

THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS OF  
THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES PRESENT

# Bridging the Gap

*Bringing Government Closer to the People*



**2013 LA CONGRESS  
OF NEIGHBORHOODS**



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2013**

**7:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. • CITY HALL - 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles**



# CONGRATULATIONS

## EmpowerLA Award Winners

These awards celebrate Neighborhood Councils furthering positive perceptions of their work, providing a platform for sharing best practices and encouraging high standards as they work to engage community members and work with the City to address local needs.

**CENTRAL:** Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC)

**EAST:** Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

**HARBOR:** Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council

**NORTH VALLEY:** Northridge West Neighborhood Council

**SOUTH:** Empowerment Congress West Area Neighborhood Development Council, Park Mesa Heights Community Council, Empowerment Congress Central Area Neighborhood Development Council, Empowerment Congress North Area Neighborhood Development Council

**SOUTH VALLEY:** Reseda Neighborhood Council

**WEST:** South Robertson Neighborhood Council

### NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ALLIANCES

**ARCLA** - Alliance of River Communities

**HANC** - Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils

**LANCC** - Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition

**NECA** - North East Central Alliance of LA Neighborhood Councils

**NELA** - North East Los Angeles

**PlanCheckNC**

**SLAANC** - South Los Angeles Area Neighborhood Councils

**VANC** - Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils

**WRAC** - Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

### NC BUDGET ADVOCATES



## 2013 LA CONGRESS OF NEIGHBORHOODS



# Welcome to the 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods

## GREETINGS FROM CINDY CLEGHORN, NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL CONGRESS CHAIR



On behalf of the NC Congress Planning Committee I want to welcome you to the 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods. The theme **Bridging the Gap – Bringing Government Closer to the People** will bring you, your neighborhood council and your stakeholders closer to "Bridging the Gap" with our City. We have much to do in our day to day work in our communities. Its time to get closer and its time to build on the work our Neighborhood Councils have done and continue

to do each day.

Congress registrations indicate that about 50% of those here today have been involved with your Neighborhood Council for less than five years and many are here at City Hall for the first time. Thank you for being involved in making a difference in your community. By attending the Congress you are able to make new contacts, meet one on one with City representatives and elected officials and learn more about the various topics and issues at the workshops.

The Congress would not be possible without the support of our Neighborhood Councils. Thank you for helping with the costs and making it possible to hold the Congress. Thank you to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment - EmpowerLA for your support and guidance. We especially thank Thomas Soong for his dedication to taking care of many details. As you will see on the Acknowledgements page we have many volunteers from around the City who have given of their time and expertise. They are dedicated to Neighborhood Councils and dedicated to making the Congress a success.

We are honored to have a number of City officials here with us today. Many of them were running for office about this time last year. But, now the votes are in and they are getting settled and we look forward to building relationships with respect and honesty. We have new City Councilmembers, a new City Controller, City Attorney and Mayor. This is all the more reason to work on Bridging the Gap and realizing that seat at the table. Please be sure to speak one on one with each of them today either in their respective workshops or here in City Hall.

As you will see we have some great volunteers on site today. The Naval Sea Cadets are here to join with us in the Opening Session and to also help during our workshops as assistants and camera operators. Many will be directing attendees throughout the day. The Poly High Cooking Club are catering today's event from breakfast through to lunch. Please be sure to say hello and thank you to these dedicated volunteers.

As Neighborhood Council leaders we believe its important for us to be **Bridging the Gap – Bringing Government Closer to the People**. How we do this is our challenge. Build those relationships today. This is YOUR Congress!

Thank you for your participation today!

*Cindy Cleghorn, Chair*  
2013 Neighborhood Council Congress

## PURPOSE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS:

To promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs.

— Los Angeles City Charter, Article IX

## GREETINGS FROM GRAYCE LIU, GENERAL MANAGER, DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT



It is truly a pleasure to welcome you to the annual Congress of Neighborhoods where Neighborhood Council Board members and stakeholders across the City of Los Angeles come to learn, share and celebrate all things Neighborhood Councils. You'll have an opportunity to mix it up and mingle not only with one another today, but also with your electeds and department representatives as you learn the most effective ways to collaborate with City Hall

for the benefit of your communities.

Once again, the Congress Planning Committee, chaired by the amazing Cindy Cleghorn from the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council and PlanCheckNC, has pulled together a wonderful program for the day. Without their dedication over the past many months, there would be no Congress so please be sure to share your gratitude with them. In addition to the Congress Planning Committee, I also want to thank our staff, especially our Congress lead, Thomas Soong, for his excellent work as well as the Mayor's Office, City Councilmembers, City departments, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners and workshop presenters for supporting this event.

Neighborhood Councils are uniquely poised to deliver on the Congress of Neighborhoods theme this year: **Bridging the Gap – Bringing Government Closer to the People**. Created by the City Charter to be a conduit between Angelenos and City Hall, I have seen our volunteer Neighborhood Council members stepping up to the challenge of creating a new and more effective way to increase meaningful civic participation in Los Angeles. From public safety to land use and planning, street services to City budgeting, Neighborhood Councils are at the table, making their voices heard. It takes knowledgeable and passionate people to build a strong Neighborhood Council, and you will definitely find both the knowledge and the passion at the Congress today.

Thank you very much for being at the Congress of Neighborhoods and for making the investment to Empower Yourself, Empower Your Community and Empower LA. Have a great day!

*Grayce Liu, General Manager*  
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment



# 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods

## **BRIDGING THE GAP – Bringing Government Closer To The People**

**HOSTED BY THE 95 CERTIFIED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

**Saturday, September 28, 2013 • 7:45 AM - 4 PM • City Hall • 200 N. Spring Street • Los Angeles**

Planning for the 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods began February, 2013, with a team of dedicated neighborhood council and stakeholder volunteers.

The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment / EmpowerLA staff also gave their time, patience and expertise. Meetings were held throughout the City of Los Angeles, in an effort to engage the diversity of our City and bring the best workshop sessions to the Congress by and for neighborhood council leaders and stakeholders.

### **2013 HOST COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS**

#### **CHAIRPERSON**

Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga NC

#### **OVERALL EVENT LOGISTICS**

Heinrich Keifer, Historic Highland Park NC

#### **WORKSHOPS**

Tony Wilkinson, Panorama City NC – Leader  
Carolyn Casavan, Sherman Oaks NC  
Glenn Bailey, Encino NC

#### **EXHIBITORS**

Reuben Martinez, Atwater Village NC  
Marlene Savage, Mid City West NC

#### **CATERING**

Krystee Clark, Sunland-Tujunga NC

#### **SPONSORS/FUNDRAISING**

Randy Waller, Westlake NC  
Jay Handal, West LA NC  
Marlene Savage, Mid City West NC

#### **REGISTRATION & NAME BADGES**

Randy Waller, Westlake NC

#### **PHOTOGRAPHERS / FILMING**

Chuck Loring, North Hollywood North East NC  
Krystee Clark, Sunland-Tujunga NC

### **SPECIAL THANKS TO**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT**

##### **EmpowerLA.org**

Grayce Liu, General Manager  
Thomas Soong,

Project Coordinator – Community Strategist

#### **LA CITY STAFF**

Pierre Riotoc, LA City General Services  
Ben Flores, Fire Marshall  
Hector Graciano, Watch Commander, General Svs  
Russ Bellenot & Ed Santacruz, Council Audio  
Los Angeles City, Information Technology Agency

#### **WEBSITE / MARKETING /**

#### **PRESS / SOCIAL MEDIA**

EmpowerLA Newsletter  
KPCC  
Lydia Grant, Sunland-Tujunga NC  
Nina Royal, North Valley Reporter  
Denyse Selesnick, Tarzana NC  
Stephen Box, EmpowerLA

#### **SIGNS**

Office Depot

#### **CAMERA OPERATORS**

Chuck Loring, North Hollywood North East NC  
Naval Sea Cadets  
Joe Barrett, Sunland-Tujunga Alliance

#### **AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS**

Mark Seigel, Sunland-Tujunga NC

#### **HOSPITALITY & DIGNITARIES**

Denyse Selesnick, Tarzana NC  
Jill Barad, Sherman Oaks NC  
Lydia Grant, Sunland-Tujunga NC  
Reuben Martinez, Atwater Village NC  
Marlene Savage, Mid City West NC  
Vas Singh, Porter Ranch NC  
William Ratner, Canoga Park NC

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL AND STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH**

Nina Royal, Sunland-Tujunga NC  
Frank Wada - Lincoln Heights NC  
Suzanne Lewis, NC Valley Village  
Ivan Spiegel, Venice NC  
Glenn Bailey, Encino NC

#### **CONGRESS PROGRAM BOOK / EDITING**

Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga NC  
Jill Barad, Sherman Oaks NC  
Lydia Grant, Sunland-Tujunga NC

#### **LAPEL PIN DESIGN**

Krystee Clark, Sunland-Tujunga NC

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

Naval Sea Cadets  
Ham Radio Operators -  
ARES Volunteer Emergency Response Team  
Poly High School Cooking Club

#### **HOSTING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

*SPECIAL THANKS for the locations and coordinators of committee meeting space – we tried our best to make it around the City.*

Kaiser Permanente, Harbor City  
Van Nuys City Hall  
Hollywood Constituent Center  
Glassell Park NC Community Center  
Alisa Smith, Glassell Park Improvement Assn.  
Leonard Shaffer, President, BONC  
North Valley Neighborhood City Hall, Tujunga  
Bob's Big Boy Restaurant, Sun Valley  
West LA Constituent Center

#### **VENDORS**

AAA Rents  
Crystal Audio  
Goodway Copy & Print  
OK Trophy  
Intercontinental Interpreting Translation Svs  
The Web Corner  
Poly High School Cooking Club

#### **CONGRESS DAY VOLUNTEER**

#### **COORDINATION**

William Ratner, Canoga Park NC  
Reuben Martinez, Atwater Village NC  
Heinrich Keifer, Historic Highland Park NC  
Mark Seigel, Sunland-Tujunga NC

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Mayor Eric Garcetti  
City Controller Ron Galperin  
City Attorney Mike Feuer

Los Angeles City Council  
for their support of the NC Congress 2013

#### **BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS**

Leonard Shaffer, Interim President  
Linda Lucks, Karen Mack, Ametta Mack,  
Victor Medina, Olivia Rubio

#### **INFORMATION TABLES / EXHIBIT TABLES**

Office of the Mayor  
Office of the City Controller  
Office of the City Attorney  
Office of the City Clerk  
Bureau of Sanitation  
Bureau of Engineering / Public Works  
Bureau of Street Services  
Department of Building and Safety  
Department of City Planning  
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment / EmpowerLA  
Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, Community & Senior Services  
Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department  
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power  
LADOT Safe Moves  
311 Call Center  
The Ratepayer Advocate

Excel Interpreting, LLC  
Partners in Diversity  
Language Line Solutions  
Beacon Management Group  
MOA Wellness Center  
Make Music LA  
Living Art Los Angeles  
Christine Lee / Korean Business Ventures  
Health Services

**THANK YOU** to all who may not be included in the program.

# 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

The 37 different programs offered at this Congress have been designed by neighborhood council leaders to be practical how-to types of sessions. You will receive a broad overview for each subject along with a hand-out referring to resources you can use, that will help increase your knowledge on how to take local action. Audio and video from all these sessions will be available on the [NCCongressLA.com](http://NCCongressLA.com) website. A link to this resource will be available on the EmpowerLA website at [empowerla.org](http://empowerla.org) in the near future.

**7:45 am – 8:30 am REGISTRATION, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, CITY DEPARTMENT EXHIBITS, NETWORKING**  
City Hall Rotunda

**8:30 am – 9:15 am OPENING SESSION / CALL TO ORDER / COLOR GUARD / FLAG SALUTE – City Council Chambers**  
Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga NC, Chair NC Congress Planning Committee

#### CONTRIBUTORS TO THE 2013 NC CONGRESS

##### INTRODUCTIONS:

2013 NC Congress Planning Committee  
Board of Neighborhood Commissioners  
Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

WELCOME: Grayce Liu, General Manager, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment / EmpowerLA

INTRODUCTIONS: City Controller Ron Galperin, City Attorney Mike Feuer, City Council President Herb Wesson,  
Members of the Los Angeles City Council, City Departments and other dignitaries.

KEYNOTE: Mayor Eric Garcetti

**9:15 am – 9:25 am BREAK**

**9:25 am – 10:40 am SESSION ONE: HALF SESSIONS – These Workshops are 35 minutes each**

#### NC ELECTION CHAIRS WORKSHOP BY EMPOWER LA – Public Works Room

**Presenter:** Stephen Box, EmpowerLA

EmpowerLA's Stephen Box and Glenn Bailey joins the City Clerk's Isaias Cantu, and Chris Garcia in an overview of the 2014 Neighborhood Council Elections that is designed for Election Chairs but open to anyone with an interest in promoting participatory democracy at the grassroots level. Topics will include the respective roles of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the City Clerk, the timeline for elections, the Election Procedures, and the process for participating as Independent Election Administrators, Poll Managers, Poll Volunteer, Candidate, Election Committee volunteer, and as a voter. Election Chairs will receive their initial Election 2014 Packets.

#### NC ELECTION OUTREACH WORKSHOP BY EMPOWER LA – Public Works Room

**Presenter:** Stephen Box, EmpowerLA

Neighborhood Council Election Outreach - EmpowerLA's Stephen Box and Glenn Bailey joins the City Clerk's Isaias Cantu, and Chris Garcia in a breakdown of outreach strategies for the upcoming 2014 Neighborhood Council Elections. This workshop is designed for Outreach Chairs but is open to anyone with a passion for great storytelling that puts Neighborhood Councils in the spotlight and engages the community in the single greatest outreach opportunity of the year, Neighborhood Council Elections. Outreach Chairs will receive their initial Election 2014 Outreach Packets.

#### LADWP ENERGY: Efficiency Opportunities for Stakeholders – Room 1010

#### LADWP WATER: Conservation, Turf Removal, Groundwater Update, Stormwater Capture – Room 1010

**Presenter:** Wing Tam, Assistant Watershed Program Manager, Bureau of Sanitation, City of Los Angeles

#### C4C: Councils for Councils – Room 1060

**Presenters:** Jay Handal, Dee Olomajeye, Martha Benedict, Patti Berman, Leyla Campos

Having issues in your Neighborhood Council? Need advice? Need mentoring? Want an NC peer to help?

**9:25 am – 10:40 am SESSION ONE: FULL SESSIONS – One Hour & 10 Minutes Workshops**

#### MEET YOUR CITY OFFICIALS – City Council Chambers

*Invited dignitaries include: LA City Councilmembers, City Department Managers. After introductory remarks, you will be able to interact with the city officials and their staff.*

#### HOW NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS WORK – 4th Floor Media Room

**Presenter:** Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian, Venice NC

There are many things that each Neighborhood Council board member needs to know to be effective. A Neighborhood Council is a government entity that holds public meetings. There are regulations for notifying your stakeholders as to what will happen at your meetings and how they can participate. You will learn procedures needed to make your meetings engaging and productive. There are financial reporting requirements to follow and monies entrusted to the board members to allocate. At this workshop, you will learn about the important roles that committees play in helping the board reach decisions as well as best practices that councils should employ.

*PLEASE, name badge needed for all events*

# 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & PUBLIC SAFETY – Room 1050**

**Presenters:** Nina Royal, Treasurer & Safety Committee Chair, Sunland-Tujunga NC, Mona Curry, Emergency Management Coordinator

**Panel:** Sgt. Herrold Egger, LAPD Foothill Division; Lori Lee, LAPD Foothill Division; Mark Seigel, Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner, Sunland-Tujunga NC; Linda Pruett, CPAB & Lake Balboa NC.

This workshop has a dual focus and will be devoted to disaster preparedness. Learn how you and your neighborhood can take care of itself during a major disaster, such as an earthquake. Training and maintaining a local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is one way Neighborhood Councils can help.

In the wake of a major disaster, emergency response services may be inundated with requests for support. Community members must be prepared to help one another until support becomes available. This means practicing “neighbor helping neighbor” and the provision of a well thought out and tested Neighborhood Disaster Plan to outline what roles community members can fulfill, who may need extra help, and provide a clear, organized strategy for community response.

This response project is the first of its kind in terms of utilization of the Incident Command System at the neighborhood level and implementation of a comprehensive yet concise approach to response. Moreover, the City’s Neighborhood Disaster Response Plan Toolkit will empower hundreds of LA neighborhoods to improve disaster readiness.

## **YOUTH, GANGS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT – Room 1040**

**Moderator:** Kevin Taylor, Reseda NC

Growing up in an urban area poses special challenges. This is particularly true in lower income neighborhoods, where ethnic identities, the sense of “turf”, and fewer life options can lead the most vulnerable youth out of mainstream life and into gangs. This workshop will cover ways in which the City, the community, and young people themselves are working to assure that all youth have options. It will cover a range of topics that may include the City’s Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) program, youth programs of the L A Police Department, the role of the arts in community-building opportunities, collaboratives, such as the San Fernando Valley Coalition on Gangs, the Safe Routes to Schools program, the work of ministries and social service organizations, and programs in which young people themselves interact to provide peer counseling and support. Learn the many opportunities for neighborhood councils to improve both youth opportunities and safety in the neighborhoods they serve.

## **HOW TO BRING NEW BUSINESSES TO YOUR COMMUNITY – Room 1020**

**Moderator:** Lydia Grant, Parent Rep, Sunland-Tujunga NC

**Presenters:** Jan Perry, Deputy Mayor - Office of Economic Development

How often do we hear “I wish I could shop in my own community, my own neighborhood”? How will the City’s new Economic Development Department help Neighborhood Councils collaborate and influence the businesses they need and want and that will revitalize LA’s economy and fill empty stores, industrial sites and more? What small and large businesses are needed? More filming in LA? International trade? Tourism? Affordable housing? Restaurants? Shops? Services (medical, dental, etc.) ? What can we do now and how soon can we get started?

## **FUNDING PROGRAM BASICS FOR EVERYONE – Room 1025**

**Presenters:** Armando Ruiz/Betty Wong Oyama, EmpowerLA Staff

DONE offers “Treasurer Training” that is required for every new treasurer of a Neighborhood Council. However, the board members who vote to allocate the funds and select vendors should also understand how the system works. In this workshop, DONE will tailor the funding course for a more general audience. Included will be basic information such as, what can and cannot be purchased, the relationship of expenditures to the council’s budget, and what documentation your treasurer needs in order to pay your bills.

Learn about Neighborhood Purposes Grants, when they are required, and the responsibility of the council to follow up to verify the use of the grant. Also discussed are the financial reports that must be approved by board members each month, and how to check online to see what has been purchased by your council. It is important that Neighborhood Council funding is transparent to everyone, including the community.

## **UNDERSTANDING SB1818 (BONUS DENSITY) & AFFORDABLE HOUSING – Room 1070**

**Presenters:** Gil Cedillo, Councilman District 1, Noel Weiss, Attorney, Ed Novy, Sunland-Tujunga NC Homeowners Rep, NC Budget Advocate

At this session you will find out the affects on our communities with projects planned and/or built using the SB1818 bonus density option and if the City should look to updating its Implementation Plan. You’ll also find out where the money comes from for these proposals.

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: There’s Strength in Numbers – Room 1035**

**Presenters:** Tony Braswell, President NC Valley Village

What is a community partnership? How to build effective partnerships? Who are potential partners? What to do to strengthen and maintain the partnerships for the long term?

**10:40 am – 10:50 am BREAK**

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# 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

**10:50 pm – 12 noon SESSION TWO: HALF SESSIONS – These Workshops are 35 minutes each**

## **NC ELECTION OUTREACH WORKSHOP BY EMPOWERLA – Public Works Room**

**Presenter:** J. Stephen Box, EmpowerLA

Neighborhood Council Election Outreach - EmpowerLA's Stephen Box and Glenn Bailey joins the City Clerk's Isaias Cantu, and Chris Garcia in an breakdown of outreach strategies for the upcoming 2014 Neighborhood Council Elections. This workshop is designed for Outreach Chairs but is open to anyone with a passion for great storytelling that puts Neighborhood Councils in the spotlight and engages the community in the single greatest outreach opportunity of the year, Neighborhood Council Elections. Outreach Chairs will receive their initial Election 2014 Outreach Packets.

## **YOU CAN BUILD A NEIGHBORHOOD DISASTER PLAN IN JUST 5 STEPS – Public Works Room**

**Presenter:** Mona Curry, Emergency Management Coordinator

In the wake of a major disaster, emergency response services may be inundated with requests for support. Community members must be prepared to help one another until support becomes available. This means practicing “neighbor helping neighbor” and the provision of a well thought out and tested Neighborhood Disaster Plan to outline what roles community members can fulfill, who may need extra help, and provide a clear, organized strategy for community response.

This response project is the first of its kind in terms of utilization of the Incident Command System at the neighborhood level and implementation of a comprehensive yet concise approach to response. Moreover, the City's Neighborhood Disaster Response Plan Toolkit will empower hundreds of LA neighborhoods to improve disaster readiness.

**10:50 pm – 12 noon SESSION TWO: FULL SESSIONS – One Hour & 10 Minutes Workshops**

## **ETHICS & OPEN GOVERNMENT (State-Required Training) Session 1 of 2 – Room 1050**

**Presenter:** Darren Martinez, Managing Deputy City Attorney, Neighborhood Council Advice Division General Counsel Division

**IMPORTANT: You must take the second half (Session 3, after lunch) of this workshop to complete your Ethics Training requirement and receive your certificate of completion.**

Government Code section 53235 requires Ethics Training for local government officials. This second part of the Ethics Training covers bribery and extortion, misuse of authority for private benefit, limitations on mass mailings, and prohibition on the use of public funds for political purposes. Most of the training will be spent covering the State open meetings law and the Brown Act, which controls many aspects of Neighborhood Council operation. The California Public Records Act also applies to Neighborhood Councils, and its strict deadlines for compliance will be covered. Finally, City rules on competitive bidding will be described, along with City rules for entering into contracts.

## **REORGANIZATION: A New Structure for Building & Safety and City Planning – Room 1060**

**Presenters:** Tyler Munhall, Sr. Admin. Analyst, City Administrative Office and Gary Goelitz, Matrix Consulting

### **Creation of a New Development Services Department**

Earlier this year, former Mayor Villaraigosa and the City Council approved the creation of a new development services department to deliver all services currently provided by the Departments of City Planning and Building and Safety. Additionally, planning functions from the Department of Transportation, plan-check functions from the Fire Department, and land use planning functions from the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering were approved for transfer to the new department. The new department is tentatively scheduled to become effective January 1, 2014. To get feedback and ideas from residents and Neighborhood Council members about the new department, and to provide information about its implementation, the City's consultant working on the project, Matrix Consulting Group, will be conducting a workshop in Session 2. The workshop will consist of a brief overview of the project followed by a question and answer session. Please come and make your voice heard and learn how the City is planning to improve delivery of its development services. The consultant's report is due early October and you may see an early draft at the Congress.

## **BE HEARD: Learn How to Submit Community Impact Statements and Track the Legislative Process – Room 1035**

**Presenter:** Shannon Hoppes, Office of the City Clerk

You will learn how to use available online tools such as the Council File Management System to track the Council's legislative process, view items pending in Council Committees, view department reports, and receive automatic updates on file activity. You will see how to access the Early Notification System to subscribe to the City's agendas, Council journals and referrals and receive them by email. You will also learn how to file a Community Impact Statement, an official statement from your Neighborhood Council, and have it placed on the Council file. More importantly, you'll learn that when your Board takes a position on an issue, that's only the beginning of your work. Your council needs to actively promote its position through email and telephone calls to officials, through your web site, and through personal appearances at City Council meetings and committees.

*PLEASE, name badge needed for all events*

# 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## **DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP SKILLS – Room 1070**

**Presenter:** Jill Banks Barad, Founder and Chair Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils, President Sherman Oaks NC

What are the traits that make a successful leader? This workshop is designed for Neighborhood Council presidents and board members to build the know-how and confidence to lead their councils, conduct successful meetings, work effectively with an Executive Committee, and motivate their boards and committees to be functioning and effective. Also, how to conduct a meaningful Retreat to build rapport and work as a team.

**The topics will include:** Developing the social skills necessary to be a leader; how to put together a meeting that will ensure action, attract the public and keep within time constraints; how to maintain control at meetings and still be fair; and how to deal with public comment, controversial issues and difficult people. Leaders are made, not born!

## **TIPS ON DEALING WITH DIFFICULT PEOPLE – Room 1025**

**Presenter:** Michele Brooke, Esq.

As a firm providing legal services to clients related to domestic violence and civil harassment restraining orders, the Brooke Law Group is well-versed in understanding and dealing with difficult personalities.

In her lecture [Tips on Dealing with Difficult People](#), Attorney Brooke will place particular emphasis on recognizing and dealing with adult bullies. Adult bullies can be particularly difficult people to interact with. In addition, adults bullying fellow adults can be just as traumatic and frustrating for the bullied adult, as any young person may experience on the schoolyard or through social media. How do we recognize an adult bully? What can we do if targeted by an adult bully? And what steps can be taken if bullying behavior cannot be curtailed before things get out of hand? Attorney Brooke will present a general overview of different kinds of restraining orders.

As members of the general public and civil servants, dealing with different personalities can be a challenge. We hope this workshop will provide the attendee with constructive tools for better interactions and more productive community relationships. More information on the Brooke Law Group can be found at: [www.brookelawgroup.com](http://www.brookelawgroup.com).

## **PLANNING AND LAND USE 102: How to Use Planning Packets /Housing, Health & Wellness Elements – 4th Floor Media Room**

**Presenters:** Challis Macpherson, Venice NC and Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga NC PlanCheckNC Steering Committee

What should Neighborhood Council land use committees do with the packets that come in the mail from City Planning for new projects? At this workshop you will find out what other NCs are doing.

## **LA CITY'S TRANSPORTATION TOPICS – Room 1040**

### **THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX: Gaining Real Power, Instead of Just Pretending – Room 1010**

**Presenters:** Bob Gelfand, Greg Nelson, Doug Epperhart, Jack Humphreville

Neighborhood Council participants complain bitterly that they are ignored or insulted by elected officials. This workshop will explore ways to build and keep real political power that goes beyond just “begging” for favors. We will explore the use of the Neighborhood Council as the point of connection for the creation of non-governmental organizations (how this was used to defeat a powerful developer in the Harbor area), the use of the referendum and recall power, the MOU, and other proposals. Panelists include those people who developed the system from the beginning and were instrumental in winning serious reforms.

### **BEST PRACTICES IN OUTREACH TO STAKEHOLDERS AND CITY GOVERNMENT – City Council Chambers**

**Moderator:** Leonard Shaffer, BONC Commissioner & Board Member Tarzana NC

**Panel:** Winners of the 2013 BONC EmpowerLA Awards

Come hear from this year's award winners about their successful efforts to reach out and involve community members and to partner with City Departments to get things done in their neighborhoods.

### **LEGISLATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS – Taking it to the next level – Room 1020**

**Moderator:** Lydia Grant, Parent Rep – Sunland-Tujunga NC, **Speakers:** Mike Davis, Former Assemblymember/Commissioner, Board of Public Works

What can we do here in L.A. and beyond to be more politically active? How can Neighborhood Councils help promote the needs of our communities and the City in Sacramento? How does legislation work? How do we contact our electeds in Sacramento?

**12:05 pm – 1:10 pm LUNCH – City Hall Forecourt**

**1:10 pm – 2:25 pm SESSION THREE: HALF SESSIONS – These Workshops are 35 minutes each**

#### **TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY ELEMENT & SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL – Room 1060**

**Moderator:** Glenn Bailey

**Presenter:** Claire Bowin

#### **TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY ELEMENT & ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION – Room 1060**

**Moderator:** Glenn Bailey

**Presenter:** Claire Bowin

*PLEASE, name badge needed for all events*



# 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## LADWP BAY DELTA PROJECT / LADWP LOCAL PROJECTS – Public Works Room

### LADWP LOCAL PROJECTS: THE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROCESS – Public Works Room

**Presenter:** Gabe Vargas, Civil Engineering Associate – Water Distribution Engineering and Greg Bartz, LADWP Community Relations Liaison

One of LADWP's core missions is to provide a reliable supply of safe, high-quality water, at the lowest reasonable cost, to the City of Los Angeles. The water infrastructure and related construction work has been highly visible in recent years across the city, whether due to news stories about major initiatives to comply with new Federal mandates, public notices regarding road closures or media coverage of a broken water main. This workshop will focus on an important part of the overall water system – water main lines, which serve every neighborhood and customer – and the process involved in getting this essential piece of the infrastructure installed and operational, all while still maintaining service to area customers and mitigating the impacts the project has on the community. As an added bonus and if time allows, we're planning on having a short segment called "Focus on Communities" so that attendees will be able to see what projects are ongoing or planned in their neighborhood. Be the first to know!

## 1:10 pm – 2:25 pm **SESSION THREE: FULL SESSIONS – One Hour & 10 Minutes Workshops**

### **ETHICS & OPEN GOVERNMENT (State-Required Training) Session 2 of 2 – Room 1050**

**Presenter:** Darren Martinez, Managing Deputy City Attorney, Neighborhood Council Advice Division General Counsel Division  
**IMPORTANT: You must take the first half (Session 2, before lunch) of this workshop to complete your Ethics Training requirement and receive your certificate of completion.**

Government Code section 53235 requires Ethics Training for local government officials. This second part of the Ethics Training covers bribery and extortion, misuse of authority for private benefit, limitations on mass mailings, and prohibition on the use of public funds for political purposes. Most of the training will be spent covering the State open meetings law and the Brown Act, which controls many aspects of Neighborhood Council operation. The California Public Records Act also applies to Neighborhood Councils, and its strict deadlines for compliance will be covered. Finally, City rules on competitive bidding will be described, along with City rules for entering into contracts.

### **LOBBY LIKE A PRO: Insider's Secrets – City Council Chambers**

**Presenters:** Jill Barad, VANC Chair; Matt Hale, Legislative Deputy for Councilmember Krekorian and Jay Beeber, Sherman Oaks NC  
This workshop will teach you how to lobby City Hall like the professionals and the musts of presenting your case. Everyone complains about the power and influence that lobbyists and special interests have at City Hall. Often, we hear the charge, "But the people don't have a lobbyist." However, Neighborhood Council board members can be as effective as the most seasoned lobbyist, but you have to know the insider tips! Learn the do's and don'ts of making your case from the elected official's point of view, as well from a veteran PR professional, and a successful citizen lobbyist.

### **HOW TO PRIORITIZE YOUR STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND ALLEYS FOR REPAIR: Save Our Streets, Sidewalks and Alleys – Room 1010**

**Moderator:** Lydia Grant, Board Member, Sunland-Tujunga NC

**Speakers:** Dennis Gleason, Policy Director for Councilman Joe Buscaino and Nazario Saucedo, General Manager, Bureau of Street Services

According to federal highway data, LA's roads are the second worst in the country. The average Angeleno motorist is paying over \$700 annually in additional vehicle operating costs as a result of driving on our rough roads. Unfortunately, our sidewalks are not any better. Recent stories in the media have demonstrated what a hazard our sidewalks can be. Additionally, neglected alleyways are a magnet for criminal activity and can be health hazards when used as public dumping grounds. How did our city's infrastructure get to this point? What can we do to repair our city's infrastructure for the long term? **What will it take for you to support the Save our Streets Funding Initiative?**

### **BUDGET ADVOCATES: Employee Contracts and City Services – Room 1040**

**Moderator:** Jay Handal

**Speakers/Panelists:** Ed Novy, Jack Humphreville – NC Budget Advocates; Miguel Santana, LA City, CAO, Ron Galperin, LA City Controller

The City of Los Angeles continues to face unprecedented shortfalls between its revenues and its expenditures, including its pension obligations. Nothing affects the delivery of city services to our communities more than the city budget.

This year, city employee contracts are up for renewal. This past year the Budget Advocates transformed themselves into an in-depth investigative team. They used their exceptional access to city departments to develop a broad understanding of the budget challenges. In this session you will hear different perspectives on the budget, from inside and outside the system, from optimistic to pessimistic, including those of some Budget Advocates. You will leave the program with a new appreciation for the size of the problem, and the realization that the way the city does business will be changed forever.

PLEASE, name badge needed for all events

# 2013 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## **WORKING WITH CITY DEPARTMENTS – Room 1020**

**Moderator:** Marlene Savage, Mid City West NC

**Panel:** Alan Bell, Deputy Director City Planning Department; Dave Lara, Code Enforcement – LADBS; Carmen Hawkins, Deputy City Attorney – Neighborhood Council Advice Division; Rushmore Cervantes, LAHD

City services are delivered by City departments. Knowing which department does what is a critical first step to having an impact on service delivery to your neighborhood. This workshop will bring managers from some of the most important city departments to share their inside view of how to get results. Typical issues and online reporting systems for the most-contacted departments will be covered. Key contacts at departments will be revealed, especially where departments maintain a special liaison for Neighborhood Councils. In this workshop, the people who run the system will show you how to make the system work for you.

## **HOW TO RUN A MEETING – 4th Floor Media Room**

**Presenter:** Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian, Venice, BH and AS Neighborhood Councils

Running an effective meeting is an art, not a science. The group must accomplish real work, participants must have an opportunity to be heard, and they should believe that the process is fair. That's a tall order for a meeting chair, especially if you have never managed a large public meeting. Nevertheless, these are essential skills for board presidents as well as committee chairs. Learn how to create a clear, descriptive agenda with time targets and ways of keeping your stakeholders aware of the procedures.

Where does the Brown Act come into play and how does it help to ensure the integrity of your meetings? Roberts Rules of Order is only one framework for fair meeting control; there are other options that can sometimes be more effective. Learn what role a parliamentarian can play to help plan a meeting. Tips and best practices on how to run a more effective meeting, most of which you can't learn in a textbook.

## **EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS & ETIQUETTE 101 – Room 1025**

**Presenter:** Laurie Jacobs, San Pedro

Learn methods to construct effective, persuasive, and worry-free emails that will clearly convey your message while presenting a professional impression about yourself and your council. Once you are aware of how the most frequent email blunders and faux pas cause confusion, frustration and embarrassment, you will become very appreciative of how these simple new ideas can improve your everyday life. Educate Neighborhood Council members on best email communication and etiquette practices and how to make a great first impression while improving relationships through a better understanding of their council's email communication needs and requirements.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS: THE NEXT 10 YEARS – Room 1070**

**Moderator:** Denyse Selesnyck, Tarzana NC

**Panelists:** Councilman Bernard Parks, Chair, Neighborhoods and Education Committee; Grayce Liu, General Manager, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment/EmpowerLA; Victor Medina, newly appointed BONC Commissioner from South Bay; Kevin Taylor, President, Reseda NC

The NC system is now going into its second decade. Where do we want to be in the next ten years? Meet some of the up and coming young leaders whose ideas and work will determine if the NC system becomes even more effective or fades away. Listen to the collective experience of our City government partners giving us their "wish list.". This will be an interactive session so bring your ideas and share in the future direction of the Neighborhood Council system.

## **2:35 pm – 3:30 pm EMPOWER/LA AWARDS – City Council Chambers**

The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners will present the second annual EmpowerLA awards. The awards are given to Neighborhood Councils that best fulfill their City Charter mandate of promoting more citizen participation in government and making government more responsive to local needs.

## **NC CONGRESS ACTION SESSION – City Council Chambers**

**3:30 pm**

## **CONCLUSION**

*THANK YOU to all who participated in the 2013 Congress.*

*We look forward to seeing you at the 2014 Congress.*

*PLEASE, name badge needed for all events*

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Glenn Bailey**, Encino NC / Executive Board Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils

Glenn Bailey is a founder and has been a member of the Encino Neighborhood Council for eight years and serves as Area 1 Representative. He is a member of the Executive Board of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils and serves as Vice Chair of the L.A. City's Bicycle Advisory Committee. Glenn also serves as a representative on the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering

Committee, which is advisory to the City's Department of Recreation and Parks, and also serves on the boards of other community, civic, and non-profit organizations.



**Jill Banks Barad**, Founder and Chair, Valley Alliance of NC's, President, Sherman Oaks NC

Jill, a civic leader in Los Angeles for over 30 years, founded the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council and is in her eighth year as President. She is also Founder and Chair of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), now in its eleventh year. The Alliance has been called a "model of regional governance" and is a model for other alliances throughout the City. Jill

chaired Mayor Tom Bradley's Advisory Committee on Education. She serves on several volunteer Boards and has a long list of civic recognitions for her many accomplishments. Among her awards are: "Most Inspirational Woman in Business" by State Senate and Assembly Members; "Valley Leader of the Year" by the San Fernando Valley Business Journal; Harmon Ballin Award from VICA for community service, and the CD5 Pioneer Woman Award. She served on City Attorney Mike Feuer's Transition Team and most recently was appointed by Mayor Eric Garcetti to serve on the Board of Commissioners for LADWP. Jill owns her own public relations, political consulting and government affairs firm, Jill Barad & Associates. She has provided consulting and management for federal, state, local and judicial campaigns, as well as statewide and local ballot measures. She has taught political public relations, media, and fundraising at UCLA Extension since 1988.



**Jay Beeber**, Board member, Sherman Oaks NC

Jay Beeber, a writer and filmmaker, is a board member of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council and serves on the City's Pedestrian Advisory Committee. He is also the Executive Director of Safer Streets L.A., the advocacy group credited with convincing the Board of Police Commissioners and the City Council to end the City's Photo Red Light Camera Program. Jay strongly believes that with the right tools, proper

strategy and unwavering determination, average citizens can accomplish positive changes from our government officials.



**Alan Bell**, AICP, Deputy Director, Los Angeles Department of City Planning

Alan is responsible for Development Services and Zoning Administration. Also, Policy Planning and Historic Resources with focus primarily on community planning, long-range and citywide planning, zoning code amendments and simplification, and development reform. Alan recently led the effort to reorganize the Department and implement the eight strategic changes outlined

in Blueprint 2010-11. Prior to his appointment as Deputy Director, he was the Senior City Planner in the Office of Zoning Administration, where he managed the code studies, case management, zoning investigations, and nuisance abatement units.



**Martha Benedict**, President Arroyo Seco NC

Martha Benedict moved to Montecito Heights eleven years ago and plunged into the causes and concerns of the Arroyo Seco community with relentless enthusiasm. In 2003 she ran the first election of the Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council and currently serves as its president. She has also chaired the Debs Park Advisory Board for several years. She is a professional photographer and donates work to local non-

profits such as the Audubon Center and Avenue 50 Studio. Her photographs appear regularly in [www.theeastsiderla.com](http://www.theeastsiderla.com) and were recently published in a new book about the Japanese Garden at the Huntington. She is a UCLA graduate, fifth generation Californian and lives on a hilltop with her rescued German Shepherd dog.



**Patti Berman**, President Downtown LA NC

Patti Berman has lived in downtown for almost 13 years. She has been involved in issues for almost that entire time. From 2000-2005 she chaired the Neighborhood Block Grant committee for the Historic Core. This group was able to use HUD money, made available for blight removal, to help small businesses locate in the area.

Patti has been involved with the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council for eight years, first as the chair of the Parks recreation and Open Space committee, then Vice-President of Outreach. For the last four years she has served as President of the Council.



**Claire Bowin**, Planning Assistant, City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning

Claire has participated in the development of the LA River Revitalization Master Plan (LARRMP) and the City's Green Building Program. A graduate of the University of Virginia's School of Architecture Claire's career has included a variety of disciplines including planning, design and community development.



**Stephen Box**, Director of Outreach and Communications for the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Elections Coordinator for the 2014 NC Elections

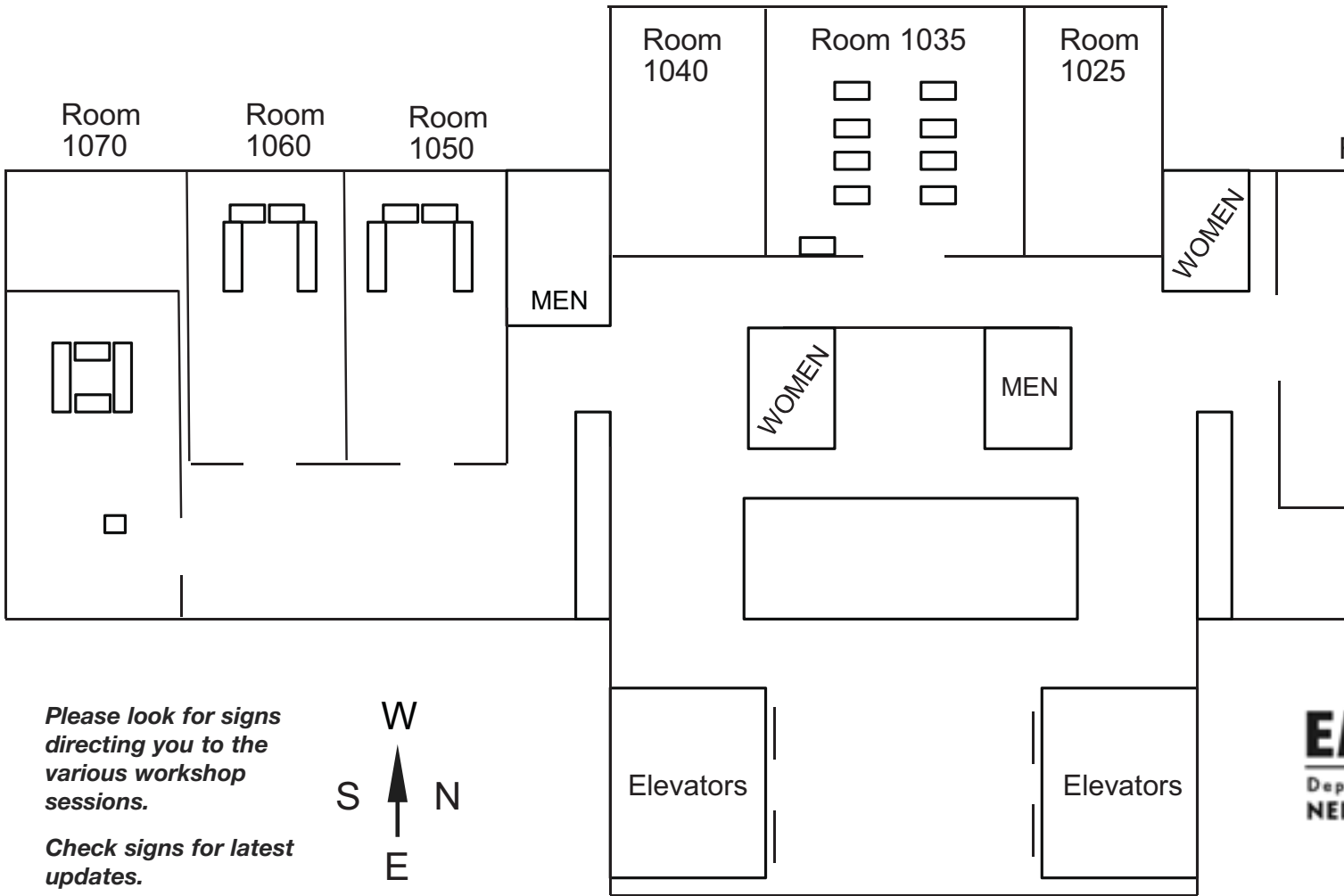
Stephen also serves as the President of Sustainable Streets, a non-profit that focuses on education and encouragement programs that promote sustainable active transportation, and as the Director of Government & Community Affairs for The Transit Coalition a non-profit that focuses on policy and advocacy programs that improve public transit in Southern California.

Building on the tremendous success of the 2012 Neighborhood Council Elections, Stephen is looking forward to partnering with the City Clerk in embracing technology and outreach innovations that will contribute to making the 2014 Elections the best yet!

— Moderators, Speakers, Panelists continued on page 12

# Map to Workshop Sessions

## 10th FLOOR ROOMS



*Please look for signs directing you to the various workshop sessions.*

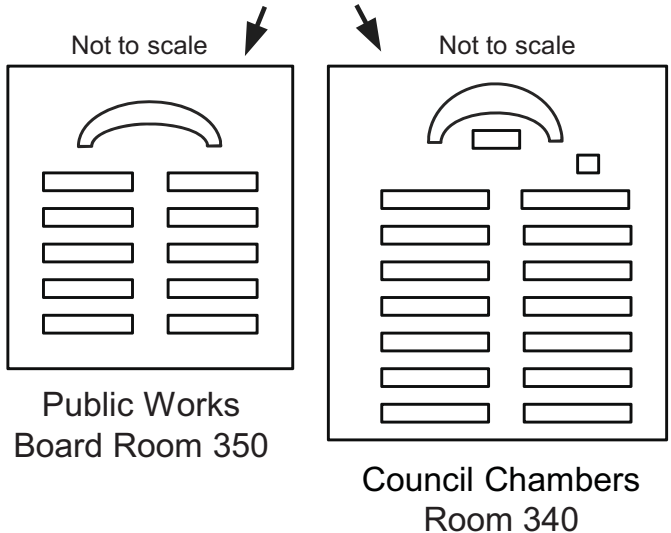
*Check signs for latest updates.*

*Name badges needed for all events and lunch.*

*Volunteers will be available to direct you to meeting rooms on the 3rd, 4th and 10th floors.*

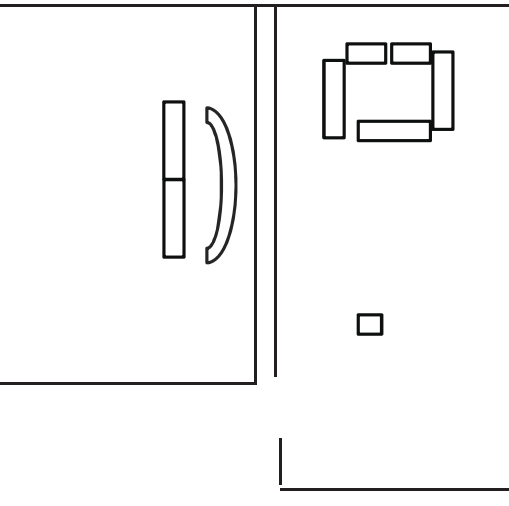


## 3rd FLOOR ROOMS



Room 1010

Room 1020



**PROPOSED PURPOSE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS:**  
**to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs.**

— Los Angeles City Charter, Article IX

WORKSHOP SESSION	ROOM
MIXER and CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST • 7:45 am - 8:30 am	
OPENING SESSION: Color Guard, Mayor Keynote, Welcome • 8:30 am - 9:15 am	City Council Chambers
BREAK • 9:15am - 9:30am	
SESSION 1: Half Sessions • 9:30am - 10:40am	
NC Election Chairs Workshop by Empower LA	Public Works Room
NC Election Outreach Workshop by Empower LA	Public Works Room
LADWP Energy: Efficiency Opportunities for Stakeholders	Room 1010
LADWP Water: Conservation, Turf Removal, Groundwater, Stormwater Capture	Room 1010
C4C: Councils for Councils	Room 1060
SESSION 1: Full Sessions • 9:30am - 10:40am	
Meet Your City Officials	City Council Chambers
How Neighborhood Councils Work	4th Floor Media Room
Disaster Preparedness & Public Safety	Room 1050
Youth, Gangs & Community Involvement	Room 1040
How to Bring New Businesses to Your Community	Room 1020
Funding Program Basics for Everyone	Room 1025
Understanding SB1818 (Bonus Density) & Affordable Housing	Room 1070
Community Partnerships: There's Strength in Numbers	Room 1035
BREAK • 10:40am - 10:50am	
SESSION 2: Half Sessions • 10:50am - 12:00pm	
NC Election Outreach Workshop by EmpowerLA	Public Works Room
You Can Build a Neighborhood Disaster Plan in Just 5 Steps	Public Works Room
SESSION 2: Full Sessions • 10:50am - 12:00pm	
Ethics & Open Government (State-Required Training) Session 1 of 2	Room 1050
Reorganization: A New Structure for Building & Safety and City Planning	Room 1060
Be Heard: Submit Community Impact Statements & Track the Legislative Process	Room 1035
Developing Leadership Skills	Room 1070
Tips on Dealing With Difficult People	Room 1025
Planning & Land Use 102: Planning Packets/Housing, Health & Wellness	4th Floor Media Room
LA City's Transportation Topics	Room 1040
Thinking Outside the Box: Gaining Real Power, Instead of Just Pretending	Room 1010
Best Practices in Outreach to Stakeholders and City Government	City Council Chambers
Legislation and Neighborhood Councils – Taking it to the next level	Room 1020
LUNCH • 12:00pm - 1:10pm	City Hall Forecourt
SESSION 3: Half Sessions • 1:10pm - 2:30pm	
Transportation Mobility Element & Safe Routes to School	Room 1060
Transportation Mobility Element & Active Transportation	Room 1060
LADWP Bay Delta Project / LADWP Local Projects	Public Works Room
LADWP: The Water Main Replacement Process	Public Works Room
SESSION 3: Full Sessions • 1:10pm - 2:30pm	
Ethics & Open Government (State-Required Training) Session 2 of 2	Room 1050
Lobby Like a PRO: Insider's Secrets	City Council Chambers
How to Prioritize Your Streets, Sidewalks & Alleys for Repair	Room 1010
Budget Advocates: Employee Contracts and City Services	Room 1040
Working with City Departments	Room 1020
How to Run a Meeting	4th Floor Media Room
Email Communications & Etiquette 101	Room 1025
Neighborhood Councils: The Next 10 years	Room 1070
EMPOWERLA AWARDS & ACTION SESSION • 2:35pm - 3:30pm	Council Chambers
ADJOURN • 3:30pm	Council Chambers

*This schedule is subject to change due to meeting room capacity limits.  
 Please plan to get to your session early to be sure you have a seat.  
 Check signs for latest updates.  
 PLEASE, name badge needed for all events.*

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Tony Braswell**, President NC Valley Village

Tony Braswell has been a member the Board of Neighborhood Council Valley Village since it began in 2003 and has been President since 2008. He is Program Director for the Cedars-Sinai Women's Cancer Program, and a member of the City of Los Angeles Disabled Access Appeals Commission. Tony is a graduate of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, and holds Masters Degrees from Georgia State University in both

Health Administration and Business Administration. He recently completed 10 years service as an appointed member of the Los Angeles County Commission on HIV, including five years as Co-Chair of the 40 member body.



**Michele Brooke, Esq.**

Michele Brooke is an attorney licensed to practice law in California and is the head of the Brooke Law Group in Pasadena, CA. The Brooke Law Group practices in areas of law which include, general civil litigation, cannabis law (civil compliance), domestic violence and civil harassment restraining orders and family law. Attorney Brooke is a member of the Pasadena Bar Association, the Los Angeles Bar Association, the

Beverly Hills Bar Association and the Esquire Network. She is also an advisor for, and teaches in, the Paralegal Certification Program at Pasadena, City College, is a volunteer member of the San Marino Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and is a member of NORML.



**Gil Cedillo**, City Councilman, 1st District

Gilbert Cedillo is Chairman of the City Council's Committee on Housing. He grew up in Los Angeles and graduated from UCLA. Later, he was head of a local service employees' union before spending more than a dozen years in the State Assembly and Senate, where he worked on increasing and expanding access to health care, developing regional solutions to combat homelessness, and encouraging economic develop-

ment in his Downtown Los Angeles district.



**Rushmore Cervantes**, Executive Officer – Housing & Community Investment Department, Los Angeles

Rushmore Cervantes has over 20 years of experience with the City of Los Angeles. Mr. Cervantes plans and directs all activities and operations of the LA Housing department to support the creation of viable urban communities by advocating for safe and livable neighborhoods through the promotion, development, and

preservation of decent, safe, affordable housing and through the expansion of economic opportunities, principally for low-and moderate-income persons.



**Guillermo Cespedes**, MSW – Deputy Mayor Office of Gang Reduction & Youth Development, Mayor Eric Garcetti

As Deputy Mayor, Mr. Cespedes guides the conceptualization, implementation, and coordination of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's comprehensive gang reduction and youth development initiative. During his tenure in the Mayor's Office, Mr. Cespedes has combined empirical data and program design principles to

implement the "GRYD Model" throughout the areas of Los Angeles most impacted by gang related violence. These include: the Summer Night Lights Program, the Multi Generational Family Gang Prevention Program, and the Gang Intervention Incident Response and Case Management Program.



**Cindy Cleghorn**, Chair, Congress of Neighborhood Councils 2011-13, Vice President-Outreach Sunland-Tujunga NC, Chair, PlancheckNC

Cindy became involved with the STNC upon relocating her business from Burbank to the Sunland-Tujunga community. She worked with community leaders to certify the STNC and she has served two terms as President. Her involvement with the community helped to spearhead

the restoration of the community's business section of Commerce Avenue that has now been designated as Historic Olde Towne Tujunga. She also serves on the STNC Land Use Committee, Executive Board for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils and is Chair of PlanCheckNC an alliance of neighborhood councils and community organizations dedicated to planning and land use. She was selected to serve as a Los Angeles City Commissioner on the Neighborhood Council Review Commission representing the North Valley. Cindy is currently president of the Sunland-Tujunga Chamber of Commerce and serves on the United Chamber of Commerce board and recently elected to the California Small Business Association's board.



**Mona Curry**, Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department

Mona has enjoyed the challenge of working with the City of Los Angeles for the past 20 years and has been involved in a variety of fields which have positively impacted many of the diverse communities within the City. Mona is currently appointed as the emergency manager serving as the liaison to the San Fernando Valley for the

Emergency Management Department with the purpose of guiding neighborhoods towards a stronger state of readiness in responding to disasters and emergencies. In addition to working with the Emergency Management Department for the last six years, Mona has worked in three other distinct City of Los Angeles Departments, holding positions with the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Housing Department and Department of General Services.

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Mike Davis**, Commissioner, Board of Public Works

A former State Assemblymember, Davis comes to the Board of Public Works after representing the 48th District (South Los Angeles and Koreatown – Wilshire area) from 2006 to 2012. He served as Vice Chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus and also chaired the Select Committee on Rail Transportation. Davis authored legislation on topics including public utilities procurement for minor-

ity owned businesses, career technical education, community service and public service recognition.



**Captain John Egan**, LAPD West Valley Division

Captain Egan is the Commanding Officer of West Valley Area where he oversees approximately 300 employees, and all Area, Patrol and Detective operations.

Captain Egan also has worked for the California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Center for Leadership Development as a facilitator for the Supervisory leadership Institute.

**Sgt. Herrold Egger**, LAPD Foothill Community Relations Office

Sgt. Egger currently supervises 11 sworn members. Three officers oversee 90+ Cadets and one officer supervises 30+ Jeopardy kids. Six Senior Lead Officers are in charge of 5 distinct communities. One Officer oversees C-PAB, CPC, 20 Reserve Officers and manages the office.



**Doug Epperhart**, Member Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Doug Epperhart's involvement with neighborhood councils includes 10 years as a Coastal San Pedro board member (four years as president), co-founder of the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils, chair of the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates, and member of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. He has written for CityWatchLA and L.A. area

publications on the subjects of community activism and city politics.



**Doug Fitzsimmons**, President SORO Inc.

An Interactive Creative Director and Strategist, Doug has served as President of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) since November, 2008. In that time, he's helped build the Board into one of the City's most innovative and effective Councils.

He's proudest of the SORO Board's strengthening of ties to Neighborhood Associations and local organizations; its fight for Police and Fire resources; its development of summer programs for at-risk youth; its campaign for reasonable City regulation of marijuana dispensaries and billboards; its role as a mediator in divisive local issues; its revitalization planning for the Robertson, Venice, and Pico business corridors; and its efforts to build pride and identity within the community.



**Ron Galperin**, Los Angeles City Controller

Ron Galperin became the 20th Controller of the City of Los Angeles on July 1, 2013. For many years, Ron has been a leading voice on reforming government, cutting waste and helping businesses create jobs. As Chair of the Los Angeles City Commission on Revenue Efficiency (CORE), Ron found new revenue sources and budget savings to deliver more city services to residents.

Ron is proud to be the first Neighborhood Council member elected to Citywide office in Los Angeles. As an officer of his Council, he advocated for quality of life improvements and better planning. He also developed and taught an L.A. City Government 101 program to new Neighborhood Council members throughout the City, and served as a budget advocate on behalf of the Councils.

**Bob Gelfand**, Past Chair LANCC

Bob Gelfand has been involved in the neighborhood council movement since 2000. He was one of the founders of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council and is a founder and former chair of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition. His training and experience are in molecular biology.



**Dennis Gleason**, Policy Director, Office of Councilman Joe Buscaino

Dennis oversees all public policy and legislative matters for Councilman Joe Buscaino, and advises the Councilman on all motions, reports, resolutions and ordinances that come before the City Council and the Committees he sits on, including the Public Works & Gang Reduction Committee, which the Councilman chairs.

**Gary Goelitz**, Matrix Consulting Group

Mr. Goelitz is a Vice President with the Matrix Consulting Group and has over 34 years of experience as an analyst in the public sector, both as a consultant and a manager in municipal operations. Mr. Goelitz has extensive experience in the planning, building, and development engineering area and has completed analyses in these functions for many cities and counties.



**Lydia Grant**, Parent Representative, Sunland-Tujunga NC

Lydia is currently the Sunland-Tujunga NC Liaison to the Board of Public Works and has served on the STNC for several years as a Region Representative, followed by two terms as the Education Representative, and currently holds the position of Parent Representative, in her second term. Lydia is also a Parent Revolution Board Member, a non profit organization, where she

was instrumental in helping to get the Parent Empowerment Act SBX5 4 passed in California, also known as the "Parent Trigger". Lydia was instrumental in helping to change Municipal Code 45.04 (Daytime Curfew Law) which forced changes to the LAUSD Truancy Policy and helped stop the "Push Out" of Local Students from our High Schools. Lydia considers herself an education advocate and is willing to help communities across the City with school issues including those involving land use, such as the issues raised in Sunland-Tujunga's battle to stop a Home Depot. She helps other neighborhood councils with LAUSD and school issues.

**Matt Hale**, Policy Director, Councilman Paul Krekorian Council District 2

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Jay Handal**, Chair, West Los Angeles NC (WLANC)

Jay has served the WLANC as its chair since 2007, Vice president of the Western Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) and currently serves as Chair of the NC Budget Advocates and member of the Neighborhood Council Peer Mentoring committee. Some of his volunteer service in the City of L.A. includes: former chairman of the West Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, hearing examiner for the LAPD Commission, former chairman of the West L.A. CPAB, served on the Brentwood Community Council, board of directors for Shane's Inspiration, chaired the Barrington Park Renovation Project 333, former secretary of Brentwood Village Chamber of Commerce, president of the Brentwood-Westwood Symphony Orchestra and named Business Partner of the Year by El Rincon School and served on L.A.'s Small Business Commission. Jay also has a long record of volunteer service in Culver City as well. Jay has extensive small business experience and formally owned the San Gennaro Cafés in Brentwood, Tarzana, Culver City and Mi Place in Pasadena.

Carmen Hawkins, Deputy City Attorney



**Shannon Hoppes**, Manager, Council and Public Services Division, Office of the City Clerk

Ms. Hoppes is responsible for managing, directing, and organizing the daily functions of staff in providing legislative services to the public, Mayor, City Council, Council Committees, and City entities. She has served the City of Los Angeles for the past 18 years and has held various positions within the departments of Recreation and Parks, Los Angeles World Airports, and Neighborhood

Empowerment. She has also played an active role in educating Neighborhood Councils on the legislative process and how to effectively participate in City government. Ms. Hoppes is a graduate of Pepperdine University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.



**Jack Humphreville**, Greater Wilshire NC

Jack Humphreville is the Windsor Square representative to the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council. He is also the GWNC DWP and Budget representative and a Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate. Jack is a frequent contributor to City Watch ([www.CityWatchLA.com](http://www.CityWatchLA.com)) where he has commented upon the rates and transparency of our Department of Water and Power and the City's dire financial condition. Jack wrote

the Opposition Argument to Measure B that was rejected by the 50.5% of the voters in March 2009. He was also an early proponent of the Ratepayers Advocate that was approved by 78% of the voters in March 2011. Jack is an owner of Target Media Partners, a mid Wilshire publisher of classified ads throughout the United States, including Recycler Classifieds ([www.recycler.com](http://www.recycler.com)), a Sherman Oaks based company that has been serving the Los Angeles metropolitan area since 1973.



**Laurie A. Jacobs**,

Expert communication skills have been key to Laurie's success throughout her 37 year career in sales, marketing and executive administration. Many of her assignments required the ability to juggle multiple duties simultaneously; therefore concise, thorough and effective emails were essential. At one corporate position, Laurie restructured the corporate email, teaching the entire company how, when, and to whom to respond,

copy, etc. which streamlined their entire communication process and eliminated a high volume of unnecessary emails. Laurie now runs her own business teaching corporations, social organizations and students how to improve their lives through effective email skills.



**David (Dave) Lara**, Assistant Chief Code Enforcement Bureau, Department of Building & Safety

Dave Lara has over 31 years of experience with the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS) in management, new construction inspection, plan check, case management, and code enforcement. Prior to his current assignment, Dave was the Chief of the Case Management, Neighborhoods, and Government

Services Division for over 12 years serving as liaison to the City Council and Neighborhood Councils.

Dave also has oversight of LADBS' website and newsletter, and he oversees all external media relations as LADBS' Public Information Officer (PIO).



**Grayce Liu**, General Manager, City of Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Grayce is responsible for the overall management of the department, including development of the budget, strategic planning, programs and services, policies, personnel and constituent and City government relations. She has been with the Department for six years and was the Director of Policy and Communications for the Neighborhood Council system before being appointed by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to lead the department in 2012. Prior to this, she was the Community Program Director for the Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF) and the co-chair of the Asian and Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Task Force in the San Gabriel Valley. She continues to teach classes on domestic violence, sexual assault, compassionate communicate and self-defense in her free time.

Grayce has been recognized for her work with the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils "Got It" Award, Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council Betty Fisher Award, California State Assembly Certificate of Recognition, California State Senate Certificate of Recognition, Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, and the Garvey School District Certificate of Recognition.

**Challis Macpherson**, PlanCheckNC Steering Committee



# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Darren R. Martinez**, Managing Deputy City Attorney, NC Advice Division, General Counsel Division General Counsel Division

Darren has been advising the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and Neighborhood Councils from the time they were created. Prior to working with Neighborhood Councils, Mr. Martinez worked in the City Attorney's Land Use Division. He joined the City Attorney Office's

in 2001 after serving as President of the South Valley Area Planning Commission. Mr. Martinez joined the City Attorney's Office after 10 years of practice in the private sector. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1988 and UCLA School of Law in 1991.



**Victor Medina**, Community Outreach Coordinator for GAP, Public & Governmental Affairs Department

For over six years, Victor Medina has contributed to the Gang Alternatives Program's (GAP) vision, "To prevent young people from joining gangs." Victor is currently in the Public & Governmental Affairs Department as Community Outreach Coordinator for GAP. His responsibilities include co-

ordinating the company's community outreach and stakeholder management activities, with a focus on maintaining essential relationships with various community leaders and businesses. He was raised in the Harbor Gateway where he currently resides. He is a committed resident of the City and County of Los Angeles where he believes you don't have to leave the neighborhood you grew up in to find a better life. This belief has led him on a lifelong path to fight for a just society where people have a real opportunity to pursue their dreams.

**Diana Nave**, Northwest San Pedro NC

Diana Nave is Past President and one of the founding members of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council. She is retired from the City of Los Angeles where she managed youth development and youth employment programs. She recently received the San Pedro Rotary Club's John Olguin Community Service Leader Award.

**Greg Nelson**, Former General Manager Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment



**Edmund Novy**

Edmund serves as the Homeowners Representative on the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council. He also currently serves as one of the North Valley Budget Advocates, where he is a strong pension reform advocate. He has also served as the Treasurer of McGroarty Arts Center and as the Chair of the STNC's Arts and Recreation Committee. Ed received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science/Urban Studies from UCLA and

attended graduate school at the University of Chicago. He is also a US Navy veteran, who served on board the USS Enterprise. He currently works as a consultant for a real estate investment advisor, where he manages the firm's sustainability efforts and valuations. Ed is committed to stakeholder empowerment and believes Neighborhood Councils can accomplish positive changes when working with our City officials.



**Dee Olomajye**, Co-Chair Councils for Councils

Dee Olomajye currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Councils for Councils (C4C) Program, a peer-mentoring program established by the City of Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. Prior to joining C4C, Dee served a term as Secretary and two terms as President of the Palms Neighborhood Council. In addition to her current C4C role, she continues to serve on committees within the City to help improve

the quality of life for the people of Los Angeles. Dee most recently chaired the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners' NC Plan Review and Reform Committee for the Harbor/Central/West Region.

Dee is a Human Resources Consultant with a BFA in Electronic Media Communications from the University of Cincinnati. She has happily resided in the great City of Los Angeles since the year 2000.



**Bernard Parks**, Los Angeles City Councilman, 8th District

Councilmember Bernard C. Parks Bernard C. Parks is serving his third term as Los Angeles City Councilmember for the Eighth Council District. One of the most densely populated areas in South Los Angeles, Parks represents over 250,000 people. During his first year in office he was appointed Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee where he has implemented prudent

fiscal policies in tough financial times that have steered the city clear of bankruptcy. Parks has helped the Eighth Council District become the leading district in Los Angeles in job creation for the past six years.



**Jan Perry**, General Manager, Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department

Jan Perry possesses a record of accomplishments that make her a standout as Interim General Manager of the new Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department. The former 9th District City Councilmember was a lightning rod for major changes in the district's infrastructure which includes Bunker Hill, Little Tokyo, and South Los Angeles. Her work resulted in quality job development and training, and the development of housing at all income levels. In her new position, Ms. Perry leads a department of 175 individuals, some of whom are well entrenched in economic development, charged with brokering city loans, and bonds. On the workforce side, the Department oversees 18 WorkSource Centers.



**David R. Pettijohn**, Manager, Water Resources

David R. Pettijohn is the Manager of Water Resources for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's Water System. With 28 years of water utility experience, Mr. Pettijohn has management oversight for water resource activities including strategic planning, watershed management, conservation, local resource development, climate change adaptation, purchased and transfer water, as well as

inter-agency coordination activities and legislative affairs.

Mr. Pettijohn is a registered Civil Engineer in the State of California, as well as a certified Water Distribution Operator. He currently serves on the Colorado River Board of California and as Chairman of the Upper LA River Integrated Regional Water Management Committee. Mr. Pettijohn received his M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Arizona at Tucson.

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Levi Ponce, Artist**

Levi Ponce is an artist from the San Fernando Valley. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Art (concentrating in animation) from California State University, Northridge. His murals are community projects that bring together artists, business owners, and local youth. Together they transform defaced city walls into works of art that neighborhoods take pride in having on their streets.

Levi has been featured in *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Daily News*, *Fox 11's Good Day LA*, *CNN Latino*, *BBC Mundo*, *Univision 34*, *Azteca TV*, *Vans Art*, *KPFK 90.7FM*, *La Opinion*, *KCET*, *The Huffington Post*, and various other publications, websites and blogs.

Currently, Levi works in the film industry as a digital and practical artist.



**Linda Pruett, Emergency Preparedness Chair, Lake Balboa NC**

Linda Pruett witnessed the death, destruction, and injury that resulted from the 1994 Northridge Earthquake and made it her mission to ensure that the next time disaster strikes, her community of Lake Balboa would be prepared and ready to mobilize. She became part of the formation committee in 2005 and has served on the board and as Emergency Preparedness Chair

since certification in 2006.



**Nina Royal, Treasurer and Safety Chair, Sunland-Tujunga NC**

Nina, a 25+ year community activist. She is a staunch supporter of public safety and improving the quality of life for everyone and serves as Safety Chair as well as a member of the Land Use Committee. She founded Sunland-Tujunga Safety & Emergency Response Volunteer Services (S-T SERVS) and serves on the Foothill Div. Community Police Advisory Board. She also

serves on the DWP MOU and Advocacy Committees, PlanCheckNC, and on the IRP Committee for the Bureau of Sanitation. She is the Publisher and Editor of the North Valley Reporter - [northvalleyreporter.com](http://northvalleyreporter.com).



**Miguel Santana, City of Los Angeles City Administrative Officer (CAO)**

Miguel A. Santana, is the chief financial advisor to the Mayor and the Council and reports directly to both. The CAO conducts studies and investigations, carries out research and makes recommendations on a wide variety of City management matters for the Mayor and Council. The CAO assists the Mayor and Council in the preparation of the City budget, plans and directs

the administration of the budget and directs the development of work programs and standards. The CAO represents the management of the City in negotiating all labor contracts.



**Nazario Saucedo, Emergency Preparedness Chair, Lake Balboa NC**

Nazario, is a Civil Engineer with a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He has worked for 25 years for the Bureau of Street Services. He is Professor at LA Trade Technical College part time.



**Marlene Savage, 1st VP, Mid-City West NC**

Marlene has been involved in the Neighborhood Council system for six years. She served as Vice President of Del Rey Neighborhood Council, Outreach Chairperson, Co-Chair of the Land Use and Planning Committee, and the liaison to city entities. Marlene is now focused on a mentoring program "Councils 4 Councils" The program will collaborate with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and utilize the experience

and knowledge of neighborhood council veterans to provide support and training for councils that request assistance. Also, she currently serves as a co-chair for the Western Region Alliance of Councils/ Land Use and Planning Committee, which involves the 13 neighborhood councils and community councils on the Westside. She is also on the mentoring committee for PlanCheckNC Marlene has been involved in the development of the last four Neighborhood Council Congresses.



**Mark Seigel, President, Sunland-Tujunga NC (STNC)**

Mark is one of the founders of the STNC. He chaired the Ad Hoc Committee to certify the STNC in 2001. He is presently serving as president. He became a certified Neighborhood Council Independent Elections Administrator (IEA) and has served as an election volunteer for several neighborhood councils throughout the City. He also serves on the Executive Committee

for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. Mark is an Extra Class Amateur Radio operator and holds classes twice a year to license new operators as a Volunteer Examiner recognized by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).



**Denyse C. Selesnick, 2nd Vice President/Outreach Chair, Tarzana NC**

Denyse's background is in international publishing, trade exhibitions and seminars. She was named a "local hero" by EmpowerLA in 2012, and currently writes for CityWatch LA covering the various aspects of Neighborhood Councils.



**Leonard Shaffer, Vice President-Board of Neighborhood Commissioners**

Leonard is on the board of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and a past president. In February 2005 he participated in the formation of what eventually became the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition, a group that he chaired until January 2012. In 2006 he was appointed to the Neighborhood Council Review Commission where he served as a member of

the Commission's Executive Director Search Committee, as chair of the Budget Committee and a member of the ad hoc committee on grievances. He is a participant in the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils and has been a member of its executive committee. Leonard retired from the practice of law after 35 years as a Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney. He keeps active in the law field by helping fellow ham radio operators as a Volunteer Council for the American Radio Relay League. He has taught several classes concerning criminal justice at the University of Phoenix.

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists

**Ivan Spiegel**, Parliamentarian for Venice, Boyle Heights and Arroyo Seco NCs

Ivan currently serves as a bicoastal Parliamentarian for both the Venice Boyle Heights and Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Councils. His years of experience in creating organizational bylaws led him to join the BONC/DONE Bylaws Task Force. He is co-chair of the DONE Bylaws Resource Team, which worked with NC's to help revise their bylaws into the new Table Of Contents format. He is training NC participants in a wide range of topics and a designer of the new Councils 4 Councils Peer Mentoring program. Ivan became involved in the L.A. school system as a volunteer with a focus on putting technology into classrooms. He chaired several school and district councils and was chosen as a member of the Superintendent's Focus on Achievement Council, which advised the Superintendent on setting LAUSD policy. Ivan relocated to L.A. from Brooklyn, NY, and spent 25 years as the Artistic Director of a non-profit performing arts organization. He produced, directed, and/or designed over 300 theatrical productions. As a service to the LA Theatre community he taught grant writing and was a peer panelist for the California Arts Council. He works as a Poll Inspector for the City Clerk and the County Registrar of Voters in his spare time.

**Gabe Vargas**, Civil Engineering Associate – Water Distribution Engineering, LADWP



**Kevin Taylor**, Chairman, Reseda NC

Born and raised in the Valley, Kevin is currently the Chairman of the Reseda Neighborhood Council. Steering Committee member of the San Fernando Valley Coalition on Gangs representing the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. A board member of 11:11 A Creative Collective, organizers of the Canoga Park Artwalk and other SFV based arts and cultural events. After a long career in the music business, Kevin has shifted

his full time focus to community and citywide advocacy and is deeply dedicated to a re-imagined Reseda and a greater Los Angeles.



**Wing Tam**, P.E. Assistant Division Manager, Watershed Protection Division - LA Sanitation-City of Los Angeles

Wing Tam is responsible for stormwater management and watershed protection programs, facilities, and advance planning to meet water quality standards. Wing has been a leader in the development of green infrastructure, urban runoff and stormwater management in the Los Angeles area for 25 years. He directs the Green

Infrastructure Program including Rainwater Harvesting, Green Streets, and Clean Water Bond to implement sustainable, environmentally responsible, multi-benefit and integrated water solutions to enhance the natural and built environment. This has led to the first integrated, multi-purpose green solutions designed to improve stormwater quality and TMDLs, increase water resources, and enhance the environment. Wing is a Registered Professional Civil Engineer in the State of California. He holds Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Civil Engineering-Water Resources & Environmental.



**Noel Weiss, Esq.,**

Working with other attorneys, Noel was able to successfully challenge a portion of the SB 1818 implementation law passed by the City Council. In 2011 and 2012, Noel won important court victories, including a published Court of Appeal decision chastising the City for its failure to follow its own laws and procedures and during the past two years succeeded in procuring court orders overturning land use entitlement giveaways by

the City Council. Early in his career he fought for Los Angeles landowners and advised the Port of Long Beach in suits against Exxon, forcing it to abandon unneeded oil wells, improve maintenance of hundreds of unsightly working ones and to return the Wilmington Oilfields to their natural state. More recently he publicly pressured the Housing Department to better inform tenants living in rent control buildings of available relocation funding. His lobbying efforts helped draft a law increasing relocation fees to \$9,040 and \$17,040 for tenants displaced from rent-controlled units because of a change of building use.

As an advocate for housing, Noel was instrumental in seeing that a program for tenants to buy the apartment buildings they live in, TOPA, was included in the city's most recent Housing Plan.

**Glen Wilson**, President Northridge West NC

Glen has been active with the Northridge West NC for the past six years serving as chair of the Bylaws, Land Use, Beautification and Government Affairs committees. He also serves as liaison to the DWP Advocacy committee, DWP/MOU Committee, Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), Northridge Vision and others. Active on the Thursday Clean Up for over three years. Prior to neighborhood council work, Glen worked with his brother at Wilson's Canoga Feed and has been a Valley all his life. Glen holds an Associates degree from Peirce College and attended CSUN.

**Betty Wong-Oyama**, Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, EmpowerLA



**Enrique C. Zaldivar**, P.E., Director, LA Bureau of Sanitation

Enrique is a licensed Civil Engineer in the State of California. He received his Degree in Civil Engineering from Cal Poly Pomona in 1985, where he continued his graduate studies. He began his career with the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering in 1985, as a design engineer on wastewater treatment plants and major sewer projects, including projects at the Terminal Island, the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation plants and the 200 million dollar North Outfall Relief Sewer (NORS). In October 2007, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa appointed Enrique Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, one of the largest agencies in the City, with nearly 2,800 employees and an annual value exceeding \$1.2 billion.

**TO VOLUNTEER:** [hosts@NCCongressLA.com](mailto:hosts@NCCongressLA.com).

Follow the Congress on Facebook and Twitter.



**THANK YOU** to all speakers for your participation and presentations.

**THANK YOU** to the many volunteers and Empower LA for providing photos. To those whose photos and bios arrived after our deadline, we will include them on the [nccongressla.com](http://nccongressla.com) website.

Video and resources from most workshop sessions will be available on the [NCCongressLA.com](http://NCCongressLA.com) website.

**See you at the 2014 Congress of Neighborhoods September 27, 2014.**

# Youth Volunteers

## **Combined Color Guard Detail from Bryce Canyon Division and Betsy Ross Division, U.S. Naval Sea Cadets**

Bryce Canyon Division of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets, located in the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles was commissioned in September 1964. The Division is named after the U.S.S. Bryce Canyon (AD-36), a SHENANDOAH class destroyer tender, which itself was named after Bryce Canyon National Park, located in the towering plateau country of Southern Utah. The Division is among the oldest units in the Nation and drills with its sister unit the Betsy Ross Division providing an all-male and all-female approach in a unique after school character building program.

The Betsy Ross Division was commissioned in 1984. It is the only all-female unit in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Program and is named after Betsy Ross, who is widely credited with making the first American flag. This Division operates as a sister unit to Bryce Canyon Division and has achieved many awards and honors in the Sea Cadet Program and the larger Los Angeles Community.

The U. S. Naval Sea Cadet Program emphasizes building the character of our youth in a drug-free, gang-free and compliant with the American with Disabilities Act. Although not a recruiting program for the U.S. Naval Services, we encourage our Cadets to live according to the Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. Our program challenges our Cadets in the areas of physical fitness, military bearing, leadership and academics in preparing them to be our next generation of productive citizens.

Our program is for 11 to 14 year olds under the Navy League Sea Cadets, and for 13 to 17 year olds under the U.S. Navy Sea Cadets Corps. Both programs are managed by adult staff officers dedicated to providing and instilling our core values. These officers may be civilians, former cadets or military (active, reserve or retired) that are knowledgeable of youth programs and interested in Cadet training.



**BETSY ROSS DIVISION — U.S. NAVAL SEA CADETS — FEBRUARY 2013**



**BRYCE CANYON DIVISION — U.S. NAVAL SEA CADETS — FEBRUARY 2013**

# Youth Volunteers

## Poly High School Cooking Club

Culinary students from Francis Polytechnic Senior High School in Sun Valley have prepared the meals here at the Congress. Instructor Bob Higgins is thrilled to showcase his student's award winning talent with a gourmet menu that will entice the senses and satiate the stomachs of our NC leaders.



Future chefs learn team building skills during Higgins' culinary art classes that include weekly Iron Chef style competitions complete with plating and detailed critiques. Students learn how to shop for food, create menus and have an opportunity to cook 4 out of 5 days every week. Students learn their craft on the same equipment used in professional kitchens. These skills make them priceless new hires that need very little on the job training. Many of chef Higgins' students win scholarships and participate in externships. Some even come back to help out during classes and events strictly for the love of the program. Whether or not these students become professional chefs, they gain experience in time management, budgeting, teamwork and competition that inspires productive future citizens



Poly Cooking Club students share an externship with the Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Pasadena creating teacher's assistants and many graduates. Poly High grads have gained employment at Porto's Bakery, The House Of Blues, Universal Studios and UCLA and the proceeds from the Congress catering will go directly into equipment and training for hard working future "Iron Chefs."

Each Thanksgiving the Poly High School Cooking Club prepare 100's of turkey dinners for local families in need. They pair with the school's leadership Instructor to collect donations to pay for food and volunteer all of their time. Last year they prepared 20 turkeys and over 150 pounds of mashed potatoes

This culinary program is part of the Los Angeles Unified School District. Proceeds from this tremendous catering gig will help fund equipment for their professional kitchens and inspire students to live their dreams of becoming a chef or owning their own restaurant. Contact Patricia A. Scott at LAUSD / 213 241-4658 to find a culinary program near you to cater your next event!





# THANK YOU

to the following **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS** for their  
vote of financial support to the **2013 Congress of Neighborhoods**

## Del Rey

North Hollywood West • Sunland Tujunga • Rampart Village

Harbor City • Olympic Park • Silver Lake

North Hollywood Northeast

Encino

Lincoln Heights

West Hills

Granada Hills North

Tarzana

Foothill Trails District

Greater Wilshire

Mid Town North Hollywood

Mar Vista

Harbor Gateway North

North Hills West

Canoga Park

Hollywood United

North West San Pedro

ECSWANDC

Lake Balboa

Northridge East

Greater Griffin Park

Panorama City

Northridge West

Porter Ranch

South Central

Sun Valley Area

Bel Air Beverly Crest

PICO

Valley Village

Chatsworth

Sherman Oaks

Mid City

*and to those who contributed after the printing deadline.*

# THANK YOU

The **2013 CONGRESS OF NEIGHBORHOODS**  
was made possible by the following



*empowerLA.org*

# The NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS of the CITY OF LOS ANGELES

## **Arleta**

3rd Tuesday  
Beachy Elementary School  
Auditorium  
9757 Beachy Street  
Arleta, CA 91331

## **Arroyo Seco**

4th Monday  
Ramona Hall  
4580 Figueroa  
Los Angeles, CA 90065

## **Atwater Village**

2nd Thursday  
Christ's Church of Griffith Park  
3852 Edenhurst Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90039

## **Bel Air-Beverly Crest**

4th Wednesday  
Community Magnet School  
11310 Bellagio Rd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

## **Boyle Heights**

Last Wednesday  
Boyle Heights  
Senior Citizen Center  
2839 E. 3rd St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90033

## **CANNDU**

4th Friday  
Estelle Van Meter Center  
Senior Ctr.  
606 E. 76th St  
Los Angeles, CA 90001

## **Canoga Park**

Last Wednesday  
Canoga Park Community Center  
7248 Owensmouth St.  
Canoga Park, CA 91303

## **Central Alameda**

2nd Saturday  
New Harvest Church  
1374 E. 41st St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90011

## **Central Hollywood**

4th Monday  
Hollywood Neighborhood City Hall  
6501 Fountain Ave.  
Hollywood, CA 90731

## **Central San Pedro**

2nd Tuesday  
Port of Los Angeles High School  
250 W. 5th St.  
San Pedro, CA 90731

## **Chatsworth**

1st Wednesday  
Lawrence Middle School  
10100 Variel Ave.  
Chatsworth, CA 91311

## **Coastal San Pedro**

3rd Monday  
Cabrillo Marina Community Bldg.  
Cabrillo plaza Berth 28  
San Pedro, CA 90731

## **Del Rey**

2nd Thursday  
Courtyard By Marriott  
13480 Maxella Ave.  
Marina Del Rey, CA 90292

## **Downtown Los Angeles**

2nd Tuesday  
Water and Power Cafeteria  
111 N. Hope St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## **Eagle Rock**

1st Tuesday  
Eagle Rock Public Library  
5027 Casper Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90041

## **East Hollywood**

3rd Monday  
LA City College Faculty Lounge  
855 N Vermont Ave  
Los Angeles, CA

## **Elysian Valley Riverside**

3rd Thursday  
Elysian Valley United  
2812 Newell St.  
LA 90039

## **Empowerment Congress Central**

4th Monday  
Amistad Plaza Appt. Community  
Rm.  
6050 S. Western Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90047

## **Empowerment Congress North**

1st Thursday  
2980 S. Menlo Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90007

## **Empowerment Congress Southeast**

4th Tuesday  
Constituent Service Center  
8475 S. Vermont Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90044

## **Empowerment Congress Southwest**

3rd Monday  
Constituent Service Center  
8475 S. Vermont Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90044

## **Empowerment Congress West**

2nd Monday  
Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza  
3650 Crenshaw Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90016

## **Encino**

4th Wednesday  
Encino Community Center  
4935 Balboa Blvd.  
Encino, CA 91316

## **Foothills Trails District**

3rd Thursday  
Lake View Terrace  
Rec Center

## **Glassell Park**

2nd Monday  
Glassell Park Community Center  
3750 Verdugo Rd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90065

## **Granada Hills North**

Last Monday  
Van Gogh Elementary School  
17160 Van Gogh St.  
Granada Hills, CA 91344

## **Granada Hills South**

2nd Thursday  
First Baptist Church  
11011 Hayvenhurst Ave.  
Granada Hills, CA 91344

## **Greater Cypress Park**

3rd Tuesday  
Aragon Elementary School  
Auditorium  
1118 Aragon Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90005

## **Greater Echo Park Elysian**

4th Tuesday  
St. Paul Cathedral Center,  
Grand Hall  
840 N. Echo Park Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90026

## **Greater Griffith Park**

3rd Tuesday  
Los Feliz Community Police Center  
1965 Hillhurst Ave. 2nd Fl.  
Los Angeles, CA 90027

## **Greater Toluca Lake**

3rd Tuesday  
Toluca Lake Elementary School  
Auditorium  
4840 Cahuenga Blvd.  
North Hollywood, CA 91601

## **Greater Valley Glen**

1st Monday  
Valley College Cafeteria/Conf. Rm.  
5800 Fulton Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 91401

## **Greater Wilshire**

2nd Wednesday  
(odd numbered months)  
Wilshire Ebell Theatre  
743 S. Lucerne Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90005

## **Harbor City**

3rd Wednesday  
Harbor City/Harbor Gateway  
Library  
24000 Western Ave.  
Harbor City, CA 90710

## **Harbor Gateway North**

4th Tuesday  
135th St. Elementary School  
801 W. 135th St.  
Gardena, CA 90247

## **Harbor Gateway South**

2nd Thursday  
Hallidale Ave. School Auditorium  
21514 Hallidale Ave.  
Torrance, CA 90501

## **Historic Cultural**

2nd Tuesday Hellman Ooun Bldg.  
114 E. Paseo De La Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## **Historic Highland Park**

1st and 3rd Thursdays  
Franklin High School  
820 N. Ave. 54  
Los Angeles, CA 90042

## **Hollywood Hills West**

Location varies, check website  
<http://www.hwnc.com>

## **Hollywood Studio District**

2nd Monday  
Hollywood Forever Cemetery  
Historic Chapel  
6000 Santa Monica Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90038

## **Hollywood United**

3rd Monday  
First Presbyterian Church  
6054 Yucca St.  
Hollywood, CA 90028

## **LA-32**

1st Wednesday  
El Sereno Senior Center  
4818 Klamath Place  
Los Angeles, CA 90032

## **Lake Balboa**

1st Wednesday  
Lake Balboa Studios  
7412 Balboa Blvd.  
Lake Balboa, CA 91406

## **Lincoln Heights**

1st & 3rd Thursday  
3501 N. Broadway  
Los Angeles, CA 90031

## **MacArthur Park**

1st Wednesday  
The Seven Maples Community  
Room  
2618 W. 7th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90057

## **Mar Vista**

2nd Tuesday  
Mar Vista Recreation Ctr.  
Auditorium  
11430 Woodbine St.  
Mar Vista, CA 90066

## **Mid City**

2nd Monday  
First Presbyterian Church  
1809 West Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90036

## **Mid City West**

2nd Tuesday  
National Council of Jewish Women  
543 N. Fairfax Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90036

## **Mid-Town North Hollywood**

2nd Wednesday  
Sendak Elementary School  
11414 Tiara St.  
North Hollywood, CA 91607

## **Mission Hills**

2nd Tuesday  
San Jose Street Elementary School  
14928 Cylmer St.  
Mission Hills, CA 91345

## **NC Valley Village**

4th Wednesday  
Colfax Elementary School  
11724 Addison St.  
North Hollywood, CA 91607

## **NC Westchester/Playa**

1st Tuesday  
Westchester Minicipal Bldg.  
Council Community Room  
7166 W. Manchester Ave.  
Westchester, CA 90045

## **North Hills East**

1st Monday  
Penny Lane Center  
Rainbow Room  
15314 Rayen St  
North Hills, CA 91343

## **North Hills West**

1st & 3rd Wednesday  
The Veterans Admin. Facility,  
Bldg. 22  
16111 Plummer St.  
North Hills, CA 91343

## **North Hollywood North East**

2nd Thursday  
Senior Park Plaza Apts. Rec. Room  
6755 Rhodes Ave.  
North Hollywood, CA 91606

## **North Hollywood West**

4th Wednesday  
Saticoy Elementary, odd months  
7850 Ethel Ave  
North Hollywood, CA 91605  
Coldwater Elementary, even mths  
6850 Coldwater Canyon Ave.  
North Hollywood, CA 91605

## **Northridge East**

3rd Wednesday  
Northridge Academy High School  
9601 Zeizah Avenue  
Northridge, CA 91325

## **Northridge West**

3rd Tuesday  
Mid-Valley Regional Branch  
Library  
16244 Nordhoff Street  
North Hills, 91343

## **Northwest San Pedro**

2nd Monday  
Peck Park Auditorium  
560 N. Western Ave.  
San Pedro, CA 90732

## **Olympic Park**

1st Monday  
LAPD West Bureau Community  
Room  
4849 Venice Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90018

## **P.I.C.O.**

2nd Wednesday  
Tom Bradley Center  
5213 W. Pico Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90019

## **Pacoima**

3rd Wednesday  
Pacoima City Hall  
13520 Van Nuys Blvd.  
Pacoima, CA 91331

## **Palms**

1st Wednesday  
Iman Cultural Center  
3376 Motor Ave.  
Palms, CA 90034

## **Panorama City**

4th Thursday  
Mission Community Hospital  
Medical Office, 2nd Floor  
14860 Roscoe Blvd.  
Panorama City, CA 91402

## **Park Mesa Heights**

2nd Saturday  
Angeles Mesa Elementary  
Auditorium  
2611 W. 52nd St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90043

## **Pico Union**

1st Monday Pico Union Villa  
1200 South Union Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90006

## **Porter Ranch**

1st Tuesday  
Shepard of the Hills  
19700 Rinaldi St.  
Porter Ranch, CA 91326

## **Rampart Village**

3rd Tuesday Path  
340 N. Madison Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90004

## **Reseda**

1st & 3rd Monday  
Canoas Banquet Hall  
18136 Sherman Way  
Reseda, CA 91335

## **Sherman Oaks**

2nd Monday  
Sherman Oaks Elementary School  
14755 Greenleaf St.  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

## **Silver Lake**

1st Wednesday  
Micheltorena Street Elementary  
School  
1511 Micheltorena St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90026

## **South Central**

3rd Saturday  
(odd numbered months)  
Centro Cultural Francisco Villa  
2100 Maple Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90011

## **South Robertson**

2nd Wednesday  
Palm Fellowship Hall  
2908 Robertson Place  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

## **Studio City**

3rd Wednesday  
Editorial Bldg. 2, Room 6  
4024 Radford Ave.  
Studio City, CA 91604

## **Sun Valley Area**

2nd Tuesday  
Villa Scalabrini Retirement Center  
10631 Vinedale St.  
Sun Valley, CA 91352

## **Sunland-Tujunga**

2nd Wednesday  
North Valley City Hall  
7747 Foothill Blvd.  
Tujunga, CA 91042

## **Sylmar**

4th Thursday  
Location varies, check website  
[sylmarneighborhoodcouncil.org](http://sylmarneighborhoodcouncil.org)

## **Tarzana**

4th Tuesday  
Tarzana Elementary School  
5726 Topeka Dr.  
Tarzana, CA 91357

## **United Neighborhoods**

1st Thursday  
Council District 10 Field Office  
1819 S. Western Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90006

## **Van Nuys**

2nd Wednesday  
Marvin Braude Constituent Center  
6262 Van Nuys Blvd.  
Van Nuys, CA 91401

## **Venice**

3rd Tuesday  
Westminster Elementary  
Auditorium  
1010 Abbott Kinney Blvd.  
Venice, CA 90291

## **Voices of 90037**

2nd Wednesday  
Normandie Ave. Elementary  
4505 S. Raymond Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90037

## **Watts**

2nd Tuesday  
Watts Senior Citizen Center  
1657 E. Century Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90002

## **West Adams**

3rd Monday  
Delta Sigma Theta Senior Center  
2528 West Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90016

## **West Hills**

1st Wednesday  
Chaminade College  
Preparatory High School  
7500 Chaminade Ave  
West Hills, CA 91304

## **West Los Angeles**

2nd Wednesday  
Felicia Mahood Community Center  
11338 Santa Monica Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90025

## **Westlake North**

2nd & 4th Thursday  
Central City Neighborhood  
Partners  
501 S. Bixel St., 2nd Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

## **Westlake South**

4th Tuesday  
Westlake Plumbing & Hardware  
1810 W. James M. Wood Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90064

## **Westside**

2nd Thursday  
Westside Pavilion  
10800 W. Pico Blvd., Room A  
Los Angeles, CA 90064

## **Westwood**

2nd Wednesday  
Westwood Presbyterian Church  
Hoffman Hall  
10822 Wilshire Boulevard,  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

## **Wilmington**

4th Wednesday  
Wilmington Senior Center  
1371 Eubank Ave.  
Wilmington, CA 90744

## **Wilshire Center-Koreatown**

2nd Thursday  
Central Plaza  
3450 Wilshire Blvd. #1114  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

## **Winnetka**

2nd Tuesday  
Valley Village Center  
20830 Sherman Way  
Winnetka, CA 91306

## **Woodland Hills-Warner Center**

2nd Wednesday  
Woodland Hills Academy.  
Multi-Purpose Room  
20800 Burbank Blvd.  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367