

**Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council
Ad hoc Environmental Justice Committee
555 West Redondo Beach Boulevard – Room 205
August 11, 2023**

Members Present:

Joan Jacobs; Arvie Powell; Nita Stonehocker; Lu Watson.

Member Present - Remotely:

Miguel Vazquez.

(1) Welcome/call to order/roll call: Miguel Vazquez calls the meeting to order at 6:47pm, followed by roll call.

Quorum, established.

(2) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Neighborhood Council’s jurisdiction. None..

(3) Approval of July 21, 2023, Ad hoc Environmental Justice Committee Minutes: Joan Jacobs, moves; **Nita Stonehocker,** seconds.

{Motion passed: 4-0-0.} (Miguel Vazquez not present at 7/21/23 meeting)

(4) Amanda Bettinelli, Assistant U.S. Attorney (Environmental Crimes and Consumer Protection Unit – Environmental Justice Coordinator - DOJ) is present (virtually) to evaluate progress of the Ad hoc EJC, make suggestions; and discuss environmental issues impacting Harbor Gateway North. Libby Jacobson, Conciliation Specialist – Community Relations Service - DOJ, is present (virtually).

【To familiarize Ms Bettinelli with the focus of tonight’s meeting and for her convenience, on or about 8/2/23, the HGNNC website link along with a copy of the Directory were e-Mailed to her.】

Miguel Vazquez, Chair:

Presents an overview and highlights of the task/focus/work undertaken by the *Ad hoc EJC*. Items set forth in the *Ad hoc EJC Recommendation(s) {Directory}* are summarized. **Pointed out:** This is an *Ad hoc* committee. There is (will be) no

HGNNC **Standing** Environmental Justice Committee in Bylaws until perhaps Summer/Fall 2024. In the interim, the membership would like to follow up with and begin work to resolve as many of the pollution issues set forth in the **Recommendations** as possible until a **Standing** Committee has been approved-----dissolving the *Ad hoc* committee when feasible thereafter.

[As an example, work with stakeholders to address and resolve complaints brought to the attention of the *Ad hoc EJC* that are within the purview of the **Recommendations.]** Ms Bettinelli agrees there needs to be a long-term approach to the environmental issues facing **HGNorth**; and that an extension of the *Ad hoc EJC* is a great idea.

Ms Bettinelli offers:

- (a) DOJ can provide expert “Presenters;”
- (b) DOJ can facilitate dialog with community stakeholders---no fee involved;
- (c) Will provide the *Ad hoc EJC* with a list of regulatory agencies/regulators as additional Resources to be aware of;
- (d) Will “reach out” to Ms Jessica Brown, City Attorney’s office;
- (e) Will “reach out” to Ms Pamela Thornton, CD 15 Planning Director;
- (f) **Q:** Has there been further contact from/with Christie Vosburg of the Attorney General’s Office (DOJ)?

A: None.

Ms Bettinelli approves Flyer 1(A) as a *tool*. {The “call outs” are eye-catching and bring attention to the pollution sources.}

(1) Q & A Session.

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(2) Written Questions:

Q: June 16, 2023, Minutes---page 3; Item **II**.

A: **Air Quality:** (i) AQMD Complaints: (800) Cut Smog; (ii) Dept. of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC); (iii) California Air Resources Board (CARB); **City of L. A.:** (iv) Council District 15; (v) City Atty’s Office – Environmental Prosecutor(s); **County of L.A.:** (vi) District Atty’s Office – Environmental Prosecutor(s); **State of Calif.:** (vii) Attorney General’s Office – DOJ.

Q: June 16, 2023, Minutes---page 4; last paragraph at bottom of page.

A: The U.S. Department of Justice (**DOJ**) has no jurisdiction with respect to this request.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: 8:25pm.

Next meeting: September 8, 2023, 6:30pm.

Minutes taken by **Lu Watson**, Secretary.

Ad hoc EJ Committee Mission:

{Recommendation(s) to HGNNC Board}

Engage: (Stakeholders); **Educate:** (Stakeholders); **Advocate:** (On behalf of Stakeholders to local/state/federal government); **Oppose:** (Non-Compatible developments); **Support:** (Compatible developments)}