

Neighborhood Councils of the City of Los Angeles present the

# 2016 CONGRESS of NEIGHBORHOODS

Neighborhoods First: Your Voice, Our City



# LA City Hall

**Saturday  
September 24, 2016**

[NCCongressLA.com](http://NCCongressLA.com)



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS  
**EMPOWER LA**  
Department of  
NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT



**THANK YOU**

**to the NCs that supported the 2016 CONGRESS**

**Mission Hills  
Tarzana**

**Sherman Oaks**

**Northridge West**

**North Hills West**

**Empowerment Congress North Area**

**Encino**

**Greater Cypress Park**

**Greater Wilshire**

**Venice**

**Historic Highland Park**

**Chatsworth**

**Hollywood United**

**Northridge East**

**Neighborhood Council Valley Village**

**Pacoima**

**Hollywood Hills West**

**Mid City West**

**Foothill Trails District**

*and to those who contributed after printing deadline.*

*Cover Photo: EmpowerLA staff*

# Welcome to the 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods

## GREETINGS FROM CINDY CLEGHORN, NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL CONGRESS CHAIR



Thank you for being part of the 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods! We at the Congress Planning Committee are honored to have so many wonderful civic leaders on board as attendees, speakers, and instructors.

Our theme for 2016 is **Neighborhoods First: Your Voice; Our City**. In keeping with that theme, at this year's Congress, you'll learn the skills and build the relationships you need to make the impact of your local efforts felt citywide.

Beginning with Charter Reform in 1999 and the implementation of the Neighborhood Council System, Neighborhood Councils have grown up and generated great success stories across the city, working together with public officials and community stakeholders to improve our quality of life in our neighborhoods and the City. Some of our success includes:

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
- Planning Pilot Program Early Notification of Planning & Land Use Applications
- Community Impact Statements
- Seat at the table – Five minutes to address City meetings and hearings
- Partner in the City budget process
- Established Regional and Citywide Alliances working together

Many of the workshops on these successes are offered at today's Congress.

This Congress would not be possible without support from our Neighborhood Councils. This support comes in many ways. Your Congress Planning Committee began planning in early January with a great team of dedicated volunteers taking on a great responsibility to make every detail of this event a success. Our EmpowerLA staff has been here to assist in every way possible and we truly appreciate your support. Thank you to the elected officials for your support and approval so that we are able to hold our event here at City Hall today. This is our 6th consecutive year and we are proud and honored to be here. We appreciate EmpowerLA and want to especially thank the Neighborhood Councils who funded the expenses for our Congress. This is your Congress.

Thank you for being here today, we hope you'll have an invigorating, eye-opening experience at our 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods!

*Cindy Cleghorn, Chair  
Neighborhood Council Congress 2016  
Neighborhoods First: Your Voice; Our City*

## 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



Welcome to the 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods! I so appreciate that you are spending your Saturday connecting with Neighborhood Council and City leaders in order to bring important knowledge back to your communities. Whether you are new to the Neighborhood Council system or a veteran, I know you'll find it a wonderful day of learning and sharing all things Neighborhood Council.

The Congress would not be possible without the magnificent efforts of the Congress of Neighborhoods Planning Committee, headed by their fearless leader, Cindy Cleghorn. They work all year long to fundraise and plan the Congress, and I'm sure you'll agree that with all the workshops on various topics important to Neighborhood Councils, they've done an outstanding job again this year. I cannot thank them enough for their amazing work. It takes a City to put on the Congress so I also want to thank our hardworking EmpowerLA staff, particularly Jasmine Duckworth, along with the volunteers, speakers, City electeds and department heads, their staff and the Neighborhood Councils for supporting this year's Congress.

It's a special year as we will be celebrating the 15 year anniversary of the first Neighborhood Councils this December. I don't think anyone could have predicted the successes of the Neighborhood Councils and the influence they have at City Hall. The skills you learn today at the Congress and as a board or committee member can definitely take you beyond your Neighborhood Council. Neighborhood Council members have gone on to hold citywide and local district elected offices, sit on City commissions and become staff at City Hall. To have such City leaders and public servants be grounded in grass roots civic engagement can only make Los Angeles stronger and more responsive to its many communities.

I, and our EmpowerLA staff, look forward to partnering with Neighborhood Councils and recognizing 15 years of awesome Neighborhood Council work. Have an excellent day!

*Grayce Liu, General Manager  
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment aka EmpowerLA*



## Neighborhood Council Alliances

- ARCLA – Alliance of River Communities
- HANC – Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils
- LANCC – Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition
- SLAANC – South Los Angeles Area Neighborhood Councils
- VANC – Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils
- WRAC – Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
- DWP Committee – DWP Memorandum of Understanding
- PlanCheckNC – Land Use & Planning Education
- NC BUDGET ADVOCATES
- NCSA – Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance
- Hollywood Coalition
- NC Emergency Preparedness Alliance

# 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods

## NEIGHBORHOODS FIRST: YOUR VOICE, OUR CITY

HOSTED BY THE 96 CERTIFIED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Saturday, September 24, 2016 • 7:45 AM - 4:30 PM • City Hall • 200 N. Spring Street • Los Angeles

In January 2016 the NC Congress Planning Committee met at the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power in Los Angeles to begin planning **Neighborhoods First: Your Voice, Our City**. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment / EmpowerLA staff gave of 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.

### 2016 HOST COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

#### CHAIRPERSON

Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga NC

#### OVERALL EVENT LOGISTICS, CATERING & VOLUNTEERS

Heinrich Keifer, Historic Highland Park NC

#### WORKSHOP COORDINATORS

Ivan Spiegel, Venice

Carolyn Casavan, Sherman Oaks NC

Glenn Bailey, Northridge East NC

Ann-Marie Holman

Freddy Cupen-Ames, North Hollywood West NC

Sarah Ramsawack, North Hollywood North East NC

Colette Amin, Greater Wilshire NC

Charletta Butler, ECCANDC

Marlene Savage, PlanCheckNC

Lydia Grant, former BONC Commissioner

Terrence Gomes, LANCC Chair

Kathy Delle-Donne

Pati Berman, DLANC

Corinne Ho, Canoga Park NC

Garry Fordyce, North Hills West NC

Barbara Chikosi, ECCentral NC

Rhonda L. Spires, Canoga Park NC

#### EXHIBITORS

Ruben Martinez, Atwater NC

Marlene Savage, Del Rey NC

#### SPONSORS/FUNDRAISING

Glenn Bailey, Northridge East NC

Sarah Ramsawack, NHNENC

#### REGISTRATION & NAME BADGES

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Mark Seigel, Sunland-Tujunga NC

#### FILMING

Vince Neill, Canoga Park NC

LACC Film Department

#### AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

Mark Seigel, W6MES, Sunland-Tujunga NC

#### HOSPITALITY & DIGNITARIES

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Suzanne Lewis

Cindy Cleghorn

Ruben Martinez

Marlene Savage

Ann-Marie Holman

Dorsay Dujon

David and Velinda Rockello

#### CONGRESS PROGRAM BOOK EDITING

Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga NC

Carolyn Casavan, SONC

Ann-Marie Holman

#### ONLINE REGISTRATION & WEBSITE

Ann-Marie Holman

Freddy Cupen-Ames, North Hollywood West NC

Carolyn Casavan, SONC

Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga NC

#### NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL & STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

\*all Congress Planning committee members

Sarah Ramsawack, NHNENC

Glenn Bailey, Northridge East NC

#### 2016 CONGRESS THEME GRAPHICS & 2016 PIN DESIGN

Ann-Maire Holman

#### CONGRESS DAY VOLUNTEER COORDINATION

Freddy Cupen-Ames, North Hollywood West NC

Heinrich Keifer, Historic Highland Park NC

John Stammerich, Central San Pedro NC

#### MUSIC / MUSICIANS

Dorsay Dujon, Make Music LA

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO

#### DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

**EmpowerLA.org**

Grayce Liu, General Manager

Jasmine Duckworth

Thomas Soong

Mike Fong

EmpowerLA staff

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Hector Graciano, Watch Commander, General Svs

Russ Bellenot & Ed Santacruz, Council Audio

Los Angeles City, Information Technology Agency

#### WEBSITE / MARKETING / PRESS / SOCIAL MEDIA

Ann-Marie Holman

Freddy Cupen-Ames

Glenn Bailey

Make Music LA

CityWatchLA.com

#### VOLUNTEERS

LAPD Cadets

Ham Radio Operators

#### HOSTING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

*SPECIAL THANKS for the locations and coordinators of committee meeting space.*

Department of Water & Power

Glassell Park Community Center

Hollywood Constituent Center

LAFD Station 89

Dr. Mary Mcleod Bethune Library

#### VENDORS

AAA Rents

Crystal Audio

Goodway Copy & Print

Lucchese Catering

Intercontinental Interpreting Translation Svcs

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mayor Eric Garcetti

City Attorney Mike Feuer

City Controller Ron Galperin

City Council President Herb Wesson

Los Angeles City Council

for their support of the NC Congress 2016

#### BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

Leonard Shaffer, BONC President

#### INFORMATION TABLES / EXHIBIT TABLES

Bureau of Street Services

Bureau of Sanitation

Department of City Planning

PlanCheckNC

Special Events

FilmLA

MYLA311

MOA Center

Solarcorps Outreach Fellow Grid Alternative

Greater Los Angeles Zoo

Mayor's Office of Public Safety

Emergency Preparedness

Metro

Department of Building & Safety

Department of Transportation

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment / EmpowerLA

Los Angeles City Attorney

City Controller

Department of Water & Power

The Community Forest Advisory Committee

Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance

Los Angeles Housing & Community Investment Department

Neighborhood Housing Services of LA County

Keep Your Home California

Los Angeles Department of Recreation & Parks

LAFD Auxiliary Communication Service

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

Office of Community Beautification

Office of Finance

United Neighborhoods for LA

#### OUTSTANDING APPRECIATION TO

**The 2016 Congress Planning Committee**

Cindy Cleghorn, Chair

Corinne Ho

Sarah Ramsawack

Glenn Bailey

Barbara Chikosi

Vincent Neill

Marlene Savage

Ann-Marie Holman

Garry Fordyce

Rhonda Spires

Freddy Cupen-Ames

Dorsay Dujon

Heinrich Kiefer

Nina Royal

Suzanne Lewis

Samuel Oh

Colette Amin

David Rockello

Velinda Rockello

Tony Wilkinson

Carolyn Casavan

Dave Brown

Charletta Butler

Kohei Matsuro

Vanessa Contreras

Ivan Spiegel

Lisa Morocco

Ruben Martinez

**EmpowerLA Staff**

Grayce Liu, General Manager

Jasmine Duckworth

Carmen Hawkins

Elise Rubin

Thomas Soong

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

# 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

The 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](http://EmpowerLA.org) website at [empowerla.org](http://empowerla.org) in the near future. If you would like to volunteer to plan the next NC Congress events please contact [NCCongress@EmpowerLA.org](mailto:NCCongress@EmpowerLA.org).

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

**8:30 am – 9:10 am OPENING SESSION / CALL TO ORDER / COLOR GUARD / FLAG SALUTE – City Council Chambers**  
Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga NC, Chair NC Congress Planning Committee

#### INTRODUCTIONS

2016 NC Congress Planning Committee  
Board of Neighborhood Commissioners  
NC Alliances  
NC Budget Advocates  
Contributors To The 2016 NC Congress

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

KEYNOTE: Herb Wesson, President Los Angeles City Council, Council District 10

**9:10 am – 9:25 am BREAK**

**9:25 am – 10:40 am SESSION ONE**

#### **BOARD BASICS 101 – Room 1050**

**Coordinator/Presenter:** Ivan Spiegel

Joining a Neighborhood Council board makes you part of a dynamic system in a dynamic City, a system that is both changing the City of Los Angeles and being changed by the People of Los Angeles. This workshop will help you gain a deeper understanding of: how to build strong Neighborhood Council boards, how to work with your partners in the Neighborhood Council system, and what all those “policies and procedures” really mean for you. This workshop is not a repeat of the EmpowerLA Orientation and will cover many other topics.

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

**Coordinator/Moderator:** Sarah Ramsawack, North Hollywood North East NC

**Confirmed Speakers:** Ron Galperin, City Controller; Bob Blumenfield, Councilmember, District 3; Mike Bonin, Councilmember, District 11; Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Councilmember, District 8; Capri Maddox, Special Assistant City Attorney; Nury Martinez, Councilmember, District 6; Paul Krekorian, Councilmember, District 2; Paul Koretz, Councilmember, District 5; David Ryu, Councilmember, District 4; Herb J. Wesson, Jr., Councilmember, District 10

A favorite of Congress attendees! A panel of City Elected & Appointed Officials with Q&A session for 40 minutes, then one on one time.

#### **PLANNING & LAND USE 101 – PW Boardroom**

**Coordinator:** Cindy Cleghorn

**Speaker:** Sharon Commins, reCodeLA Advisory Committee

The best urban planning solutions are not imposed from the top, but generated through civic engagement from the grassroots up. This workshop is designed to introduce newly elected NC board members and land use committees to basic land use and planning. New board members come in with great ideas to improve their communities and then find out quick there's a process. In this workshop we will cover the following: history and effectiveness of land use committees; what triggers an item on the committee's agenda; how they review, educate and communicate to stakeholders, surrounding neighbors and the city. Also, the interaction between NC land use committees, City Planning and Building & Safety. You will leave this workshop understanding the importance of being reactive vs. proactive, understand some basics such as how to use the LADBS permitting system and ZIMAS.

All workshops will be video/audio taped. Please complete evaluation forms for each workshop you attend.

PLEASE, name badge needed for all events.

# 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## **CREATIVE PLACEMAKING: Great Streets and Cultural Affairs – Room 1070**

### **Community Resource Opportunities From The Great Streets Initiative and The Dept Of Cultural Affairs**

**Coordinator:** Barbara Chikosi, Empowerment Congress Central Area Neighborhood Development Council

**Moderator:** Naomi Iwasaki, Director of Neighborhood Services, LA Mayor's Office

**Panelists:** Lilly O'Brien, Program Manager, LA Mayor's Office, Great Streets Initiative; Alma Guzman, Arts Associate - Dept. Cultural Affairs; Joe Smoke, Grants Manager - Dept. Cultural Affairs

Join staff from the Mayor's Office Great Streets Initiative and the Department of Cultural Affairs in learning about community funding and partnership opportunities available with the City of Los Angeles. We will be discussing two innovative new programs designed to implement creative ideas from community members who want to support active, vibrant, and beautiful neighborhoods!

## **HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT CITY HALL (was Lobby Like A Pro) – Room 1060**

**Coordinator/Presenter:** Terrence Gomes, Chair Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition

**Presenters:** Matt Hale, Policy Director for Councilmember Paul Krekorian; Dennis Gleason, CD 15 Policy Director

This workshop will help you to understand how the process works for your Neighborhood Council: from Community Impact Statements to your NC's 5 Minutes to Speak before City Council Committees, Commissions and the City Council. It will cover the Alliances and how they can be a powerful tool in the system. Also, what happens if there is not enough time for your NC Board to vote on a pending Council File? We will address these issues and others as you learn the ins and outs of how to get things done. You will walk away with the knowledge and power you need to make a difference at City Hall.

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR BETTER OUTCOMES – Room 1010**

**Coordinator:** Tony Wilkinson, Panorama City & North Hills East NC

**Speakers:** Tony Wilkinson, Marco Sanchez, CD6 Staff, Officer John Lonergan, LAPD Community Relations  
Albert Melena, San Fernando Valley Partnership, Dave Brown, Southern California Preparedness Foundation

Community change is too big for any one organization to achieve. Neighborhood Councils need to work with others to make things happen. It is almost a rule that if a Neighborhood Council wants to do something, from a simple event to an ongoing program, it should first locate a community partner. City rules for events that are "sponsored" by a Neighborhood Council make it especially desirable to join in an event that will be sponsored by another entity. This workshop will show you how to find partners. Start with your City Council District office and your LAPD Division. Learn how to partner with other levels of government, place-based initiatives, advisory panels, arts councils, and non-profit organizations. Don't forget other Neighborhood Councils! The benefits of partnership include funding, program management, outreach, and more volunteers. Partnerships multiply what you can do. They also make your Neighborhood Council more visible in the community.

## **ONE WATER LA / COOL BLOCKS LA – Room 1035**

**Coordinator:** Carolyn Casavan, Co-Chair, Green & Beautification Committee, Sherman Oaks NC

**Panelists:** Lenise Marrero, Project Manager One Water LA, LA Bureau of Sanitation, Serge Haddad, Manager of the Water Recycling Policy Group, LA Department of Water and Power, Laura Mack, Executive Director, Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance

Learn about two important programs that are currently underway in the City of Los Angeles. The One Water LA Plan is currently being prepared with stakeholder input and provides an integrated approach for water supply, wastewater treatment, and stormwater management. Learn all about the vision, objectives and guiding principles for increasing sustainable water management for the City of Los Angeles. Cool Blocks LA is a new program, led by the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance in partnership with the City of LA, that helps neighborhood block teams develop water stewardship practices that significantly reduce water use, pollution and stormwater volume, and foster community climate and disaster resilience, liveability, and wellbeing. See how these programs complement each other and provide opportunities for NCs to make a difference on these very important issues.

## **UNLOCKING THE TRAFFIC GRID – Room 1040**

**Coordinator/Presenter:** Jay Handal

**Speaker:** Richard Platkin, Executive Board, Beverly Wilshire Homes Assn.

A frank discussion of Los Angeles traffic gridlock and the safety problems created by the gridlock. Traffic patterns, density and development, traffic light timing, DOT "White Gloves" program, "Vision Zero", ATSSAC, quality of life and more.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY IN LOS ANGELES: Community Engagement Opportunities for NCs – Room 1020**

**Coordinator:** Glenn Bailey, President, Northridge East NC

**Speakers:** Giselle Espinoza, Lieutenant, Community Relationship Division, Los Angeles Police Department; Nat Gale, Principal Project Coordinator, Active Transportation Division, Los Angeles Department of Transportation

Crime rates have been increasing throughout Los Angeles. Concerns about police-involved shootings are growing. Some believe 10,000 police officers is an insufficient number for a city of four million residents. Others advocate expanding the existing community policing model. Another 200 Angelenos are killed every year due to traffic collisions. What tools are available for Neighborhood Councils to help make our communities safer for everyone? This workshop will introduce LAPD's new Community Relationship Division and how it will be partnering with NCs. Vision Zero, a new action plan to eliminate traffic deaths in LA by 2025, will be presented.

All workshops will be video/audio taped. Please complete evaluation forms for each workshop you attend.

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# 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

10:40 am – 10:50 am **BREAK**

10:50 am – 12:05 pm **SESSION TWO**

## **FUNDING MECHANICS – 4th Floor Media Room**

**Coordinator:** EmpowerLA

**Speakers:** Mario Hernandez / Mr. Chavez - Office of the City Clerk

Presentation includes the latest updates, challenges and opportunities to the NC funding program.

## **THE FUTURE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MOVEMENT: New Faces, New Ideas – Room 1070**

**Coordinator:** Rhonda L. Spires, CFP®, Chair Outreach & Arts Committees & Member Land Use Committee Canoga Park NC

**Moderators:** Michael R. Newhouse, Esq., Chair Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC), President Emeritus Venice NC. Panelists: Nick Greif, President Palms NC; Andrew Jhun, First Vice Chair Mid City West Community Council; Saaliha Khan, At-Large Representative & Vice President Canoga Park NC; Danielle Sandoval, Treasurer Central San Pedro NC & Secretary NC Budget Advocates; Bonnie Strong, Vice President, Chair Outreach Committee & Member Plum Committee Olympic Park NC

The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council System presents a unique opportunity in participatory grassroots democracy in one of the largest and most dynamic cities in the world. With over 1800 elected volunteers in the NC System The Movement is alive and well and the Future is in our hands. Join Neighborhood Council Leaders for a lively discussion and Q&A session on the Vision and Future direction of the Neighborhood Council Movement. How do we increase civic participation, serve our stakeholders, activate voters and be effective advocates for change and the needs of our communities? How do we continue to build credibility of the NC System? How can we most effectively utilize technology in the movement? Where can the power of the NC system grow? and...Much More!

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT: Solving Ongoing Code Violation Problems – Room 1050**

**Coordinators:** Charletta Butler / Carolyn Casavan

**Presenters:** John Biezins, Acting Chief, Code Enforcement Bureau, Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety, James McDevitt, Senior Housing Inspector, Los Angeles Housing & Community Investment Department, Marsha Jackson, Senior Street Services Investigator II, Los Angeles Bureau of Street Services

Learn how you can resolve code violation problems in your neighborhood, such as building and safety violations, illegal structures and additions. This workshop will also cover how a complaint driven system works and doesn't work for the betterment of the neighborhood, what happens when a property sells, LADBS Building Permits and consequences to the community / city / owners for not pulling permits.

## **HOW TO RUN A SUCCESSFUL MEETING – Room 1040**

**Presenter:** Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian

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? Robert's 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.

## **NCS AND THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: Legal Issues Affecting NCs – Room 1020**

**Coordinator/Speaker:** Carmen Hawkins, Deputy City Attorney

**Panelists:** Vivienne Swanigan, Deputy City Attorney; Claudia Martin, Deputy City Attorney; Saba Kidane-Heritage, Dispute Resolution Program; Carmen Hawkins, Deputy City Attorney

Come meet members of the City Attorney's Team that work closely with Neighborhood Councils and learn the various services they provide. The Neighborhood Council Advice Division serves as General Counsel to the Neighborhood Councils providing legal advice on contracts, leases, Brown Act, Public Records Act and Conflict of Interests matters. The Neighborhood Prosecutors Program addresses quality of life issues that impact the NCs. The Labor Relations Division and the Dispute Resolution Unit addresses NC internal dynamics.

## **OUTREACH & EVENTS 101 – PW Board Room**

**Coordinators:** Lisa Cahan Davis & Dorsay Dujon

**Speakers:** Lisa Cahan Davis, Chair Sustainability Committee, Studio City Neighborhood Council, Dorsay Dujon, CEO, Make Music LA

If you fail to plan, you plan to fail. What is the purpose of the NC system outreach in your neighborhood? How does your outreach compare with the rest of the NCs across the City? This workshop will 1. Define NC Outreach; 2. How to Measure NC Outreach; 3. Expectations of NC Outreach to your Board and most importantly Stakeholders; 4. What the City Council expects to see when you appear before them on issues; 5. Establishing the "outreach system" so its easy, fun and continues on after you are out of office.

*All workshops will be video/audio taped. Please complete evaluation forms for each workshop you attend.*

*PLEASE, name badge needed for all events.*

# 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## HOW TO WORK WITH CITY DEPARTMENTS – Room 1010

**Coordinator/Moderator:** Marlene Savage

**Speakers:** Frank Bush, General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety, Vince Bertoni, Planning Director, Los Angeles Department of City Planning

The two most communicated departments that neighborhood councils have to deal with on a day to day basis are the Department of City Planning and Building and Safety. Come hear what our guest speakers, General Managers Vince Bertoni and Frank Bush, have to say about their departments and working with Neighborhood Councils.

## PERSUASION IN A NUTSHELL – Room 1060

**Speaker:** Debra Bowen, former California Secretary of State

Do you know the secret to presenting your arguments in a way that maximizes your persuasive appeal? Do you know what common mistakes can cause your audience to turn off before you finish your first sentence? Do you get so nervous that you waste a chunk of the precious two or three minutes you have in a formal hearing? Or perhaps you have noticed most of an audience focusing on a handout and completely ignoring the speaker - do you know what to know the tricks for using handouts and visual aids properly? This is your chance to improve your communication skills without taking semester long classes in Persuasion, in Leadership, in Cross-Cultural Communication, in Non-Verbal Communication, and in Public Speaking. You will leave this session knowing how to structure your arguments and what pitfalls you can readily avoid, and understanding the why behind what you are doing, so that you know how to evaluate a new situation.

## LA 2040: Our City. Our General Plan. Our Future. – Council Chambers

**Coordinator:** Cindy Cleghorn

**Speakers:** OurLA2040 Team - Christopher Pina, Claire Bowin, Diana Kitching, Fabiola Inzunza, Lena Mik, Maidel Luevano, and Robert Keatinge

The General Plan is the constitution for development in the city. It is the heart and foundation of the city's long-range vision for growth and serves as the basis for decisions that affect all aspects of our everyday lives – from where we live and work to how we move about. The City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning is about to embark on a four year process to update the General Plan. Updating the General Plan will ensure that we continue to grow in the best way possible and will give everyone an opportunity to shape our future together.

This workshop will cover an overview of the General Plan content and process and a discussion on the best ways to have your voice heard throughout the next four years.

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: It's Up to Us – Room 1035

**Coordinators:** Glenn Bailey, President, Northridge East NC; Suzanne Lewis, Chair, Events & Outreach, Neighborhood Council Valley Village

**Speakers:** Lorraine Curry, Treasurer, Empowerment Congress Central Area NDC; Mona Curry, Emergency Management Coordinator; Bill Hopkins, Chair Emergency Preparedness, Granada Hills North NC; Leonard Shaffer, Board President, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

When a major natural disaster or widespread emergency occurs, first responders may not be available to attend to every need for several hours, if not days. How can Neighborhood Councils better prepare their stakeholders to deal with such an eventuality? This workshop will explore such resources currently available, both in the public and private sectors, and how best to share that information with your stakeholders. CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program, 5 Steps to Neighborhood Preparedness plans, disaster preparedness drills and fairs, and participation in the new NC Emergency Preparedness Alliance are just a few examples that will be covered during this workshop.

**12:05 pm – 1:20 pm LUNCH – City Hall Forecourt**

**1:20 pm – 2:35 pm SESSION THREE**

### ETHICS: Part 1 of 2 – 4th Floor Media Room

**Coordinator:** Jasmine Duckworth/Carmen Hawkins

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

As elected public officials, Neighborhood Council board members are required by the State of California to take an Ethics training course, and renew that training every 2 years. If you haven't taken your Ethics course yet - or if your Ethics certificate is expired - take this two-part workshop series to fulfill that requirement.

**IMPORTANT: You must take both workshops in the series to get your Ethics certificate.**

All workshops will be video/audio taped. Please complete evaluation forms for each workshop you attend.

PLEASE, name badge needed for all events.



# 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## **SOCIAL MEDIA BASICS FOR NCs – Room 1035**

**Speakers:** Ann-Marie Holman & Freddy Cupen-Ames

(Coursework prepared with assistance from Deputy City Attorneys Carmen Hawkins, Elise Ruden & Dania Minassian)

Social media is vital for Neighborhood Council outreach and community engagement. But there are also important legal considerations when using social media, such as Public Records Act requests, or the potential for Brown Act violations. In this workshop, you will learn to create and use NC-appropriate accounts on popular social outlets like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Learn how to:

- Set up accounts on different social media platforms
- Identify and grow your audience
- Use hashtags effectively and correctly
- Tailor posts to different audiences and outlets
- Use free tools to create quality graphics sized correctly for each platform
- Schedule posts to make updating easy
- Create and share engaging event invites
- Decide how and when to respond - or not respond - to questions and comments

Any NC member will benefit from this class, whether a social media novice, or an experienced user.

## **WORKING COMMITTEES MAKE GREAT COUNCILS – Room 1040**

**Coordinator:** Tony Wilkinson, Panorama City & North Hills East NC

**Speakers:** Tony Wilkinson; Carolyn Casavan, Co-Chair Green & Beautification Committee, Sherman Oaks NC; George Francisco, Vice President, Venice NC; Dennis Gleason, CD 15 Policy Director

After one session that runs to 10 pm you realize that Neighborhood Councils cannot do everything at their monthly Board meetings. Also, there is no way to have a real dialog with the public and still get the monthly decision-making done. The answer to these challenges is simple: committees. A healthy committee system makes a successful Neighborhood Council. Committees help to separate the good ideas from the problematic. They offer an opportunity for real public discussion and involvement. They provide an organization ready to carry out a project after it is approved by the Board. This workshop is a guide to what should be the most relaxed and fun part of Neighborhood Council work. We'll cover the good and the bad, including rogue committees, how proposals get on the Board agenda, and how a Board should assure that it is served well by its committees. Hear different perspectives, plus Q&A.

## **LEADERSHIP SKILLS – Room 1010**

**Presenter:** Tony Braswell, President, Neighborhood Council Valley Village

This workshop is a MUST for Neighborhood Council presidents, board members and committee chairs to develop the know-how and confidence to effectively lead their councils, conduct successful meetings, and motivate their boards and committees to be functioning and effective. Also included, how to create and work with an Executive Committee and how to organize a meaningful Board Retreat to build rapport and work as a team. The topics will also 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; how to create leadership in others; and how to deal with public comment and controversial issues.

## **MANAGING AND SPENDING NC (TAXPAYER) FUNDS – Room 1070**

**Coordinators:** Corinne Ho and Garry Fordyce

**Moderator:** Corinne Ho, President, Canoga Park NC

**Panelists:** Ray Regalado, President, Northwest San Pedro NC; Danielle Sandoval, Treasurer, Central San Pedro NC; Judith Daniels, VANC Executive Board; Terrence Gomes, LANCC

Ninety-Six Neighborhood Councils, representing roughly 1850 Duly Elected City Officials, are charged with proper, prudent fiscal stewardship of Public Funds.

*Public Funds representing \$3,552,000 ÷ 96 = \$37,000 per NC.*

The Workshop Panel will discuss best practices in seeking acceptable ROI (Return On Investment) in administering accountability to equitably and responsibly accomplish Stakeholder Participation and make Government More Responsive. Then, best practices to avoid traditional year end giveaways to NPGs. Fiscal timeline management in Board event planning can avoid this and refocus Our City Charter Mandate.

## **BUILDING CREDIBILITY FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR NC – PW Boardroom**

**Coordinator:** Lydia Grant

**Speakers:** Kevin James, President Public Works Commission; Lydia Grant, Former Board of Neighborhood Commissioner

This workshop will help you begin the journey to increasing your level of credibility with elected officials and community members. How do you appear to others? Build your future and learn to introduce yourself to others in a way that they will connect with you, how to find and create opportunities to engage with your elected officials, and how to build relationships and networking skills.

*All workshops will be video/audio taped. Please complete evaluation forms for each workshop you attend.*

*PLEASE, name badge needed for all events.*

# 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## **HOMELESS ISSUES: Can NCs Make a Difference? – Council Chambers**

**Coordinator:** Robert Newman, DLANC

**Speakers:** Douglas Guthrie, Alisa Ordina, Peter Lynn, Mark Troutman, Blair Besten, General Jeff

How can NCs make a meaningful difference in addressing homelessness in our communities?

## **BUILD THE PARK OF YOUR DREAMS IN A CONCRETE WORLD – Room 1060**

**Coordinator:** Patti Berman, President, Downtown Los Angeles NC

**Speakers:** Patti Berman, President, Downtown Los Angeles NC, Kevin Regan, Assistant General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, Scott Epstein, Chair, Mid City West Neighborhood Council

DLANC will share their accomplishment with building the park of their dreams.

## **CLEAN STREETS LA AND PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMS FOR NCs – Room 1050**

**Coordinator:** Marlene Savage

**Speakers:** Keith Mozee, Executive Officer, Bureau of Street Services

Come learn about the latest programs that the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) and Bureau of Street Services (BSS) have developed for Neighborhood Councils. Learn how your NC can take advantage of LASAN programs like the Clean Streets LA Challenge with awards of up to \$25,000, bulky item pickups, and trash cans for public areas. Also, hear from the BSS regarding their programs including sidewalk and street repairs, street sweeping, tree maintenance, and more.

## **BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES – Room 1020**

**Coordinator:** Ivan Spiegel

**Speakers:** Leyla Campos, Director of Neighborhood Council Operations, Empower LA

NC Bylaws set the tone and structure for your Neighborhood Council and they have turned out to be unique for each organization. This workshop will discuss the problems that NC elections have had from these unique bylaws, opportunities to streamline the NC bylaws so your NC can be more effective faster, less costly to your volunteer budget and maintain ongoing credibility for the NC. You will take away actual examples of Bylaws amendments including the process for board approval, the paperwork and procedure for approval by BONC / DONE. For any NCs with issues during the last Elections, this is an opportunity to not be missed.

**2:35 pm – 2:45 pm BREAK**

**2:45 pm – 4:00 pm SESSION FOUR**

## **ETHICS – PART 2 OF 2 – 4th Floor Media Room**

**Coordinator:** Jasmine Duckworth/Carmen Hawkins

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

As elected public officials, Neighborhood Council board members are required by the State of California to take an Ethics training course, and renew that training every 2 years. If you haven't taken your Ethics course yet - or if your Ethics certificate is expired - take this two-part workshop series to fulfill that requirement.

**IMPORTANT: You must take both workshops in the series to get your Ethics certificate.**

## **PLANNING & LAND USE 102: Affordable Housing – PW Boardroom**

**Coordinator:** Kathy Delle Donne

**Panelists:** Isela C. Gracian, President East LA Community Corporation; Magdalena Zakaryan, LA City Housing & Community Investment Dept.; Athena Novak, President, AHN & Associates, LLC Land Use & Entitlements

This workshop will cover the basics to understanding just what is the definition of Affordable Housing. What qualifies for an Affordable Housing unit? Income levels? Location? Preferences.

## **CIVIC YOUTH: Engaging Future Board Members – Room 1060**

**Coordinator:** Jasmine Elbarbary, Neighborhood Council Advocate, Empower LA

**Speakers:** Civic Youth Leadership Academy Participants

Learn how best to engage youth in the Neighborhood Council system by hearing from young people that participated in this summer's inaugural class of the Civic Youth Leadership Academy (CYLA.) The youth panelists will be discussing their experience and lessons learned, and will cover topics such as:

- Attracting youth to your Neighborhood Council
- Meaningful modes of participation for youth in NCs
- Community involvement in neighborhood service projects (i.e. cleanups)
- The value of youth presence in NCs

All workshops will be video/audio taped. Please complete evaluation forms for each workshop you attend.

PLEASE, name badge needed for all events.

# 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## **NC ELECTIONS: The Good, The Bad, and The Future – Room 1020**

**Coordinator:** Jay Handal, Neighborhood Council Elections Administrator, Empower LA

**Speakers:** Christopher Garcia, City Clerk's Office, Michael Lynn, Chair Public Safety, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

Elections are over but not forgotten. This workshop will be a discussion on the success (and failures) of the 2016 elections including the registration challenges, polling sites, outreach effectiveness. What is the future for online voting in the NC system? What is the future of the community interest stakeholder? How do we make NC Elections better in 2018 and beyond, starting today?

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS BASICS: Press Releases, Press Kits & More – Council Chambers**

**Coordinator:** Ann-Marie Holman

**Speaker:** Ann-Marie Holman

Learn how to establish an effective public image for your Neighborhood Council by creating the PR materials you need to forge stronger relationships with your stakeholders and with the media. This workshop reveals the best practices for successfully writing and sharing key PR elements such as:

- Press Kits
- Press Releases
- Boilerplates (short About Us blurbs)
- Flyers for meetings & special events
- Graphics & videos
- Multilingual versions of promo materials & meeting notifications
- Web content with effective SEO

You'll also learn to navigate the legal issues NCs must consider when creating PR content. Handouts with helpful templates and checklists will be provided.

## **PURPOSEFUL AGING IN LA: NCs Can Make It Happen – Room 1040**

**Coordinator:** Sherri Akers, Co-Chair, Aging In Place Committee, Mar Vista Community Council

**Presenters:** Laura Trejo – General Manager, Los Angeles City Dept. of Aging, Adriana Mendoza - Associate State Director at AARP, Sherri Akers and Tatjana Luethi – MVCC Aging in Place Committee Co-Chairs/Co-Founders

Learn about Mayor Garcetti's initiative for Purposeful Aging LA in collaboration with AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Let's make Los Angeles the best big city to age in! You'll learn about his initiative and the role that NC's are expected to play. We'll give you the tools to create an outreach plan and explain the working groups that every NC will be asked to engage in. You'll learn how to create a committee on issues for aging, what have proven to be best practices and how to engage the community.

## **THE CITY BUDGET: It Starts And Ends Here – Room 1035**

**Coordinators:** Brandon Pender / Bridgette Kidd, NC Budget Advocate

**Speakers:** Miguel Santana, Chief Administrative Officer, Matt Szabo, Deputy Mayor, Melissa Kranske, Inspector General, CAO, Dr. Dan Wiseman

Everyone knows the City Budget can be very boring. BUT, every service our City provides must be funded and it comes from the general fund (OUR CITY BUDGET). When services are slow, staff is laid off, and the excuses are that we have no budget, that becomes OUR problem. The City Charter gives Neighborhood Councils the duty to weigh in on budget issues. Come and learn how to have your voice be heard.

## **LADWP - The \$5 Billion Budget Where NCs Have the Inside Track (& MOU) – Room 1050**

**Coordinator:** Tony Wilkinson, DWP Representative, Panorama City Neighborhood Council

**Speakers:** David Wright, LADWP General Manager; Joseph Ramallo, LADWP Assistant General Manager and Director of Communications, Marketing and Community Affairs; Fred Pickel, Director of the Office of Public Accountability and Ratepayer Advocate. Panel participants: Marvin Moon, LADWP Director of Power Engineering; Julie Spacht, LADWP Executive Managing Engineer, Water System; Susan Rowghani, LADWP Assistant Division Head and Director of Water Engineering and Technical Services; Tony Wilkinson, Chair of Neighborhood Council - DWP MOU Oversight Committee

A whirlwind overview of what is going on at this huge city department. Meet the new General Manager David Wright, some key DWP executives, and the independent Ratepayer Advocate, Fred Pickel. Neighborhood Councils have an official Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with DWP. It's the only one with any city department. The MOU provides a unique level of information sharing and transparency. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is an essential part of life for everyone who lives or works in LA. It is the nation's largest municipal utility. YOU own it. Find out about your rates, where the money is going, performance benchmarks, and customer opportunities for savings. LADWP is in the midst of a complete revolution in power production and distribution. At the same time it is leading a major effort to rebuild the local water supply in the face of ongoing drought. This is exciting stuff!

# 2016 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

## PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE – Room 1070

**Presenter:** Ivan Spiegel

Parliamentarians are an essential component of Neighborhood Council meetings, but what exactly do they do? Actually, most of a Parliamentarian's duties happen outside of meetings. Why does a Neighborhood Council Parliamentarian need a different skill set from those who work with other kinds of organizations? Why doesn't Robert's (and Rosenberg's) Rules apply in many situations? This is a workshop for "would-be" Parliamentarians, meeting chairpersons, board members who have been asked to assume this role but really have no clue, and all those who would like more information about this exciting and necessary position. NOTE: Although we will cover some aspects, this is not a class on basic parliamentary procedure.

## MAKING LA A MORE SUSTAINABLE CITY: The Role of Neighborhood Councils – Room 1010

**Coordinator:** Glenn Bailey

**Speakers:** Torin Dunnavant, Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal, Lisa Hart, Farah Johannsen, Mark Morris, Alexandra Nagy

It has been more than a year since Mayor Garcetti released the Sustainable City pLAn. While some progress has been achieved, much work on the Plan's environmental, economic, and equity goals remains. Over the summer, many Neighborhood Council leaders met and identified over a dozen local and citywide issues of concern and are now working together to make progress on many of them. Be updated on the pLAn's implementation and learn how you and your NC can also help make LA a more sustainable city.

## 4:05 pm – 4:30 pm **CLOSING SESSION**

**Closing Speaker:** Mayor Eric Garcetti

## 4:30 pm **CONGRESS CONCLUDES**

*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.*

*THANK YOU to all who participated in the 2016 Congress.*

*We look forward to seeing you at the 2017 Congress.*

*All workshops will be video/audio taped. Please complete evaluation forms for each workshop you attend.*

*PLEASE, name badge needed for all events.*

# JOIN US for a Post-Congress of Neighborhoods PIZZA SOCIAL!

## After the Congress

Immediately afterwards,  
at PITFIRE PIZZA –  
an easy walk from City Hall.  
Pizza, pasta, & salad  
will be provided courtesy of the  
Neighborhood Council Sustainability  
Alliance (NCSA)



# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Glenn Bailey**, President, Northridge East NC

Glenn Bailey is a Board member of the Northridge East and Encino NCs, an Executive Committee member of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), Treasurer of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC), and served as a NC Budget Advocate for four terms. Glenn is Chair of L.A. City's Bicycle Advisory Committee and also serves on the boards of other community, civic, and non-profit organizations.



**Patti Berman**, Board Member, DLANC

Patti Berman has lived in Downtown Los Angeles for 15 years. For ten of those, she has been associated with the Downtown LA Neighborhood Council (DLANC). She has served two terms as Vice President of Outreach, and three plus terms as President.

During the years she has worked with DLANC, Parklets have become a reality in Downtown as has Spring Street Park. A \$121,000 SCAG grant

has produced a shared vision of Downtown's livability, mobility and sustainability.



**Vince Bertoni**

Vince Bertoni is the Planning Director for the City of Los Angeles and has 27 years of professional planning experience. Previously, Vince served as Director of Planning and Community Development for the City of Pasadena, Deputy Planning Director for the City of Los Angeles and as Planning Director for the cities of Beverly Hills, Santa Clarita, and Malibu.

Vince is a member of the California Planning Roundtable and has held several leadership positions with the California Chapter of the American Planning Association including President, Vice President for Policy & Legislation, Director of the Los Angeles Section, and Co-Chair of the American Planning Association's 2012 National Planning Conference. In addition, he has served on the Board of Directors of the League of California Cities and as President of the League's Planning & Community Development Department. Vince has been active on statewide legislation; having served on the Housing Element Reform Working Group formed by the State Assembly and Senate and testified before the State Senate on infill real estate development strategies.

Vince has a Bachelor's Degree in Transportation and Urban Geography from San Diego State University and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.



**John Biezins**, Code Enforcement Bureau, Acting Chief

John is a Certified Plans Examiner and Combination Building Inspector. He oversees the following Building and Safety operations: 1- and 2-Unit Complaint and Referral, Commercial Complaint and Referral, Vacant Building Abatement, Pro-active Code Enforcement, Signs Inspection, Local Enforcement Agency, and Annual Inspection Monitoring.



**Debra Bowen**,

Former California Secretary of State

Debra Bowen, who took her law degree from the University of Virginia Law School, began her accidental political career by joining her neighborhood watch. She learned the ropes of local government through volunteer work with various Venice groups, and was a co-founder of PLAN-LA, a coalition of community groups from every council district that made it easier for citizens to

collaborate. In 1992, Bowen was elected to the State Assembly followed by two terms in the State Senate. She ran for and was elected as California's Secretary of State after observing how the federal election problems of 2000 and 2004 were undermining democracy.

Ms. Bowen fulfilled her campaign promise to conduct a top-to-bottom review of California's multiple voting systems, and the detailed studies she commissioned confirmed public suspicions about vulnerability to hacking, malfeasance, and plain old human error. The changes she mandated, which ended the widespread use of touch screen voting machines in California, earned her the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award, which recognizes politicians who choose to do what is right rather than what is politically expedient.

As Secretary of State, Debra also ushered in on-line voter registration, founded a new, science-based approach to post-election auditing, and pioneered use of the cloud for election reporting, saving the state's taxpayers nearly a million dollars for equipment that would have been used for under 6 hours every two years. Pioneering was not new to Bowen, who wrote a bill in her first year in office that put all California legislative information, including member voting records, on the internet. (Debra recalls a polite argument with an older senator who insisted that no one would use it.)

This first-in-the-world innovation to improve government transparency sparked Bowen's interest in the intersection of public policy and new technology. She continued to do groundbreaking work, including authoring a statute that forbids the use of the social security number as an ID number for uses such as health insurance and student ID's — a standard since copied by most other states.



**Tony Braswell**, Valley Village NC Board President

Tony Braswell has been a member the Board of Neighborhood Council Valley Village since it began in 2003 and has been Board President since 2008. He is Program Director for the Cedars-Sinai Women's Cancer Program. 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, and 5 years with the City's Disabled Access Appeals Commission, 1 year as President.

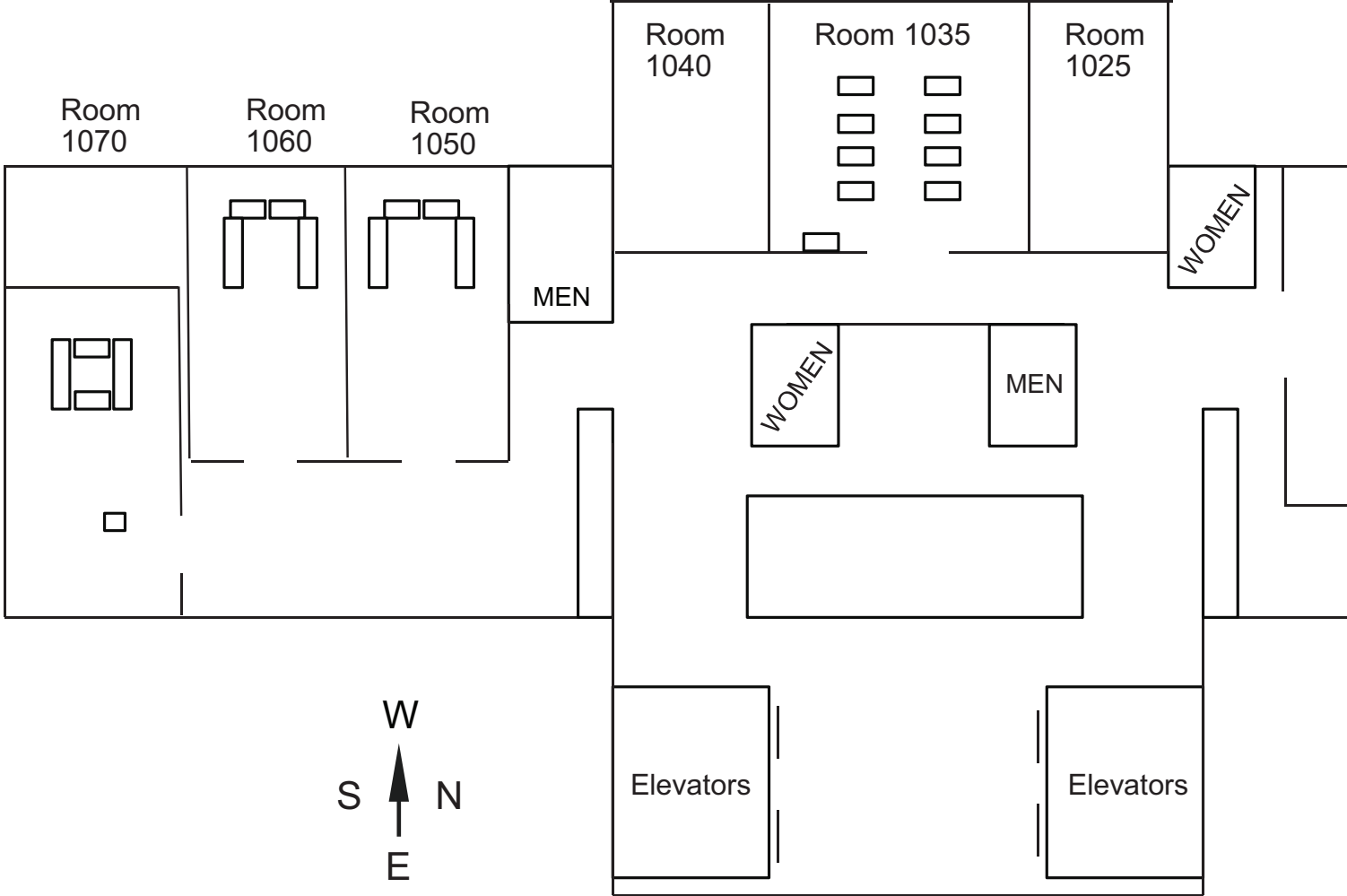
**Dave Brown**, North Hills West NC

A Founding member and Director of Logistics for the Southern California Preparedness Foundation (a 501c3). The foundation administers the Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair and facilitates CERT training, Map Your Neighborhood programs, and is a Certifying Organization for the Presidential Volunteer Awards Program. North Hills West Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness & Public Safety Chair, LAPD Devonshire Community Police Advisory Board, CERT 3, and Ham Radio and Technical Specialist supporting global live events. Backgrounds in Astrophysics, Engineering, Security, Finance and Martial Arts.

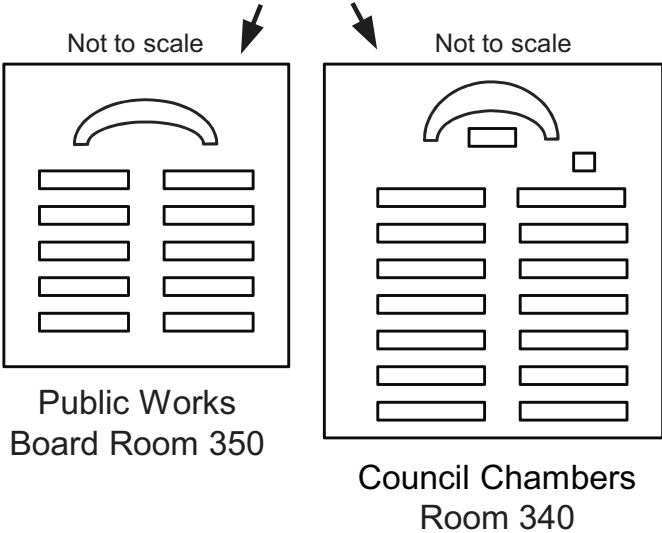
— Moderators, Speakers, Panelists continued on page 14

# Map to Workshop Sessions

## 10th FLOOR ROOMS



## 3rd FLOOR ROOMS



**Please Note the Media Room is on the 4th Floor.**

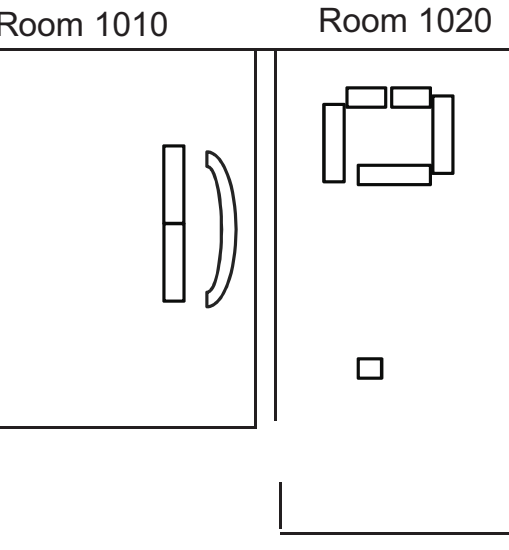
**Please look for signs directing you to the various workshop sessions.**

**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.**

**And Be sure to visit the Exhibit Tables in the Rotunda and Hallways — over 30 tables this year!**



**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*

*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. All workshops will be videotaped.*

WORKSHOP SESSION	ROOM
REGISTRATION / BREAKFAST / EXHIBITS / NETWORKING • 7:45 am - 8:30 am	City Hall Rotunda
OPENING SESSION • 8:30 am - 9:10 am	City Council Chambers
Council President Keynote	
BREAK • 9:10 am - 9:25 am	
SESSION 1 • 9:25 am - 10:40 am	
Board Basics 101	Room 1050
Meet Your City Officials	Council Chambers
Planning & Land Use 101	PW Boardroom
Creative Placemaking: Great Streets and Cultural Affairs	Room 1070
How to Make a Difference at City Hall (was Lobby Like A Pro)	Room 1060
Community Partnerships For Better Outcomes	Room 1010
One Water LA / Cool Blocks LA	Room 1035
Unlocking the Traffic Grid	Room 1040
Public Safety in Los Angeles: Community Engagement Opportunities for NCs	Room 1020
BREAK • 10:40 am - 10:50 am	
SESSION 2 • 10:50 am - 12:05 pm	
Funding Mechanics	4th Floor Media Room
The Future of the Neighborhood Council Movement: New Faces, New Ideas	Room 1070
Code Enforcement: Solving Ongoing Code Violation Problems	Room 1050
How to Run a Successful Meeting	Room 1040
NCs and the City Attorney's Office: Legal Issues Affecting NCs	Room 1020
Outreach & Events 101	PW Boardroom
How to Work with City Departments	Room 1010
Persuasion in a Nutshell	Room 1060
LA 2040: Our City. Our General Plan. Our Future.	Council Chambers
Emergency Preparedness: It's Up to Us	Room 1035
LUNCH • 12:10 pm - 1:10 pm	City Hall Forecourt
SESSION 3 • 1:20 pm - 2:35 pm	
Ethics: Part 1 of 2	4th Floor Media Room
Social Media Basics for NCs	Room 1035
Working Committees Make Great Councils	Room 1040
Leadership Skills	Room 1010
Managing and Spending NC (Taxpayer) Fund\$	Room 1070
Building Credibility for Yourself and Your NC	PW Boardroom
Homeless Issues: Can NCs Make a Difference?	Council Chambers
Build the Park of Your Dreams In A Concrete World	Room 1060
Clean Streets LA AND Public Works Programs for NCs	Room 1050
Bylaws and Standing Rules	Room 1020
BREAK • 2:35 pm - 2:45 pm	
SESSION 4 • 2:45 pm - 4:00 pm	
Ethics – Part 2 of 2	4th Floor Media Room
Planning & Land Use 102: Affordable Housing	PW Boardroom
Civic Youth: Engaging Future Board Members	Room 1060
NC Elections: The Good, The Bad, and The Future	Room 1020
Public Relations Basics: Press Releases, Press Kits & More	Council Chambers
Purposeful Aging in LA: NCs Can Make It Happen	Room 1040
The City Budget: It Starts And Ends Here	Room 1035
LADWP - The \$5 Billion Budget Where NCs Have the Inside Track (& MOU)	Room 1050
Parliamentary Procedure	Room 1070
Making LA a More Sustainable City: The Role of Neighborhood Councils	Room 1010
CLOSING SESSION • 4:05 pm - 4:30 pm	
Closing Speaker: Mayor Eric Garcetti	Council Chambers
CONGRESS CONCLUDES	

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Frank Bush**, General Manager - Superintendent of Building, Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety of Building and Safety

As the Executive Officer for the Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), Mr. Bush is responsible for managing the operations of the department, which has approximately 1000 employees. He ensures that the LADBS mission is accomplished, which is "to protect lives and safety of the residents and visitors of the City of

Los Angeles and enhance the quality of life, housing, economic prosperity, and job creation citywide and to advise, guide, assist customers to achieve compliance with the building, zoning, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, disabled access, energy and green codes local and state laws to build safe, well and fast."



**Charletta Butler**, Board Member, Empowerment Congress Central Area Neighborhood Development Council



**Leyla A. Campos**, Director of Field Operations, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Leyla Campos is currently a Senior Project Coordinator heading the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's field division. Leyla has been with the Department since 2002, and has worked in different capacities to support the neighborhood council system and their important work. She has also worked in various geographic areas within the City.

Leyla has a bachelor's degree in political science and studied public administration at Cal State University, Northridge. She is also a graduate of the Los Angeles Fire Department Leadership Academy, class of 13-02.

Prior to working for the City of Los Angeles, Leyla was very involved with disability rights and advocacy for people with disabilities. Her passions include martial arts, karaoke and the outdoors. She currently resides in the San Fernando Valley with her family.



**Carolyn Casavan**, Former Board Member, Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

Carolyn Casavan has been active in the Neighborhood Council system for many years. She served on the Board of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council from 2012-2016, where she started the Green & Beautification Committee and she has been on the NC Congress Planning Committee for the past 2 years. In her professional life, Carolyn provides consulting

services in energy, water, and sustainability. She also started and managed an environmental consulting and engineering firm for 20 years and helped establish and manage the San Fernando Valley Green Team.



**John Chavez**

John Chavez, a native Angeleno, began working for the City in 1990, starting with the Community Development Department (CDD). He promoted to the Los Angeles Housing Department, and shortly after to senior-level positions with the Department of Building and Safety, and again, with CDD.



**Barbara Jones Chikosi**, Licensed Psychiatric Technician (retired) from Los Angeles County

Department of Mental Health, completed undergraduate degree at the University of La Verne-Orange County Campus in Business Organizational Management, University of Southern California certificate program in serving the chronically mentally ill, Cypress College course of study psychiatric technology, member of METRO Advisory Committee Rail to Rail/River

project, Neighborhood of Congress Planning Committee, served two terms on Empowerment Congress Central Area NDC, chair of Education Committee, chair of Planning and Land Use, Council Representative for South Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Councils, Council Representative for California Science Center Space Shuttle Endeavor Transport (2012).



**Cindy Cleghorn**, Chair, NC Congress, Sunland-Tujunga NC Land Use Chair

Cindy has served two terms as President of the Sunland-Tujunga NC, current Land Use Committee chair, Executive Board for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils and Chair of PlanCheckNC -- an alliance of Neighborhood Councils dedicated to education in planning and land use. She served on the Neighborhood Council Review Commission representing the

North Valley. Cindy is a small business owner in Tujunga and serves on the boards of the Sunland-Tujunga and United Chambers of Commerce and executive board of the California Small Business Association (CSBA).



**Sharon Commins**, reCodeLA Advisory Committee

Learned basic land use and planning ropes first job out of UCLA with a BA in Anthropology. Did three years worth of ZVs, CUs, NDs. Definitely an artist [Art Center College of Design training]. Discovered fiberart; had works in multiple prestigious shows; works in permanent collection of UNICEF and Bernina of Switzerland. Back to planning as a volunteer MVCC PLUM Committee

member. Co-Chair Westside Regional Alliance of Councils Land Use and Planning Committee. Member, PlanCheckNC Steering Committee. AYSO Section 1 volunteer; advocates more playable field space for youth sports as an important potential community benefit in land use planning. And, Co-chair, Zoning Advisory Committee, ReCodeLA.

The best urban planning solutions are not imposed from the top, but generated through civic engagement from the grassroots up.



# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Freddy Cupen-Ames**

Los Angeles native, Freddy Cupen-Ames received his B.A. in Philosophy from Loyola Marymount University (LMU) and is a current USC Sol Price School of Public Policy MPA candidate with his studies focused on Local Government. Freddy still serves the City of Los Angeles and his immediate neighborhood as an elected At-Large Representative Board Member for the North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council

where he seeks to engage others in developing their neighborhoods and utilizing available L.A. City resources while striving to create a more self-sufficient public.

Recently finishing his summer internship at the Los Angeles City Controller's Office Ron Galperin, Freddy is still developing skills and institutional knowledge through his research on current audits that aim to increase governmental efficiency while improving all city departments, offices, and program operations. Previously, Freddy was a full-time Career Development Coordinator at Musicians Institute in Hollywood, who assisted students and alumni to realize their potential within the music/entertainment industry. In his past work experience, he also served as an LMU Special Games Committee Member for three years and was a Judicial Extern for the United States Bankruptcy Court, Central District in Santa Ana.



**Mona Curry**, Emergency Management Coordinator

Mona is the project lead for the City's "5 Steps to Neighborhood Preparedness" campaign.



**Judith Daniels**, Chatsworth Neighborhood Council Land Use Committee

Judith is a founding member of Chatsworth NC and served as president or vice president for a total of 10 years. She is also on the Executive Board of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. She recently retired from the CNC board after running CNC's fourth highly successful election-style selection.



**Lisa Cahan Davis**, Board Member, Studio City Neighborhood Council, Chair of Sustainability Committee

Lisa Cahan Davis has over 20 years of professional experience in business and customer development, strategic marketing and multi-channel communications for Fortune 500, non-profit, NGOs and emerging businesses such as GE Capital, KLCS-TV, PBS, E\*Trade and Air France. Her mission has always been to create

the new and different, focus on actions and outcomes and inspire others.

Since 2009, Lisa has been grateful to serve with the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) as Outreach Chair (2010-2014/Co-Chair 2015), Sustainability Chair (2015), a Cultural Affairs Committee Member (2009-2015) and a twice-elected At Large Board Member (2012 and 2014). Some core accomplishments achieved have been instituting an annual plan with budget, key partnerships, brand guidelines and unique public programs. This is best exemplified with the launch of wildly successful events such as Free Summer Movies in the Park, Green Living Fair, Small Business Seminar and Sustainability Seminar. Over 4,000 stakeholders attend SCNC events, programs and meetings per year!

Among her SCNC volunteer work, Lisa is FilmL.A.'s Community Relations/Communications Committee Chair, a Los Angeles Valley College Citizen's Building Oversight Committee Member and a Neighborhood Council Sustainability Committee Member.



**Neil Drucker**, Program Manager, Bureau of Engineering, Recreational and Cultural Facilities Program

Mr. Neil Drucker is the Program Manager for the City of Los Angeles's Proposition K – L.A. for Kids Program. Mr. Drucker's responsibilities include the management of capital improvement projects in the Departments of Recreation and Parks and Cultural Affairs, as well as managing the bi-annual Proposition K Competitive Grant

program, which allocates \$10 to \$12 Million every two to three years to City of Los Angeles, other public agencies within the City corporate limits, and non-profit organization projects which serve the youth and families of Los Angeles.



**Dorsay Dujon**

Dorsay is currently Vice President of the Silver Lake Improvement Association and on the Advisory Board of the iMusic Foundation. Dorsay produced articles for Gentlemen's Quarterly Magazine and was a featured presenter/author of education modules Communicating with Exhibitors, Project Management for the Exhibition Industry, and Cultural Diversity – Organizational Learning for the Tradeshow Industry.



**Torin Dunnivant**

Torin has been a Board member of the Atwater Village Neighborhood Council since 2011. He is a founding member and current chair of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance and is the Director of Engagement and Partnerships at TreePeople, a local organization that inspires Angelinos to take personal responsibility for the urban environment.

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Lt. Gisselle Espinoza**

Officer in charge of the Digital Media Unit within the new Community Relationship Division of the Los Angeles Police Department.



**Garry Fordyce**, North Hills West NC

Garry is Founder & Chair of the First Education Committee professing: "Knowledge Is The Power Leading To Success".

Garry Chairs the 405 Freeway Mural Restoration Committee.

He Writes BYLAWS and has been Second Signatory. Advocates a philosophy of "Prudent Fiscal Stewardship in The Management and

Spending of Taxpayer Dollars, while participating in and promoting local governance.



**George Francisco**

George Francisco is the current Vice President of the Venice NC. He chairs its Neighborhood Committee and provides oversight for 14 Standing and Ad Hoc committees. His goals for his tenure are to provide more fluid synergy between committees and the community and develop the most robust digital footprint to provide information about NC action and city services to the residents of Venice. George also serves as the

President of the Venice Chamber of Commerce and its a member or LAPD Pacific Division's Community Police Advisory Board. He is a member of the DGA and WGA and produces some of Venice's large community events as part of his community service.



**Nat Gale**

Nat Gale works for the Los Angeles Department of Transportation in a lead capacity on Vision Zero, a road safety policy that prioritizes the safety of the most vulnerable users on our roads, children and the elderly. Previously, he worked in Mayor Eric Garcetti's administration leading the Great Streets Initiative, a community development program focused at improving quality of life, health, and safety for Los Angeles neighborhoods. He is

an avid urbanist, dedicated transit-user, and a proud pedestrian.



**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 has served as a budget advocate on behalf of the Councils.



**Eric Garcetti**, Mayor, City of Los Angeles

Eric Garcetti is the 42nd Mayor of Los Angeles. His "back to basics" agenda is focused on job creation and solving everyday problems for L.A. residents.

Garcetti was elected four times by his peers to serve as President of the Los Angeles City Council from 2006 to 2012. From 2001 until taking office as Mayor, he served as the Councilmember representing the 13th District which includes

Hollywood, Echo Park, Silver Lake, and Atwater Village – all of which were dramatically revitalized under Garcetti's leadership.

Garcetti was raised in the San Fernando Valley and earned his B.A. and M.A. from Columbia University. He studied as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford and the London School of Economics and taught at Occidental College and USC. A fourth generation Angeleno, he and his wife, Amy Elaine Wakeland, have a young daughter. He is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy reserve and is an avid jazz pianist and photographer.



**Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal**

Joselyn is a Board member on the Echo Park and Rampart Village NCs and is the representative for both to the NC Sustainability Alliance. She is also a Cool Block Deputy.



**Terrence Gomes**, MBA, President of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC)

Terrence Gomes is a Los Angeles native, born in the Mar Vista area. He is currently the Chair of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) which includes the membership of the ninety-six neighborhood councils for the last three years. Terrence also mentors councils on funding and leadership issues and is a founding member

of Council4Councils (C4C) which was created to help the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) with training needs to the Neighborhood Council (NC) system during the budget crisis of 2009-2010. He is a founding member of the SORO NC's Green Team (GT). The GT has been used as a model for best practices by the DONE and many NCs have implemented the concept to increase environmental awareness for their community and policy development. In addition, he has been called upon as a guest speaker to speak on environmental awareness and best practices in an urban environment for the City of Los Angeles.



**Lydia Grant**, Former North Valley Commissioner, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Lydia Grant is a former board member on the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council. She has been active on land use and educational issues citywide, countywide, and even statewide, as a board member for Parent Revolution - an organization which advocates for expansion of the Parent Trigger laws across the country. Lydia has fought for safety issues at local schools, and

has worked to organize communities and to empower them with information and training on how to advocate on behalf of their children and their schools. Lydia is a mother of three and a grandmother. She loves cooking, rock collecting and scrapbooking. [lydiajeangrant@gmail.com](mailto:lydiajeangrant@gmail.com)

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Nick Greif**, President of the Palms NC

Nick Greif is President of the Palms Neighborhood Council ('16-'18) and former Treasurer of the board ('14-'16). During the day, Nick is LA City Councilmember David Ryu's Policy Director. Previously, he was an economic adviser to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti where he led the Mayor's policy campaigns to raise the minimum wage and reform the outdated business tax.

Nick holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics (Finance) from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. Born in Los Angeles, Nick lives in the Los Angeles neighborhood of Palms with his fiancé, Cat.



**Alma Guzman**, Arts Associate, Department of Cultural Affairs

Alma Guzman currently serves as an Arts Associate for the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) where she provides administrative support to arts organizations and individual artists seeking funding opportunities for public benefit projects. Prior to joining the DCA, Alma was the Associate Program Manager for the Los Angeles County Arts Commission where

she assisted with the programming of the Ford Amphitheatre's summer season of performances and the theatrical productions at the [Inside] the Ford Theatre. Alma is Co-Founder of the Southeast Los Angeles Collective, a grassroots organization dedicated to cultivating civic pride and elevating the voices of residents and Co-Producer of La Prueba: Test Kitchen + Music Lab, an arts series that focuses on highlighting local talent and creating gathering spaces for the communities of Southeast LA. Alma holds B.A.'s in Dramatic Art and English from the University of California, Santa Barbara and an M.A. in Performance Studies from New York University.



**Matt Hale**, Policy Director, City Councilmember Paul Krekorian

Matt Hale currently serves as Policy Director for City Councilmember Paul Krekorian. He also served in the past as a legislative staffer for the former Assemblymember, during which time he staffed a variety of legislation, tackling intellectual property theft, campaign finance, free speech online, sustainability, water conservation and renewable energy. When Assemblymember

Krekorian won a seat on the LA City Council, Matt relocated to Los Angeles to work with him in the District 2 office, where he covers matters related to the Budget and Finance Committee, and Energy and Environment.



**Jay Handal**, Former Citywide Elections Manager

Jay Handal is the former Citywide Elections Manager for Los Angeles' Neighborhood Councils. He currently chairs the West LA Neighborhood Council; and co-chairs both the City Budget Advocates and the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils. Jay is also a hearing examiner for the Los Angeles Police Commission.



**Lisa Hart**

Lisa Hart is an organizational development consultant who helps organizations and communities design, implement, and evaluate initiatives that leverage diversity, empower communities, and engage employees to advance the social sector's leaders, networks, and organizations and address systemic problems. She serves on the board of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance.



**Carmen Hawkins**, Assistant Supervising Deputy City Attorney, Neighborhood Council Advice Division

Ms. Hawkins serves as the legal advisor for the City, including each of the City's 96 Neighborhood Councils. Advises the South, Central, Harbor and West areas.



**Saba Kidane Heritage**, Deputy City Attorney

Saba Kidane Heritage joined the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office Dispute Resolution Program (DRP) as the Program Coordinator for its Biased Policing Complaint Mediation Program in December 2015. Saba has many years of experience working with refugees and asylum seekers in the Los Angeles area. Previously, she volunteered as a mediator with the Dispute Resolution Program.

She worked for government and nonprofit agencies, locally and overseas. She also served as an interpreter for the Executive Office for Immigration Review and other local organizations.

Saba is completing a Doctoral Degree in Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University's School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (S-CAR). She holds an MA in African Area Studies with a Political Science emphasis from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) and an MA in Peace and Justice Studies from the University of San Diego (USD). She completed her undergraduate studies in her native country-Eritrea. Her research interests include peace and conflict resolution; mediation, negotiation, ethnic/racial conflicts; race relations in the United States; human rights and democracy; refugees and asylum seekers; sustainability and development. Ms. Kidane Heritage is interested in policy, program design and development, training, and teaching.



**Corinne Ho**, President, Canoga Park Neighborhood Council

I am a working mom, a wife, and a public servant serving my community. I am fascinated by the great potential of the Neighborhood Council system and am watching it grow stronger each day.

My interest is focused upon responsibly monitoring and spending taxpayers funds.

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Ann-Marie Holman**

Ann-Marie Holman is a brand management and publicity consultant, and former NC board member and Land Use Committee chair. She created the website, graphics, newsletter articles and souvenir pin for this year's NC Congress. She also recently served on the Marketing team for the 2016 Neighborhood Council elections. Holman got her start as in-house publicist to one of the world's first e-commerce enterprises, and

has taught her PR workshops at locations across the United States..



**Naomi Iwasaki**, Director Neighborhood Services LA Mayor's Office

Naomi Iwasaki is the Director of Neighborhood Services and Great Streets in the Los Angeles Mayor's Office where she works with City departments and community partners to improve the safety, quality, and vibrancy of Los Angeles public space. Previously, she worked at Community Health Councils (CHC) analyzing transportation and transit-oriented development policies to

advocate for improving health and access disparities impacting South Los Angeles, and the New York City Department of Transportation, designing bicycle lanes and developing new community-based outreach models in marginalized neighborhoods including Harlem and Brownsville, Brooklyn. Naomi holds a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from New York University and B.A.'s in Ethnic Studies and Social Welfare from UC Berkeley.

**Marsha Jackson**, Senior Street Services Investigator, Bureau of Street Services

Marsha has 28 years of experience with the City of Los Angeles. She handles investigations related to public safety, quality of life issues, peak hour construction, regulation and inspections of Building Material Permits, regulation of the use of the public right-of-way, enforcement of illegal sign posting ordinances. She also handles events at major sports and entertainment venues, block Parties, illegal vending.



**Kevin James**, President, Board of Public Works, Director/Chief Liaison, Mayor's Office of Film and Television Production

A former Federal Prosecutor and past Co-Chair of AIDS Project Los Angeles' Board of Directors, Kevin James is currently the President of the Board of Public Works, where he - along with his four colleagues on the Commission - are the chief administrators of the Department of Public Works. This department consists of more than

4,800 employees who are responsible for design, construction, renovation and operation of public projects ranging from bridges to wastewater treatment plants and libraries; curbside collection and graffiti removal; and maintenance of streets, sidewalks, sewers, streetlights and trees.

Kevin additionally serves as the Director and Chief Liaison of the Mayor's Office of Film and Television Production, where he oversees the relationship between numerous City departments and the entertainment industry to make sure that film, television, commercial, and music video production feels at home in the City of Los Angeles.



**Farah Johannsen**

Farah Johannsen, a resident of Eagle Rock, is a member of the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council Sustainability Committee. In an effort to get more involved with her community, she volunteered to participate in the Alpha Cool Block program. Farah is a realtor with Keller Williams Realty; as a realtor she loves to help people and considers neighborhood involvement to be a duty.



**Andrew Jhun**

Andrew Jhun currently serves as the First Vice Chair of the Mid City West Community Council. Andrew has been an active neighborhood council member since 2012 serving on the by-laws committee, various ad hoc committees and as a delegate to the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition.



**Saaliha Khan**

Saaliha is a passionate bridge-builder and a proud Angeleno who graduated from Georgetown University in Washington, DC, with a degree in Government, and Justice and Peace Studies. She currently works as the Government and Community Relations Manager at Northeast Valley Health Corporation. In 2016, Saaliha has been re-elected to serve as the At-Large Representative and Vice-President of the Canoga Park Neighborhood

Council -- aiming to make local government more responsive to community needs. She is the Community Engagement Director for the San Fernando Valley Young Democrats. Saaliha seeks to lead a life of service, foster transformative change, and empower communities.



**Paul Koretz**, Los Angeles City Councilman District 5



**Suzanne Lewis**, Neighborhood Council Valley Village (NCVV) Board Member since 2008. Current NCVV Chair of Communications

Past Chair of NCVV Events & Outreach that was Honored at NC Congress in 2014 for "Light Up Valley Village". NC Budget Representative, NC Sustainability Alliance Representative and NC Emergency Preparedness Alliance Representative.

Suzanne is an LA Native, UCLA graduate and small business owner of a Publicity and Special Event company with 25 years of experience.

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



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

Grayce is the General Manager for the City of Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, which supports Los Angeles' 96 Neighborhood Councils in meeting their mission to increase civic participation and make government more responsive to local needs via the EmpowerLA movement. She 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. Prior to working with the City, 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 communication and self-defense in her free time.



**Ron Lorenzen**, Assistant Director Bureau of Street Services

Street Tree Superintendent, Department of Street Services - 1971-1980 Foreman, Sully's So Cal Tree Surgery, 1980-1992 Owner, Sully's So Cal Tree Surgery, 1992-1996 Tree Surgeon, City of Los Angeles, Urban Forestry Division, 1996-1999 Tree Surgeon Supervisor, City of Los Angeles, Urban Forestry Division, 1999-2006 Street Tree Superintendent, City of Los Angeles, Urban Forestry Division, 2006-2013 Assistant Chief Forester, City of Los Angeles, Urban Forestry Division, 2013-Present Acting Street Services Superintendent II, City of Los Angeles, Street Maintenance Division.



**Laura Mack**, Founder and Executive Director Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA)

Laura Mack, LEED AP ID+C, has 20 years experience leading sustainability and disaster resilience initiatives that empower organizations and communities to act. In 2014, as a Community Climate Change Fellow for U.S. EPA, Laura founded -- and continues to direct -- the award-winning Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA).



**Jen Marony**

Jen Marony began her work with the City overseeing the Mayor's Volunteer Corps, connecting Angelenos with meaningful volunteer opportunities that support Mayor Garcetti's objectives to revitalize our local communities. Her efforts focused on ending homelessness, veterans affairs, immigration affairs, sustainability, and Clean Streets. She currently serves as a special projects coordinator for the Board of Public, helping to facilitate the Clean Streets LA Challenge. Marony graduated with honors from UCLA, and is currently completing a Master's degree in Sociology.



**Darren R. Martinez**, Managing Deputy City Attorney, Neighborhood Council Advice 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 Keith McCowan, CCANDC Co-Chair.



**James McDevitt**, Senior Inspector, Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department

Senior Inspector McDevitt holds ICC Certifications in Building Inspector and Property Maintenance & Housing Inspection. He is assigned to the Code Enforcement Division-West Office. He Supervises and trains Inspection staff in the conduction of the department's Systematic Code Enforcement Inspection Program and complaint based inspections.



**Mark Morris**

Mark is a Board member of the Granada Hills South NC, serving as its Faith Based Director and is Co-Chair of the Advocacy Committee of the NC Sustainability Alliance.



**Keith Mozee**, Executive Officer, Bureau of Street Services

Keith Mozee received his Undergraduate Degree in Urban Studies at California State University Northridge and currently serves as an adjunct professor at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College. Mr. Mozee entered City service as an employee of the Department of Public Works in 1989 and was appointed General Superintendent in 2013. After having worked in nearly all areas of the Bureau of Street Services; Street Maintenance, Special Projects, Resurfacing and Reconstruction Division, he is currently an Executive Officer and responsible for oversight of the 2400 Lane Mile Pavement Preservation Program.



**Alexandra Nagy**

Alexandra Nagy is the Southern California Organizer at the Los Angeles branch of Food & Water Watch. She works within the Los Angeles and greater Southern California region to advocate for consumer health issues, namely food safety, the human right to water, and a statewide ban on fracking. Alex holds bachelor's degrees in political science and urban planning from the University of California, Irvine. While at UC Irvine, Alex created a sustainability program and a student-employee working group for dining services, and developed the campus' first student-led, community garden, Ants in Your Plants.

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Michael R. Newhouse, Esq.**

Mike is the principal of Newhouse Law Group PC, a full-service law firm in Los Angeles, CA, and President Emeritus of the Venice Neighborhood Council, where he has served on its Board for the past decade. Mike also Chairs the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC), a collaboration of all 13 Neighborhood and Community Councils on the Westside of Los Angeles.



**Athena Novak**, President of AHN & Associates, LLC Land Use & Entitlements

Our practice emphasizes on real estate development entitlements, zoning and environment issues, including appearances before city planning commissions, city councils and other governmental boards and agencies on behalf of real estate development firms and various industries.



**Lilly O'Brien**, Program Manager

Lilly O'Brien joined Mayor Eric Garcetti's Great Streets Initiative in June 2014 and serves as a program manager, where she oversees the Great Streets Challenge, a community partnership program to transform streets into more public spaces, as well as the Great Streets Great Business program that provides resources and assistance to small businesses on Great Streets. Before coming to the Mayor's office, Lilly worked

in Detroit for then-mayoral candidate Mike Duggan and as a national fundraiser for U.S. Senate candidates. Lilly has a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from UCLA, where she focused on economic access and mobility in low-income communities, and a B.A. from the University of Michigan (go blue) in Political Science and African American Studies. Lilly is a native Detroit and carless (not careless!) traveler.



**OurLA2040 Team**

OurLA2040 is a citywide effort led by the Department of City Planning to update the General Plan. The team is composed of seven members and growing: Christopher Pina, Claire Bowin, Diana Kitching, Fabiola Inzunza, Lena Mik, Maidel

Luevano, and Robert Keatinge. We are baby boomers and millennials, apartment dwellers and homeowners, scholars, poets, and activists who enjoy hiking, biking, and swimming. Some of us have worked with the city for years, while some of us are brand-new to the city. Some of us are native to Los Angeles and some of us are transplants from other cities, states, and countries. Our broad range of experiences, interests, and perspectives will be enriched by the many community voices that will join us in developing a collective vision for the future of Los Angeles.



**Richard (Dick) Platkin**, Executive Board, Beverly Wilshire Homes Association

Dick Platkin is a retired city planner with 30-plus years of experience working in the public sector in both Seattle and Los Angeles, as well as in the private and nonprofit sectors.

Since retiring from the LA City Planning Department, he has taught planning classes at USC and CSUN, consulted to many community groups in Los Angeles, and joined the boards of the Beverly Wilshire Homes Association and East Hollywood Neighborhood Council Planning Committee. He also writes a regular column on local planning issues for City Watch LA ([www.citywatchla.com](http://www.citywatchla.com)).

Some of his older articles can be found in the blog: [www.plan-itlosangeles.blogspot.com](http://www.plan-itlosangeles.blogspot.com). He can be reached at [rhplatkin@gmail.com](mailto:rhplatkin@gmail.com).



**Linda Pruett**

Linda Pruett is a founding member of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council and has served on the Board since its inception. The Emergency Preparedness Committee was the first standing Committee formed, and she has chaired it since its beginning. Monthly meetings are held with mini classes, speakers, and presentations. They have formed their own weekly ham radio net with participants from the Valley and far beyond, and a weekly FRS/GMRS net. The Committee conducted the largest (at that time) CERT class (154 graduates in one weekend), and continues to promote CERT and Map Your Neighborhood. MYN presentations are made throughout Los Angeles. Linda is a Director on the Board of Southern California Preparedness Foundation and serves as its Corporate Secretary. The Foundation sponsors the largest Emergency Preparedness Fair in Los Angeles, coming up on October 1st.



**Sarah Ramsawack**, North Hollywood Northeast NC

Sarah Ramsawack has enjoyed a multi-faceted career capped by many years of teaching, and her various roles include licensed Casualty Insurance Underwriter, vocal soloist and organizer of musical groups, and devoted parent and homeowner. An organizer and first facilitator of the Strathern Neighborhood WATCH in her community, she has been a member of the North Hollywood North East Neighborhood Council since March 2007. Sarah says that being a coordinator of two workshops at the CONGRESS 2015 is an honor, as it has given her the opportunity to share her enthusiasm for this great experiment in democracy.

**Ray Regalado**, Sr. Relations Specialist, L.A. County Commission on Human Relations

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Danielle Sandoval**, Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Treasurer

Danielle Sandoval, Entrepreneur, Paralegal, and Business Investor. With over 20 years of experience in the legal field, hospitality industry and as a broker's assistant for fortune 500 investment firms. She became a successful restaurateur and consultant for inspiring restaurateurs throughout Southern California. Danielle recognized there was a need for economic development and a deficiency in city services in her community. She now devotes her time as a community advocate, Treasurer for the Central San Pedro NC and Secretary for the NC Budget Advocates. She strides in creating innovative ideas and continues to bring awareness of issues that affect her community.

She now devotes her time as a community advocate, Treasurer for the Central San Pedro NC and Secretary for the NC Budget Advocates. She strides in creating innovative ideas and continues to bring awareness of issues that affect her community.



**Marlene Savage**

Marlene Savage is former First Vice President of Del Rey and Mid City NCs. She has been involved in the Neighborhood Council system for 11 years serving as Outreach Chairperson and liaison to city departments. Marlene is currently 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 steering committee for PlanCheckNC. This is Marlene's sixth year on the NC Congress Planning Committee.

She is also on the steering committee for PlanCheckNC. This is Marlene's sixth year on the NC Congress Planning Committee.



**Leonard Shaffer**, 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.

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.



**Joe Smoke**, Grants Manager, Department of Cultural Affairs



**Ivan Spiegel**, Parliamentarian

Ivan Spiegel serves as a bi-coastal Parliamentarian working for both the Venice and Downtown LA Neighborhood Councils and he has extensive experience in parliamentary procedure as it applies to Neighborhood Councils. His years of experience in creating organizational bylaws led him to join the BONC/DONE Bylaws Task Force. He was co-chair of the DONE Bylaws Resource Team, which worked with NCs to help revise their bylaws into the new Table Of Contents format. A designer of the Councils 4 Councils Peer Mentoring program, he trains NC participants in a wide range of topics.

He was co-chair of the DONE Bylaws Resource Team, which worked with NCs to help revise their bylaws into the new Table Of Contents format. A designer of the Councils 4 Councils Peer Mentoring program, he trains NC participants in a wide range of topics.

Ivan became involved in the L.A. school system as a parent/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 nonprofit 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.

He is currently serving as the co-chair of the Workshop Committee of the 2016 Congress Of Neighborhoods and would like to applaud all the committee members who worked their butts off to make this event possible.



**Rhonda L. Spires**, CFP®, Canoga Park Neighborhood Council Outreach and Arts Committees

A graduate of UC Berkeley School of Business, Rhonda has over 25 years of business, entrepreneurial and arts & entertainment producing experience. She is the President & CEO of Spires Financial Group. Very active in the arts and entertainment fields, she's produced numerous live events, television and feature films. She serves the community as the Co-Founder & Executive Director of Full Vision Arts Foundation and as an At-Large Representative for the Canoga Park Neighborhood Council where she Chairs both the Outreach and Arts Committees and is a member of the Land Use Committee.

Very active in the arts and entertainment fields, she's produced numerous live events, television and feature films. She serves the community as the Co-Founder & Executive Director of Full Vision Arts Foundation and as an At-Large Representative for the Canoga Park Neighborhood Council where she Chairs both the Outreach and Arts Committees and is a member of the Land Use Committee.



**Bonnie Strong**

Bonnie has lived in her neighborhood Forty-Five Years and has seen many changes. She retired from The Publishing World after Thirty years as A Print Quality and Digital Ad Specialist. She is now serving her second term as Vice President of Olympic Park Neighborhood Council and is The Outreach Chairperson, and is a member of the Plum Committee. Bonnie Strong wants to live in a world where everyone knows about their NC, shares ideas, attends meetings, always agrees and participates in all events.

Bonnie Strong wants to live in a world where everyone knows about their NC, shares ideas, attends meetings, always agrees and participates in all events.

# Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



**Vivienne A. Swanigan**, Deputy City Attorney  
 Vivienne A. Swanigan is a 30-year veteran of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office with extensive expertise in employment law, human resources, and workplace violence prevention. After nine years as a criminal prosecutor, she joined the Employee Relations Division, where she handled employment litigation and advice. Upon transitioning to the Labor Relations Division, she chaired the L.A. Citywide Threat Assessment

Team, established the City Attorney WV Unit, provided human resource and employment advice and training, and handled employment litigation. Currently, as Managing Assistant City Attorney of the Labor Relations Division, she supervises a team of attorneys who provide labor, human resource, employment, and workplace violence prevention advice to the City. Ms. Swanigan has trained hundreds of employees, supervisors, and HR professionals on dealing with challenging people, WV prevention, and EEO issues at the local, state and national levels. She holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice, and a Juris Doctorate from UCLA School of Law.



**Colin Sweeney**  
 Colin Sweeney serves as Digital Specialist to the Board of Public Works where he develops projects to engage and empower Angelenos to participate in projects to improve their neighborhoods. Prior to his work at the Board, Colin Sweeney served as Digital Coordinator in the Communications Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti. He is a native of Los Angeles, California and a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley.



**Aaron Thomas**, Urban Forestry Manager, North East Trees, Inc, Certified Arborist WE-6531A  
 Aaron Thomas has been with North East Trees since 1994. As a certified arborist, he oversees large scale tree planting projects specifically along streets, in parks, and in low income housing developments. In the twenty years that he has been with the organization, he has helped with the planting of over 100,000 trees in the Los Angeles area. In addition to serving as the urban

forestry manager, Aaron also oversees the youth training and community stewardship programs. He has hired and trained hundreds of at risk youth and worked with thousands of community volunteers. Aaron was recently appointed by Mayor Eric Garcetti as his commissioner for the Community Forest Advisory Committee.



**Herb Wesson, Jr.**, President, Los Angeles City Council

Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr. was unanimously elected President of the Los Angeles City Council on November 23, 2011 and officially took office January 2, 2012. He was elected to represent the 10th Council District of the City Los Angeles in a Special Election in November 2005. The voters of the 10th Council District recognized Wesson's long service to the community

by giving him their overwhelming support – 80 percent of their votes. He was re-elected in 2007, and 2011 by wide margins.



**Tony Wilkinson**, Panorama City Neighborhood Council, North Hills East Neighborhood Council

Tony retired from a career in the land title insurance business, where he worked as a business economist, marketing services manager, and technology manager. Tony chairs the NC-LADWP MOU Oversight Committee that coordinates information between neighborhood councils and the Department of Water and Power. He has also served as an Independent

Election Administrator for EmpowerLA, managing neighborhood council elections in the West LA region in 2012 and in the Southwest Valley region in 2014. He is a member of the Valley Alliance Executive Board and the LAPD Mission Division CPAB. Tony has helped coordinate the workshop sessions at each NC Congress since 2011.



**Magdalina Zakaryan**, Finance Development Officer at Housing and Community Investment Department of the City of Los Angeles (HCIDLA)

Magdalina has been with the department for over 10 years and currently works in the Housing Development and Finance Division of HCIDLA.

**THANK YOU!**  
**Workshop Coordinators & Speakers**

Speakers and bios received after printing deadline will be available on the [NCCongressLA.com](http://NCCongressLA.com) website.

**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



TO VOLUNTEER. Follow the Congress on Facebook and Twitter.



NCCongressLA

See you at the 2017 Congress of Neighborhoods Fall 2017.

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.



# Music / Musicians



## PACIFIC OPERA PROJECT

Pacific Opera Project (POP) was founded in 2011 with the goal of bringing accessible, affordable, and ENTERTAINING opera to audiences in Los Angeles. Since that time, the company has produced over 20 fully staged operas showcasing some of the best emerging talent from Los Angeles and from around the company. Based in Highland Park, POP has performed for tens of thousands of people in communities as far spread as Santa Monica, Pasadena, North Hollywood, and Glendale. Highlights in La bohème: AKA "The Hipsters", Tosca: A moving production, and a Star Trek-inspired Abduction from the Seraglio which recently played to a sold out house at The Ford Amphitheatre. POP concludes their 2016 season with a current day Hollywood setting of The Barber of Seville this November at The Ebell Club of Highland Park. Details at [www.pacificoperaproject.com](http://www.pacificoperaproject.com).

William Grundler graduated from California State University Northridge in Spring of 2015 with a Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Performance. William has performed a number of operatic roles throughout Los Angeles, including Don José and Remendado in Carmen, Nerone in L'incoronazione di Poppea, and Don Ottavio in

Don Giovanni, singing with such companies as Pacific Opera Project, Pasadena Opera, Celestial Opera, and FAVA Opera in Salzburg. Also active in the choral community, William sings with Santa Clarita Master Chorale, is a soloist and section leader for First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica, and has sung as a soloist in numerous works including Orff's Carmina Burana, Mozart's Requiem, Handel's Messiah, Mendelssohn's Elijah, and Puccini's Messa di Gloria. In addition to classical performance, William works as a studio musician with such composers as Nima Fakhrrara and Mike Reagan. William also serves as a professional accompanist and composer with an emphasis on sacred music.



Kerrie Caldwell, soprano, has been praised for her "outstanding" voice (LGBT Weekly). Her "clear and gem-like tone" and "soprano fireworks" continue to dazzle audiences from coast to coast (Cleveland Classical).



Her career as a commercial vocalist is just as exciting. She performs frequently with several pop and rock bands in the Los Angeles area and has recorded television and radio commercials for corporations (Nissan) and non-profits (SurfAid).

Alyssa Brode is a Philadelphia-born, Los Angeles-based soprano whose experience and training span both coasts. Highlights of her 2016 season include her role debut as Violetta in La traviata with Capitol Opera Laguna Hills – where she will return in January as Adina in L'elisir d'amore--and company debuts with the Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera (First Lady in Die Zauberflöte) and Independent Opera Company (in Rameau's Pigmalion and Rachmaninoff's Aleko). In March, Alyssa returned to Pacific Opera Project to cover the role of Valencienne ("Valentine") in their Old West-themed production of The Merry Widow. Alyssa holds voice

performance degrees from Westminster Choir College (BM) and Cal State Northridge (MM) and is a recipient of the Robert Barbera Scholarship in Voice, the Village Voices Scholarship and the Rachel Ketchie Memorial Award. She is also a 2016 semi-finalist with the American Prize in Opera and a member of the Pi Kappa Lambda music honor society.



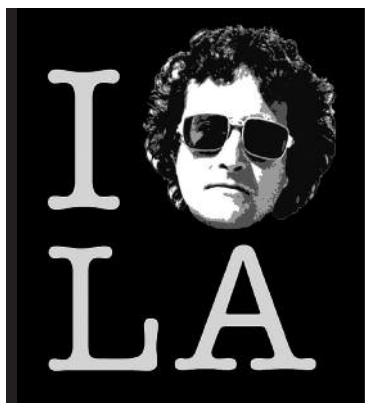
## BRANDON BERNSTEIN TRIO

Musician/Entrepreneur/Activist/Teacher

Brandon Bernstein began formally studying guitar at age fourteen and developed an immediate passion for music. Soon after that he had no doubt he would devote his life to playing the guitar. At the age of eighteen, Bernstein was awarded scholarships to continue his study of jazz at Berklee School of Music. He would later complete degrees at Concordia University (in Montreal, Canada), the University of Louisville, and the University of Southern California where he earned a doctorate in Jazz Performance at age twenty-eight. During his graduate studies Bernstein became more involved with the community and began to find a way to merge social activism with music.

Dr. Brandon Bernstein currently resides in Downtown Los Angeles. <http://www.brandon-bernstein.com>

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU**  
to L.A. Native Randy Newman,  
Ken Piazza with Universal Music  
and ASCAP  
for the use of the song  
**I LOVE LA**



# Special Thanks to Our Youth Volunteers



## LAPD CADET PROGRAM

The purpose of the LAPD Cadet Program is to help instill discipline, leadership, academic excellence and life-skills in all youth participants. The LAPD Cadet Program also seeks to empower students to maximize their personal, scholastic and their life potential. It has four principle goals:

- To recruit young men and women who are interested in building positive relationships between police and the youth of our communities.
- To provide a forum in which young people can provide community service while working with law enforcement.
- To provide character-training, public-speaking and academic instruction that prepares young people for their future.
- To offer physical training that will result in improved physical fitness for all who participate in the program.

The Los Angeles Police Department has 21 Area Police Stations called “divisions” scattered throughout the city of Los Angeles. Each station has a Community Relations Office that offers the CADET program.

For more information: Call Youth Programs Unit at (213) 486-6090 or <http://www.lapdcadets.com/>

# IN MEMORIAM

The Neighborhood Council Congress 2016 recognizes the passing of Neighborhood Council leaders who have made a significant contribution to the Neighborhood Council system and their communities.

HENRY BLOOMFIELD — Watts NC

FLORENCE DORICK — North Hollywood North East NC

ALAN FINE — Bel Air-Beverly Crest NC

MICHAEL JONES — Sunland-Tujunga NC

MARY KAUFMAN — Chatsworth NC

J. RICHARD LEYNER — Encino NC

CHALLIS MacPHERSON — Venice NC

AL PIANTANIDA — Arleta NC

DICK RIPPEY — Porter Ranch NC

BILL ROSENDAHL — L.A. City Councilman

DR. ORTHA R. SCOTT — CANNDU NC

STUART SIMEN — NC Valley Village

FRANK WADA — Lincoln Heights NC

ALLAN WERTHEIM — Tarzana NC

DOROTHY WILSON — Canoga Park NC

*The above list as of 9/20/16. Any omissions are unintentional.*

# The NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS of the CITY OF LOS ANGELES

<p><b>Arlata</b> 3rd Tuesday Beachy Elementary School Auditorium 4757 Beachy Street Arlata, CA 91331</p> <p><b>Arroyo Seco</b> 4th Monday Ramona Hall 4580 Figueroa Los Angeles, CA 90065</p> <p><b>Atwater Village</b> 2nd Thursday Christ's Church of Griffith Park 3852 Edenhurst Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90039</p> <p><b>Bel Air-Beverly Crest</b> 4th Wednesday American Jewish University 15600 Mulholland Dr., Rm 223 L.A., CA 90077</p> <p><b>Boyle Heights</b> 4th Wednesday Boyle Heights City Hall Community Room 2130 East First Street Los Angeles, CA 90033</p> <p><b>CANNDU</b> 4th Thursday Los Angeles Ascot Public Library 120 West Florence Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90003</p> <p><b>Canoga Park</b> 4th Wednesday Canoga Park Community Center 7248 Owensmouth Ave. Canoga Park, CA 91303</p> <p><b>Central Alameda</b> 1st Tuesday Fred Roberts Recreation Center 4700 Honduras Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90011</p> <p><b>Central Hollywood</b> 4th Monday Hollywood Neighborhood City Hall 6501 Fountain Ave. Hollywood, CA 90028</p> <p><b>Central San Pedro</b> 2nd Tuesday Port of Los Angeles High School 250 W. 5th Street San Pedro, CA 90731</p> <p><b>Chatsworth</b> 1st Wednesday Lawrence Middle School 10100 Variel Ave. Chatsworth, CA 91311</p> <p><b>Coastal San Pedro</b> 3rd Monday Cabrillo Marina Community Bldg. Cabrillo plaza Berth 28 San Pedro, CA 90731</p> <p><b>Del Rey</b> 2nd Thursday Del Rey Square 11976 Culver Boulevard Del Rey, CA 90066</p> <p><b>Downtown Los Angeles</b> 2nd Tuesday Los Angeles Theatre 615 S. Broadway L.A., CA 90012</p> <p><b>Eagle Rock</b> 1st Tuesday Eagle Rock City Hall 2035 Colorado Blvd. L.A., CA 90041</p> <p><b>East Hollywood</b> 3rd Monday Armenian Youth Center 1559 N. Kenmore Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90027</p> <p><b>Echo Park</b> 4th Tuesday Cisneros Learning Academy Auditorium 1018 Mohawk Street Los Angeles, CA 90026</p>	<p><b>Elysian Valley Riverside</b> 3rd Thursday Allesandro Elementary School (Auditorium) 2210 Riverside Drive Los Angeles, CA 90039</p> <p><b>Empowerment Congress Central</b> General: 4th Monday Planning: 1st Thursday South Los Angeles Animal Shelter – Chesterfield Square, Community R00m 1850 W. 60th Street Los Angeles, CA 90047</p> <p><b>Empowerment Congress North</b> 1st Thursday Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Rec Center 3916 S. Western Ave. L.A., CA 90062</p> <p><b>Empowerment Congress Southeast</b> 4th Tuesday Constituent Service Center 8475 S. Vermont Ave. L.A., CA 90044</p> <p><b>Empowerment Congress Southwest</b> 3rd Monday Constituent Service Center 8475 S. Vermont Ave. L.A., CA 90044</p> <p><b>Empowerment Congress West</b> Community Town Hall Meeting: 1st Saturday Board Meeting: 3rd Monday Crenshaw United Methodist Church Hall 3740 Don Felipe Drive LA, CA 90008 DWP Crenshaw Office Community Rm 4030 Crenshaw Blvd LA, CA 90008</p> <p><b>Encino</b> 4th Wednesday Encino Community Center 4935 Balboa Blvd. Encino, CA 91316</p> <p><b>Foothill Trails District</b> 3rd Thursday Lake View Terrace Recreation Center 11075 Foothill Blvd. Lake View Terrace, CA 91342</p> <p><b>Glassell Park</b> 3rd Tuesday Glassell Park Community Center 3750 Verdugo Rd. L.A., CA 90065</p> <p><b>Granada Hills North</b> 1st Tuesday Saint Euphrasia Parish Hall 11766 Shoshone Ave. Granada Hills, CA 91344</p> <p><b>Granada Hills South</b> 1st Thursday Granada Hills Charter High School, Rawley Hall 10535 Zelzah Ave. Granada Hills, CA 91344</p> <p><b>Greater Cypress Park</b> 2nd Tuesday Cypress Park Recreation Center 2630 Pepper Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90065</p> <p><b>Greater Toluca Lake</b> 3rd Tuesday Toluca Lake Elementary School Adtrm. 4840 Cahuenga Blvd. North Hollywood, CA 91601</p> <p><b>Greater Valley Glen</b> 1st Monday Valley College Cafeteria/Conf. Rm. 5800 Fulton Ave. Valley Glen, CA 91401</p> <p><b>Greater Wilshire</b> 2nd Wednesday Wilshire Ebell Theatre 743 S. Lucerne Blvd. L.A., CA 90005</p>	<p><b>Harbor City</b> 3rd Wednesday Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Library 24000 Western Ave. Harbor City, CA 90710</p> <p><b>Harbor Gateway North</b> 2nd Tuesday 4th Tuesday every 3rd month (January, April, July, and October) General Membership Meeting 7 pm 135th St. Elementary School 801 W. 135th St. Gardena, CA 90247</p> <p><b>Harbor Gateway South</b> 2nd Thursday Halldale Ave. School Auditorium 21514 Halldale Ave. Torrance, CA 90501</p> <p><b>Historic Cultural</b> 2nd Tuesday Locations rotate between: Hellman Quon/Pico House, The Chinatown Public Library, The Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, as announced.</p> <p><b>Historic Highland Park</b> 1st and 3rd Thursday Highland Park Senior Center 6152 N. Figueroa St. Los Angeles, CA 90042</p> <p><b>Hollywood Hills West</b> Varies Women's Club of Hollywood 1749 N. La Brea Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90046</p> <p><b>Hollywood Studio District</b> 2nd Monday 5500 Hollywood Blvd (1st Floor – Gallery Space Corner of Hollywood &amp; Western Ave) Los Angeles, CA 90028</p> <p><b>Hollywood United</b> 3rd Monday (except for Jan./Feb. when it is held on the 4th) Fire Station 82 Annex Second Floor 1800 N. Bronson Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90028</p> <p><b>LA-32</b> 1st Wednesday El Sereno Senior Center 4818 Klamath Place L.A., CA 90032</p> <p><b>Lake Balboa</b> 1st Wednesday Gault Street Elementary School 17000 Gault Street Lake Balboa CA 91406</p> <p><b>Lincoln Heights</b> 3rd Thursday El Arca 3839 Selig Place Los Angeles, CA 90031</p> <p><b>Los Feliz</b> 3rd Tuesday Citibank Community Room, 2nd FL 1965 Hillhurst Ave Los Angeles 90027</p> <p><b>MacArthur Park</b> 3rd Monday The Seven Maples Community Rm 2618 W. 7th Street L.A., CA 90057</p> <p><b>Mar Vista</b> 2nd Tuesday Mar Vista Recreation Ctr. Auditorium 11430 Woodbine St. Mar Vista, CA 90066</p> <p><b>Mid City</b> 2nd Monday LAPD Wilshire Division – Community Room 4849 Venice Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90019-5664</p>	<p><b>Mid-City West</b> 2nd Tuesday National Council of Jewish Women 543 N. Fairfax Ave. L.A., CA 90036</p> <p><b>Mid-Town North Hollywood</b> 2nd Wednesday Senior Center in NoHo Park 5301 Tujunga Blvd. North Hollywood, CA 91601</p> <p><b>Mission Hills</b> 1st Monday Mission Community Police Station – Falco Room 11121 Sepulveda Blvd. Mission Hills, CA 91345</p> <p><b>North Hills East</b> 1st Monday Penny Lane's Rainbow Room 15314 Rayen Street North Hills, CA 91343</p> <p><b>North Hills West</b> 3rd Thursday New Horizon Center 15725 Parthenia Street North Hills, CA 91343</p> <p><b>North Hollywood North East</b> 3rd Thursday LA Fire Station 89 7063 Laurel Canyon North Hollywood, CA 91605</p> <p><b>North Hollywood West</b> 4th Wednesday Wat Thai Of Los Angeles 8225 Coldwater Canyon Ave, North Hollywood, CA 91605</p> <p><b>Northridge East</b> 3rd Wednesday Northridge Woman's Club 18401 Lassen Street Northridge, CA 91325</p> <p><b>Northridge South</b> 4rd Thursday (except Nov and Dec meetings) Northridge Middle School 17960 Chase Street Northridge, CA 91325</p> <p><b>Northridge West</b> 2nd Tuesday Calahan Elementary School 18722 Knapp Street Northridge, CA 91324</p> <p><b>Northwest San Pedro</b> 2nd Monday Peck Park Auditorium 560 N. Western Ave. San Pedro, CA 90732</p> <p><b>Olympic Park</b> 1st Monday LAPD Wilshire Community Room 4849 W. Venice Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90019</p> <p><b>P.I.C.O.</b> 2nd Wednesday Claude Pepper Senior Citizen Center 1762 S. La Cienega Blvd. Los Angeles , CA 90035</p> <p><b>Pacoima</b> 3rd Wednesday Pacoima City Hall 13520 Van Nuys Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331</p> <p><b>Palms</b> 1st Wednesday Iman Cultural Center 3376 Motor Ave. Palms, CA 90034</p> <p><b>Panorama City</b> 4th Thursday (3rd in Nov &amp; Dec) Mission Community Hospital Medical Office, 2nd Floor 14860 Roscoe Blvd. Panorama City, CA 91402</p> <p><b>Park Mesa Heights</b> 2nd Saturday Angeles Mesa Elementary Auditorium 2611 W. 52nd St. L.A., CA 90043</p>	<p><b>Pico Union</b> 1st Monday Pico Union Library 1030 S. Alvarado Street Los Angeles, CA 90006</p> <p><b>Porter Ranch</b> 2nd Wednesday Porter Ranch Community School Multipurpose Room 12450 Mason Avenue Porter Ranch 91326</p> <p><b>Rampart Village</b> 3rd Tuesday St. Anne's 155 N. Occidental Blvd. #236 L.A., CA 90026</p> <p><b>Reseda</b> 1st Monday 3rd Monday 18118 Sherman Way Reseda, CA 91335</p> <p><b>Sherman Oaks</b> 2nd Monday Sherman Oaks Elementary School 14755 Greenleaf St. Sherman Oaks, CA 91403</p> <p><b>Silver Lake</b> 1st Wednesday Micheltorena Street Elementary School 1511 Micheltorena St. L.A., CA 90026</p> <p><b>South Central</b> 3rd Saturday (odd numbered months) 3rd Tuesday (even numbered months) All People Community Center 822 E 20th St, Los Angeles, CA 90011</p> <p><b>South Robertson</b> 3rd Thursday Simon Wiesenthal Center 1399 S. Roxbury Dr. L.A., CA 90035</p> <p><b>Studio City</b> 3rd Wednesday BLDG. 8 MPR-3 4024 Radford Ave Studio City, CA 91604</p> <p><b>Sun Valley Area</b> 2nd Tuesday Villa Scalabrini Retirement Center 10631 Vinedale St. Sun Valley, CA 91352</p> <p><b>Sunland-Tujunga</b> 2nd Wednesday Elk Lodge 10137 Commerce Ave Tujunga, CA 91042</p> <p><b>Sylmar</b> 4th Thursday Sylmar High School Spartan Hall 13050 Borden Ave. Sylmar, CA 91342</p> <p><b>Tarzana</b> 4th Tuesday Tarzana Elementary School (Auditorium) 5726 Topeka Dr. Tarzana, CA 91356</p> <p><b>United Neighborhoods</b> 1st Thursday Council District 10 Field Office 1819 S. Western Ave. L.A., CA 90006</p> <p><b>Valley Village</b> 4th Wednesday Faith Presbyterian Church – Social Hall 5000 Colfax Avenue Valley Village, CA 91607</p> <p><b>Van Nuys</b> 2nd Wednesday Marvin Braude Constituent Center 6262 Van Nuys Blvd. Van Nuys, CA 91401</p>	<p><b>Venice</b> 3rd Tuesday Pico Union Library 1010 Abbott Kinney Blvd. Venice, CA 90291</p> <p><b>Voices of 90037</b> 2nd Tuesday Normandie Ave. Elementary 4505 S. Raymond Ave. L.A., CA 90037</p> <p><b>Watts</b> 2nd Tuesday Watts Senior Citizen Center 1657 E. Century Blvd. L.A., CA 90002</p> <p><b>West Adams</b> 3rd Monday Vineyard Recreation Center 2942 Vineyard Avenue L.A. CA 90016</p> <p><b>Westchester/Playa</b> 2nd Monday Westchester Municipal Bldg. Council Community Room 7166 W. Manchester Ave. Westchester, CA 90045</p> <p><b>West Hills</b> 1st Thursday de Toledo High School 22622 Vanowen Street West Hills, California 91307</p> <p><b>West Los Angeles</b> 4th Wednesday WLANC Hearing Room 104-2 1645 Corinth Avenue L.A., CA. 90025</p> <p><b>Westlake North</b> 2nd Thursday Rampart Police Station Community Room 1401 W. 6th Street Los Angeles, CA 90017</p> <p><b>Westlake South</b> 4th Monday Royal Palms Recovery Center 360 S. Westlake Ave Los Angeles, CA 90057</p> <p><b>Westside</b> 2nd Thursday Westside Pavilion 10800 W. Pico Blvd., Room A L.A., CA 90064</p> <p><b>Westwood</b> 2nd Wednesday Westwood Presbyterian Church 10822 Wilshire Boulevard, Hoffman Hall Los Angeles, CA 90024</p> <p><b>Wilmington</b> 4th Wednesday Wilmington Senior Center 1371 Eubank Ave. Wilmington, CA 90744</p> <p><b>Wilshire Center-Koreatown</b> 2nd Monday Pio Pico Library 694 S. Oxford Ave Los Angeles, CA 90005</p> <p><b>Winnetka</b> 2nd Tuesday Winnetka Convention Center (Next to Canoga Bowl) 20122 Vanowen Street Winnetka, CA 91306</p> <p><b>Woodland Hills-Warner Center</b> 2nd Wednesday Woodland Hills Academy 20800 Burbank Blvd. Woodland Hills, CA 91367</p> <p><b>Zapata-King</b> 3rd Wednesday Junipero Serra Library 4607 South Main Street Los Angeles, CA 90037</p>
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