three months ago and still present and illegal auto repair taking place on the street in District 6 near Hoover and 120<sup>th</sup> Street
- Abandoned vehicle reported but still not picked up in District 7 near 118<sup>th</sup> Place and Broadway

Gardena Direct: Stephany Santin said that the online reporting system for the City of Gardena was created five years ago but recently relaunched with a free cellphone app. Issues with the Vermont Avenue median (Redondo Beach Blvd. to El Segundo Blvd.) should be reported via that app as it is owned by the City of Gardena. A HGNNC stakeholder asked if Gardena Police could patrol in the Harbor Gateway North area, but the answer is "no," unless they are pursuing a suspected criminal who drives into the Los Angeles City area.

For illegal dumping, potholes, and other service requests in the County of Los Angeles, use The Works app. Or report using 1-800-675-HELP or 1-800-675-4357.

**5) Caltrans – how to contact them for clean up on their property:** Chair David Matthews said that their website can be used to submit a customer service request (we are in the District 7 area for Caltrans) using <https://csr.dot.ca.gov/index.php/Msrsubmit> or they can be emailed at [D7inquiries@dot.ca.gov](mailto:D7inquiries@dot.ca.gov) or call 213-225-6581. He also mentioned that there is a Highway Patrol officer assigned to our area, Michael Tippett [mtippett@chp.ca.gov](mailto:mtippett@chp.ca.gov)

**6) Department of Toxic Substances Control – environmental investigation of Wilmington/Gramercy Right-of-Way impacting stakeholders in Districts 1 and 2:** Stakeholders received a notice regarding illegal dumping into the Dominguez Channel. Planning and Land Use Committee Chair John Ward contacted Department of Toxic Substances Control for further information but has not received a response. There will be follow up at a future Planning and Land Use Committee meeting as to what their plan for clean up will be. Several years ago the Department notified stakeholders in District 1 of possible contamination along the east side of the 110 freeway from toxic soil that was dumped there during construction of the freeway in the early 1960's. Caltrans and the LADWP were working on a plan to clean up that toxic soil and the PLU Committee will ask for a progress report on that issue, as well.

**7) General Public Comment on non-agenda items:** A District 4 stakeholder asked for an update on the motor homes parked along 135<sup>th</sup> Street near Estrella.

**8) Announcements:** The next General Membership meeting on April 27 will be the Candidate Forum for those running for Board seats.

Octaviano Rios, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, reminded those present that all 17 Board seats will be up for election. Candidate filing starts on February 13 and extends to March 30. Voting will be by mail for this election, with voter sign ups from April 16 to June 8. Ballot drop off will be held on June 15. There is a candidate information session on Sat. January 30.

Gardena resident Miriam da Matta offered to help advertise the Board election. Miriam has been organizing clean up events in the HGNNC area.

District 6 stakeholder Israel, who has been doing clean ups of the 115<sup>th</sup> and Vermont Avenue area, was thanked for his efforts.

**9) Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary