

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., Room 185

Present: Miguel Vazquez (Chairperson), Joan Jacobs (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Keith Pitts (Treasurer), Laivern Frerichs (District 1), Nita Stonehocker (District 2), Dave Trejo (District 3), Arvie Powell (District 4), Marvin Bell (District 6), Frankie Mays (Community Organization Representative), Jackie Jackson (Youth Advocate), Elijah Thomas (Youth Representative), and Will Yates (Outreach/Communications Representative)

1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call: Chairperson Miguel Vazquez called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. A roll call determined that a quorum of Board members was present.

2) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Neighborhood Council's subject matter jurisdiction: There was no general public comment.

3) Reports

a) CD 15: Nicholas Chavez, Field Deputy for the Harbor Gateway, noted that Rosecrans Recreation Center will be holding a Trunk or Treat event on Sat. October 28 from 3-7 p.m. He reported that the One-Five Clean Team which is dedicated to providing additional clean up in the five neighborhoods of Council District 15, has picked up 1,000 tons of trash and illegal dumping during its first 100 days. Continue to use 311 to report illegal dumping and for other City services, but for difficult situations to report, email Nicholas at nicholas.i.chavez@lacity.org Councilmember Tim McOsker's State of the District was held for the first time in Watts on October 18. The Councilmember reported on his first ten months in office and plans for the future. LADWP has received a \$19 million grant from the California Department of Water Resources to support lawn removal and new landscaping at no cost to residents, if you meet the income and other guidelines. The program will begin early next year. He also spoke about the Gardena Willows Wetland located in the City of Gardena and the companion remnant located on the east side of Vermont Avenue in the City of Los Angeles. The County of Los Angeles Public Works recently cleared the weeds and trash from the open bottomed area of the Dominguez Channel. Filling City jobs and helping CD 15 residents find jobs is a key issue for Councilmember McOsker. There is still a 20% vacancy rate across all City Departments, including LAPD. CD 15 has held two job fairs so far and will be hosting the next one on Thurs. October 26 in Wilmington from 9 am to 3 pm. A job fair in the Harbor Gateway area will be planned for next year.

Some of the issues which stakeholders then asked Nicholas about were how to handle an overhanging tree from the property of a next-door apartment in District 2? Let Nicholas know and he will contact the Housing Authority.

(Marvin Bell entered the meeting at 7:22 p.m.)

A tree on LADWP property that is near the back wall of a stakeholder's home in District 3? Contact LADWP as they are responsible for trimming it.

A District 4 stakeholder noted that some new trees are being planed on Hoover Street to replace the ones that were planted a number of years ago but had died.

b) Los Angeles County Supervisor 2nd District: No representative was present.

c) LAPD: No representative was present.

Niles Foundation – Mataub Golab said that the non-profit Foundation had received funding to work with Council District 15 on promoting clean transportation. The Foundation wants to understand your interest in EVShare and other types of public transportation. They have a table

at the back of the auditorium and there is a survey that you can complete via your smartphone and a gift card and snacks for those who participate.

Reparations Advisory Commission: Mandla Kavise is one of the Commissioners on the Reparations Advisory Commission. He noted that Los Angeles is one of the few cities with such a Commission. The State of California also has its own Commission. He said that the issue of reparations for those who have suffered the continued impacts from slavery during the 1700's and 1800's comes at a historic moment. He encouraged stakeholders to take the survey on their experiences as African Americans to document such impacts as government-sanctioned race-based violence, land and asset seizures, redlining, restrictive covenants and housing segregation, housing and employment discrimination, environmental and health outcomes, unequal educational opportunities, and injustice in the legal system. The study and survey by the Commission will continue through December 31. Then the Commission will work on a reparations pilot program for January 2025. He has paper surveys and can show participants how to access the survey online. The Commission is also holding online webinars to help document the black experience in Los Angeles and to work to heal from past harms and to move forward as a City. He also introduced Diamond James, who was present from the LA Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department.

4) Speaker – Parking Enforcement – Abandoned vehicles, sweeper day fines, no heavy trucks on residential streets, no big trucks on non-truck routes, etc.: Captain Kenneth Hill, who oversees Southern Parking Enforcement, said that his division of the Department of Transportation works to enforce parking laws 24/7 in the City of Los Angeles. Southern Parking Enforcement has 40 officers to cover the large area from south of the 10 freeway, west to the Crenshaw District and south to San Pedro and Wilmington. Southern Parking Enforcement receives 160 calls for service every day, mostly for blocked driveways. They receive 300 calls regarding abandoned vehicles every day.

For removal of **abandoned vehicles**, call 1-800-ABANDON or 1-800-222-6366. An officer has to come out to mark the vehicle, then wait 72 hours to issue a citation if the vehicle still hasn't moved, and then allow 24 hours for the vehicle to be towed. Use 1-800-Abandon, rather than 311, as the call goes directly to Parking Enforcement.

Street cleaning now is done only twice a month for streets that have posted signs. Fines for not moving a vehicle on sweeper day are in the range of \$83 to \$85. Parking Enforcement is not pro-active on giving out tickets and does not drive up and down streets looking for violators as they do not have enough staff. They write tickets as a deterrent. Someone who receives a ticket can pay just \$5 to create a pending master file and that holds up the collection process for fines. Street sweepers operate out of a different City Department—Street Services-Public Works. On sweeper days Parking Enforcement goes out at 8 a.m. to cite vehicles still parked on streets that will be cleaned. They then come back to double-check on other vehicles that may have parked on the street before the sweeper has come by. To figure out which week is the first week of the month and the second week, the week in which the first day of the month falls is considered the first week.

In regards to **big trucks driving on non-truck routes**, CHP and LAPD cite those. The truck routes should have posted signs. A task force may need to be created to deal with trucks using residential streets and non-truck routes.

Clean up of **RVs** parked along streets requires multi-agencies to be involved. Parking Enforcement cannot tow any RV with a person or persons living in it. LAHSA and LAPD have to become involved to try to get the person into housing first.

Blocked driveways and alleys is the issue that generates the most number of calls to Parking Enforcement. Use 213-485-4184 to report, with staff present to answer calls 24/7.

(Elijah Thomas entered the meeting at 7:57 p.m.)

For **stolen vehicles** found on streets, call the Parking Enforcement communications center at 213-485-4184.

Commercial trucks over 22 feet can stop to unload goods on residential streets but cannot park on residential streets. Call 213-485-4184 to report them and have them ticketed and ask for the incident number for follow up.

Some questions from stakeholders, in District 6 why are some streets not posted for street sweeping? CD 15 Field Deputy Nicholas Chavez said that their office is working on the issue. In District 8 on Central Avenue, Metro removes vehicles from the 105 freeway that have broken down or been in accidents and leaves them on Central Avenue. Call 1-800-ABANDON to have them removed. A number of residents of District 4 said that when they park on their blocks on the non-street sweeping weeks, they get tickets anyway. Captain Hill said he would give them his contact information for follow up, as that should not be occurring.

5) Documentation of issues related to oil drilling at the Garner well, 809 W. 126th Street – how to report vibrations, cracking, noise, and odors to Department of City Planning, South Coast AQMD, LA Fire Department, CalGEM: A number of residents have reported impacts from drilling at the Garner well site, 809 W. 126th Street, due to slant drilling from the well and fracking of below ground rock to access oil and gas deposits. Edber Macedo, Department of City Planning, has sent contact information to report such impacts, such as vibrations of homes and apartments, cracking of walls and driveways, noise from the drilling, and odors, such as hydrogen sulfide, benzene, and toluene.

6) Give away of free organic waste pails provided by LA Sanitation: The Neighborhood Council received 25 organic waste pails to give out to residents. Residents just need to fill in their address and zip code on the sign up sheet. The pails are part of the City's effort to reduce the amount of food waste going into the black bins and then to landfills so that the amount of methane which landfills produce is reduced. The initiative is part of the State of California's goal to reduce organic waste 75% by 2025.

7) Administrative motions

a) Approval of \$629.92 to Minuteman Press for October 24 General Membership meeting flyers: It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

b) Approval of \$1,575 to Walking Man for delivery of October 24 General Membership meeting flyers: It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

c) Support for Council File 23-1057 Athens on the Hill Historic-Cultural Designation and possible Historic Preservation Overlay Zone: It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 13-0-0 to support the Council File and file a Community Impact statement.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary