

**North Westwood Neighborhood Council**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**April 7th, 2021 from 7:00pm to 10:00pm**  
**Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone**  
**Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83828653843>**  
**Dial (833) 548-0276 to Join the Meeting**  
**Then Enter This Webinar ID: 838 2865 3843 and Press #**

**AGENDA**

(Parenthetical Times Are Just Estimates: Items May be Taken out-of-order without objection)

**VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the North Westwood Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically. Every person wishing to address the Neighborhood Council may dial toll-free, (833) 548-0276, and enter 838 2865 3843 and then press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to give public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting. **Public Speakers**

The public is requested to dial \*9, when prompted by the presiding officer, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. The Council shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the Council on each agenda item before or during the Council's consideration of the item. A member of the public wishing to speak on only one agenda item that is eligible for public comment shall be given an opportunity to speak for up to 2 minutes when that item is considered by Council, or, at the discretion of the Presiding Officer, before consideration of the item.

Members of the public wishing to speak on more than one agenda item at a single meeting shall combine and present their comments addressing the agenda items at or near the beginning of the meeting during a segment called "Multiple Agenda Item Comment." A member of the public speaking on more than one agenda item shall be allowed to speak for up to a total of three minutes per meeting. This will be the only opportunity to speak, other than during General Public Comment, for those members of the public who have submitted speaker cards on more than one agenda item. Comments from the public on other matters, not appearing on the agenda but within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction, will be heard during the General Public Comment period and shall be limited to 2 minutes.

**Americans with Disabilities Act**

As covered under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting

Michael Skiles at

[northwestwoodcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:northwestwoodcouncil@gmail.com).

**Public Access of Records**

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at 1424 Westwood Blvd, at our website, <http://northwestwoodneighborhoodcouncil.org> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact

[northwestwoodcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:northwestwoodcouncil@gmail.com)

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**Regular Board Meeting**

**April 7th, 2021 from 7:00pm to 10:00pm**

**AGENDA**

1. Call-to-order and roll call (2 minutes)

Board Members present: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Josh T, Alisha, Nuha Khalfay, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Peter Clinco

2. Comments by Public Officials or their representatives including but not limited to: (30 minutes)

a. Los Angeles Police Department

Officer Ojeda: Several vehicles Stolen

- Keys are left in cars
- Some Bike thefts in the area as well
  - Register your Bike on BikeIndex.Org
- Bank Robbery attempt in the Village
  - Was taken without incident
- Street robbery - Phone stolen from Student distracted sitting down
- Street robbery - Possible Bus Driver took Student's backpack
  - After person filed report at Station, they left before fully completing report

b. Councilmember Paul Koretz

c. Supervisor Sheila Kuehl

- Zac G: State is expecting to be fully re-opening on June 15th
  - Important to continue to be vigilant in wearing masks/social distancing
  - Increase in vaccine doses in LA County (500k +)
  - By May able to inoculate 1M ppl per week
  - Zac is Rep for Supervisor Kuehl as Metro Board Member
- Michael Skiles: Please relay to the Supervisor that this Council has taken a strong

d. Mayor Eric Garcetti

- Brad Fingard: Westwood has had largest # of new cases of in the City as of late
  - City was offered 106k doses this past week
  - City has administered 62k doses to hardest hit/communities of color
  - City Emergency Renter Application now open on HCID website
  - Renters have to be at or under 30% AMI
  - State of the City Monday, April 18th
  - 145% increase in COVID cases since May 22nd
  - Michael Skiles: Can you look into Controller's report on overtime pay for

lifeguards

- Brad: Will move those comments up the chain in the Mayor's Office

e. Assembly Member Sydney Kamlager-Dove

f. Congressman Ted Lieu

g. Westwood Village Improvement Association (BID)

h. UCLA Government Relations

- Carmen: City has moved into new COVID tier
  - Students will be moving into dorms in the Fall
  - Large lecture halls will be remote
  - No decision made yet on Commencement

-Metro has a new CEO- Stephanie Williams, will try to set-up a meeting with them

Michael: Giving Student options to go Virtual or in-person is key to get best and largest participation

I. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Mario: Any conflict of interest should table any supporting Agenda Items

-May 20th is last day for event approval

-June 20th last date for credit card actions

-NC's may roll-over \$10k in funding

-Michael: Several Candidates did not make the Ballot because of invalid documentation

-Candidates were not made aware of lack of, or improper documentation

Mario: If could get list a Candidates who did not make it to Ballot, will pass along to City Clerk's Office

### 3. Announcements (10 minutes)

Joey: Encourages folks to Apply for Budget Committee as they will be short-staffed next cycle

-Andrew: CHH Committee Hosted a Townhall around Stigma of Homelessness in Westwood

-Recording will be made available publicly

-Nina Long: Arden of EVP has been connected to Alisha of Elections Committee re upcoming Elections

-There will be a an upcoming CD5 Candidates Forum Hosted by EVP Office, details to follow

-Michael: Cannot figure out how to configure settings to show all Panelists

-Please announce who is speaking when one does to identify for folks calling-in

### 4. Multiple Agenda Item Comment Period. (Up to 3 minutes per speaker) 5.

General Public Comment (Up to 2 minutes per speaker)

-Steve Sann: May need to terminate current Council Zoom Account to fix

Panelist viewing Issue

-Names of participants are not listed for public to view

-Sup Kuehl has had to recuse herself from the Metro Sepulveda Pass line because of personal property near Station

### 6. Discussion and possible approval of minutes from the March board meeting. (4 minutes)

Michael: Moves to Approve

Andrew: Second

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Peter Clinco

Abstain: Nuha Khalfay, Josh T

### 7. Discussion and possible approval of the February and March 2021 Monthly Expenditure Reports. (6 minutes)

Joey: February: \$19,200 outstanding

-\$5k to Eoyeokes, \$5k to Village for Vets, \$5k

March: \$33,800 in approved expenditures  
-Move to approve both expenditure reports

Michael: Second

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan, Josh T

Abstain: Peter Clinco

8. Discussion and possible approval of up to \$135 in expenditures to UCLA Student Media/the Daily Bruin for elections advertisement spending from the 2019 election which was erroneously unpaid. (5 minutes)

Joey: One of the invoices that we paid did not go through (Invoice # 294248) - Local print Ad 4x4.5 (rate was

Joey: Moves to approve \$135 in expenditure to UCLA Student media

Michael: Second

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Josh T

9. Discussion and possible approval of a NEIGHBORHOOD PURPOSE GRANT (NPG) of up to \$5000 to World Harvest Food Bank to fund food boxes for families in need. (15 minutes)

Joey: Move to table to next month due to Budget Committee not able to opine on this NPG due to failure to post Agenda to website in proper time

-No Second

-Glen from World Harvest Food Bank: World Harvest has been getting many donations

-Need an additional 2 Pallet Jacks (can lift 4,000 lbs)

-Josh: Does World Harvest Fundraise and does World Harvest have a website?

-Glen: Yes to both, but have not conducted a Fundraiser since the Pandemic

-Michael: Table motion due to NPG wording not being in compliance with Agenda Item wording

-Second: Andrew

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Peter, Nuha, Josh T

10. Discussion and possible approval of an NPG of up to \$5000 to the Westwood Village Improvement Association to provide hygiene kits and restaurant gift cards from participating Westwood vendor(s) to serve unhoused community members. (15 minutes)

-Joey: Move to table to next month due to Budget Committee not able to opine on this NPG due to failure to post Agenda to website in proper time

-No Second on motion to table

-Peter Clinco: Recusing self from Vote due to being WWVIA Treasurer (conflict of interest)

-Josh T: Recusing self due to sitting on WVIA Board (conflict of interest)

-Andrew Thomas: WVIA distributes hygiene kits (toothpaste, socks, etc) that would help fund

-Would also help fund Food Gift Cards from local restaurants for folks in Westwood experiencing Homelessness

-Both kits and cards would be distributed by WVIA's 'Ambassadors'

-Joey: Believes the NPG App should be rectified to include that the restaurants that are owned by NWWNC Board members will not participate in this program or NPG

-Feels uncomfortable voting without that addition

-Michael: This Board has previously voted on matters that affect all Westwood Businesses, would like to hear Andrew Thomas's opinion

-Andrew T: Would be glad to revise the NPG to specifically state NWWNC Board member Businesses will not be reached-out to

-Nuha: Could we circumvent by purchasing

-Andrew: Move to table Motion to give Andrew Thomas with updated Motion with revised NWWNC board member' Businesses recusal language

-Joey: Second

-Andrew: Retract Tabling Motion

-Michael Skiles: Move to move this Agenda Item to after Item 15 to allow Andrew Thomas to re-submit revised NPG

-Noreen: Second

Michael: Move to table to next month to allow for recused Board members to contact City Attorney

Second: Furkan

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Nuha

Nay: Noreen

#### 11. Discussion and possible approval of an NPG for \$5000 to Friends of the Westwood Library to fund purchases of physical books for the Westwood Branch Library. (15 minutes)

-Joey: Applying for NPG for \$5k to buy Books

-Will help make-up for enormous shortfall of funding from the City of LA

-The Westwood Hub is one of the busiest in the City

-Steve Sann: Thank You for the Council's past support of the Library

-Only hardcopy books the City has bought during the Pandemic have been NYT bestsellers (all other local prints have not been purchased)

-No farsi language books were purchased in the past year

-Members of the public can make requests for specific books to include

-Average cost of book is around \$35 (hard-back), \$15 for paper-back

according to Senior Librarian

-Cat: Able to answer questions

-Michael: With some of the world's premiere Libraries at UCLA, the Westwood Library serves a different demographic, would this serve the Community?

-Cat: Yes, public can make requests for books

-Steve: Yes, also the general public does not have access to the UCLA Library System, and can utilize Westwood Library instead

-Joey: Move that NWWNC approve an NPG for \$5k to Westwood library to

purchase physical books

-Michael: Second

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Peter, Nuha

12. Discussion and possible approval of up to \$1,000 of encumbered funds for social media outreach towards paid facebook and instagram ads for the election outreach, and to return \$1,000 to the City. (10 minutes)

-Joey: \$2k would be too much money to be used for social media for Elections outreach purposes, and \$1k is sufficient to advertise the Elections and the difference be returned to the City

-Move that the NWWNC approve the re-purposing of \$1k on FB and Instagram Ads for the '21 NWWNC Elections

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Peter, Nuha

13. Discussion and possible approval of up to \$500 in expenditures to Westwood Copies for lawn signs for election outreach. (5 minutes)

Alisha: There are two Sign options available, similar to last Election cycle NWWNC Signs

-Nina: Could make font bigger on Signs for folks driving by to see Election Date

-Joey: Motion to approve up to \$500 to Westwood copies for lawn signs for the NWWNC Elections

-Alisha: Second

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Peter, Nuha

14. Discussion and possible approval of up to \$500 in expenditures on paid twitter ads for election outreach. (10 minutes)

-Joey: Move that the NWWNC approve a payment of \$500 to Twitter to encourage Voters to return Ballots for the '21 Elections

-Alisha: Second

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Peter, Nuha

15. Discussion and possible approval of an amended Administrative Packet and Budget for the 2020-2021 Fiscal year. (15 minutes)

-Joey: Allocated \$32k for this fiscal year (the City did not roll-over \$10k from last year)

-Move that NWWNC Approvel of an updated 2020-2021 Administative Packet and Budget consisting of \$9,482.53 for General and Operational Expditures, \$49,805.31 for Neighborhood Purposes Grants Expenditures, and \$0.00 for Community Improvement Projects for a total fiscal year 2020-2021 expenditures of \$59,287.84.

Michael: Second

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin, Peter, Nuha

16. Discussion and possible resolution with respect to Council File 21-0002-S18 (Koretz), a resolution that the City of Los Angeles should oppose CA Senate Bill 9 (Atkins) which would require cities and counties, including charter cities, to provide for the ministerial ('by right) approval of a housing development containing two residential units (a duplex), and a parcel map dividing a lot into two equal parts ('lot split'), for residential use; and exempts environmental review; and would approve these projects without discretionary review, or a public hearing. (10 minutes)

Michael: Move that the NWWNC would take an oppositional approach to Koretz's Opposition of SB 9

-Joey: Second

-Michael: this is in spirit of fighting exclusionary zoning and practices that sought to restrict who could live in neighborhoods

-Josh: Lot splits are currently legal, it's the duplex that is the point of contention

-Peter: This would alter the aesthetic and reasons people live to neighborhoods

-Michael: This is not a mandate from the State telling people what to do with their property, rather its giving the option to do as they see fit

-Nuha: Expressing Support for this Bill, and doesn't think it goes far enough, the Bill still stipulates that even after the split

-Furkan: Appreciates this discussion, and hearing from both sides, personally believes that there is expectation of what houses in a neighborhood would be

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin Nuha

Nay: Peter Clinco, Josh T

Meeting Adjourned 10:50pm

17. Discussion and possible resolution with respect to Council File 21-0002-S21 (Koretz), a resolution that the City of Los Angeles should oppose CA Senate Bill 10 (Wiener) which requires that cities allow midrise, medium-density housing on sites that are either within one-half mile of high-quality public transportation or within a jobs-rich, high-opportunity neighborhood dose to key job centers. (10 minutes)

18. Discussion and possible Community Impact Statement authorization concerning [Council File 20-0197] LA Social Housing "Los Angeles needs a dramatic increase in low-income, affordable, and mid-range work-force housing. Westwood Village specifically is one of the most rent-burdened neighborhoods in Los Angeles. A potential solution is social housing -- built and owned by the government. Social housing is generally mixed

income, adequately served by public transportation, has access to amenities and shops, regulated to deter discrimination, and self-financed after the initial public investment, with tenants paying rent on a sliding scale." (15 minutes)

Aye: Andrew Lewis, Michael Skiles, Nina Long, Joey Russel, Alisha, Noreen Ahmed, Wren Reynolds, Furkan Yalcin Nuha

19. Discussion and possible Community Impact Statement authorization concerning (CF 21-0062)- PERMANENT RENTAL RELIEF REGISTRY (CF 21-0062): "Far too many residents of our City are at risk of falling into homelessness, and Student renters such as those in Westwood are especially vulnerable. Study after study has proven that prevention of homelessness is far more cost effective for a city than rehousing the same person when they become homeless. In order to better prepare for the waves of housing needs, the City must acknowledge that there is a permanent citywide need for rental assistance and create a standing registry for residents who need help. Residents signing up for the registry should be able to securely request help from the City. In return the City will be able to triage assistance to those who will need the most help paying back rent and avoiding future eviction." (15 minutes)
20. Discussion and possible Community Impact Statement authorization concerning Council File 20-0875 - "Removing Armed Officers from Traffic Enforcement: "Law enforcement agencies nationwide and here in Los Angeles have long used minor traffic infractions as a pretext for harassing vulnerable road users and profiling people of color. This is no different in Westwood, where students and community members of color have historically been disproportionately targeted by LAPD/UCPD. The Los Angeles Police Department's history of misusing traffic enforcement has fostered decades of distrust in communities of color that ultimately undermines true traffic safety initiatives. Data has shown that Los Angeles police officers stop and search Black and Latino motorists far more often than whites. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is considering replacing armed law enforcement with alternatives such as a transit ambassador program, design strategies, and alternative crisis response models for mental health and substance abuse incidents. Now is the time for the City of Los Angeles to reevaluate how to best structure and fund efforts to provide public safety." (10 minutes)
21. Discussion and possible Community Impact Statement authorization concerning Vote for CF #21-0002-S8 - LADOT's legislative priorities: "The LA DOT legislative priorities include several reforms that would bring several benefits to the Westwood Community including our pedestrian and community well-being : 1 - Reforming state law, allowing LA to lower speed limits (today LA doesn't have control over its own speed limits) 2 - Automating speeding tickets using speed safety cameras. Speed is the #1 factor in determining if someone lives or dies when hit by a car, and speed cameras are a proven solution to reduce excessive speeding. Armed officers must be removed from traffic law enforcement, and this is a great way to do it. LADOT has a thoughtful proposal that takes into account privacy and makes sure the burden doesn't fall disproportionately on communities that can least afford it. 3 - Increase legal protections for the most vulnerable



road users (pedestrians and cyclists). This would increase civil fines and penalties in the event of crashes caused by carelessness or driver distraction (ex. texting). 4 - Get rid of handicap placard abuse by reforming the benefits they provide and increasing enforcement, so we can preserve handicap spots for those that truly need it." (10 minutes)

22. Discussion and possible resolution with respect to WRAC Motion on Senate Bill 15 (Portantino) and Senate Constitutional Amendment 2 (Allen and Wiener) "The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) recognizes the need for positive solutions to the state's affordable housing crisis, specifically as it relates to workforce and low-to-moderate income housing. Solutions should involve legislation that 1) focuses on increasing the production and supply of truly affordable housing; 2) does not compromise public safety or the environment; and 3) respects principles of democracy, local land use control and self-determination of local governments to expand housing opportunities unique to their jurisdictions. WRAC supports Senate Bill 15 (Portantino) and Senate Constitutional Amendment 2 (Allen and Wiener) as examples of positive legislation that forward the goal of achieving more affordable housing consistent with these principles." (10 minutes)

23. Adjournment