

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. – Room 115

Present: Joan Jacobs (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Majenni Nixon (Treasurer), Laivern Frerichs (District 1), Nita Stonehocker (District 2), Dave Trejo (District 3), Arvie Powell (District 4), Eva Cooper Pace (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Oscar Ruiz (District 8), Frankie Mays (Community Organization), and Craig Kusunoki (At-Large)

1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call: In the absence of Chairperson Miguel Vazquez, Vice Chairperson Joan Jacobs called the meeting to order and welcomed those present at 7:07 p.m. A roll call determined that a quorum was present.

2) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Neighborhood Council's subject matter jurisdiction: There was none.

3) Reports

a) Los Angeles Police Department: No one was able to attend due to scheduling.

b) Council District 15: Field Deputy Nicholas Chavez was unable to be present.

Los Angeles Fire Department: Firefighter Marvin Garcia from West Bureau gave a report, since Battalion 6 Chief Monica Hall was not able to be present. Fire Station 79, 18030 S. Vermont Avenue, has had 1100 EMS calls, 320 non-EMS. 74 calls were for heart attacks, strokes while only 6 were calls for structural fires. He encouraged stakeholders to check smoke detectors on a monthly basis and make sure fire extinguishers are ready for use. Except for a cell phone, do not leave anything with a lithium ion battery plugged in and charging overnight, including electric scooters, as they may generate a fire.

Assemblymember Mike Gipson: Field Representative Moises “Jun” Aglipay highlighted the upcoming Expungement Clinic on July 25 at the Carson Event Center, the discussion about lupus and the kidneys on July 25 at Compton College, and the Fatherhood Conference on August 10 at California State University Dominguez Hills.

(Eva Cooper Pace entered the meeting at 7:28 p.m.)

4) Speaker: Bureau of Street Services – potholes, sidewalks, alleys, street cleaning, urban forestry Dan Halden-Senior Advisor External Relations, Brian Ramirez-Street Tree Superintendent, Sherarade Nichols-Street Resurfacing Superintendent, and John Minix-Acting Maintenance Supervisor II explained their services which take place in the public right-of-way, therefore sidewalks, street, and trees in parkways. Since COVID, street sweeping is now bi-weekly even on posted streets. The City Council sets the cleaning routes. Street Services can do a non-posted cleaning on one day, such as for Imperial Highway. For potholes, submit requests via 311. The MyLA311 app is being upgraded to make it easier to use. The Street Services website will be updated in a few more months. Note the Service Request Number so your request can be tracked. For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, in Council District 15 there were 7,030 miles of streets that were swept, 867 miles of bike lanes swept, and 78,318 square feet of potholes that were filled. The Street Renewal Division handles resurfacing and slurry sealing. Resurfacing cannot be requested via 311 so work with Council District 15 to request this for streets that need it. Bureau of Street Services had the most cuts to staff in the 2024-2025 budget. Therefore, there is no funding to repave alleys this fiscal year. Repaving priorities are determined by an assessment using the Pavement Condition Index (PCI), which rates the condition of streets on a scale of 0 to 100. More details on how Street Services prioritizes repairs can be found on <https://streetsla.lacity.org/how-we-rate-city-streets>

In answer to various questions from stakeholders: repaving of Vermont Avenue from Gardena Blvd. to 169th Street will be delayed until the City Council votes on how to incorporate Measure HLA,

which requires the implementation of bike lanes, bus lanes, wider sidewalks, crosswalks, curb cuts, etc. when at least 1/8 mile of street repavement or 1/8 mile of sidewalk repair takes place so that the goals of the Mobility Plan 2035 are met. Also, Vermont Avenue at that location is all concrete and that requires more funding to repair properly.

Redondo Beach Blvd. repavement is held up due to needing to create curb cuts at the northern section of Orchard Avenue and to need to coordinate with Caltrans on closing the 110 freeway on and off ramps. For damage to tires or suspension caused by the paving on Redondo Beach Blvd. or any other City street, there is a claim for damages on the City Clerk's website:

<https://clerk.lacity.gov/clerk-services/council-and-public-services/file-claim#:~:text=If%20you%20need%20a%20claim,.cps%40lacity.org.&text=What%20information%20should%20be%20included,filling%20out%20a%20claim%20form> It can be submitted online or a paper form can be printed from the website.

The Urban Forestry Division oversees the largest urban tree canopy in the country. The City of Los Angeles has 700,000 street trees. Bureau of Street Services is responsible for tree planting, tree trimming, and tree emergencies. Do not use 311 to request tree trimming. Each year the Bureau of Street Services (StreetsLA) selects large grid areas to trim. Currently, the tree trimming schedule is once every 17 years for a street tree. During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, 2,982 trees were trimmed in Council District 15, 107 trees were planted, and 130 dead trees removed. The response time for removing a tree that has fallen over is 0.6 of a day. Trees can be trimmed if they are creating an obstruction to lighting or visibility of a stop sign.

For landscaped medians, Urban Forestry is responsible for the maintenance of 10.5 million square feet of landscaped medians, though the work is carried out by contractors.

For sidewalk repairs, the Bureau of Engineering is responsible for the repairs, with the Bureau of Street Services acting as the construction contractor. There is currently no funding for on-demand repairs but homeowners can get a no-fee permit to have the work performed themselves. The Bureau of Engineering is allocating \$30 million a year for sidewalk repairs in front of public buildings and other priority locations that have been reported. You can check on whether your broken or lifted sidewalk is on the Bureau of Street Services list by going to <https://sidewalks.lacity.gov/reporting-and-mapping> There is a higher priority for repair for those sidewalks that impact those with a disability.

Is there any support for tree trimming on private property? Not unless the tree impacts a power line and then LADWP can be contacted.

For trees lifting sidewalks and the street itself, request a street tree inspection.

Contact Bureau of Street Services/StreetsLA using streetsla@lacity.org

5) Speaker: Caltrans – how to report homeless encampments, graffiti, trash, weeds, etc.

on Caltrans properties: No speaker from Caltrans was available. Caltrans urges use of their website link for CSR (Customer Service Request) for all issues: <https://csr.dot.ca.gov/> To follow up on CSR requests after some time has passed, either call 213-897-1200 and leave a message for a public affairs staffer or email D7inquiries@dot.ca.gov

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary