

**NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS of
the CITY OF LOS ANGELES present the**

2012

LA CONGRESS OF NEIGHBORHOODS



Making Government MORE RESPONSIVE to LOCAL NEEDS

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



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2012
CITY HALL – 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles
7:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
www.NCCongressLA.com

Congratulations

to the NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS who have reached their 10th year!

Arleta	Empowerment Congress Southeast	Hollywood Hills West	Reseda
Arroyo Seco	Empowerment Congress West	Hollywood United	Sherman Oaks
Bel-Air Beverly Crest	Encino	LA 32	South Robertson
Boyle Heights	Glassell Park	Lincoln Heights	Studio City
Canoga Park	Granada Hills	Mar Vista	Sun Valley Area
Central Hollywood	Greater Cypress Park	Mid City	United Neighborhoods
Central San Pedro	Greater Echo Park Elysian	Mid City West	Van Nuys
Coastal San Pedro	Greater Griffith Park	Mid Town North Hollywood	Venice
Downtown Los Angeles	Greater Toluca Lake	NC Valley Village	Watts
Eagle Rock	Greater Valley Glen	NC Westchester Playa	West Adams
Elysian Valley Riverside (East)	Harbor City	North Hollywood North East	West Hills
Empowerment Congress Central	Harbor Gateway North	North West San Pedro	Westside
Empowerment Congress North	Historic Cultural	P.I.C.O.	Wilmington
Empowerment Congress South West	Historic Highland Park	Pacoima	Woodland Hills Warner Center
		Park Mesa Heights	



2011 LA Congress of Neighborhoods



2011 LA Congress of Neighborhoods



Route 66 Walk - East Hollywood Street Beat



Silverlake NC Swearing In with Congressman Adam Schiff

Photos by Enci Box, Mark Seigel, Nina Royal

Welcome to the 2012 Congress of Neighborhoods

GREETINGS FROM CINDY CLEGHORN, NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL CONGRESS CHAIR



Welcome to the 2012 Congress of Neighborhoods! Each day neighborhood council leaders across the City of Los Angeles are working to bridge communication between our City leaders and our stakeholders to make our city better. Thank you for spending this day at City Hall and working to *make government more responsive to local needs*. We are all looking forward to a great day of networking, education and energy.

Congratulations to the new neighborhood council leaders who are here for the first time and recently elected to their neighborhood councils. I hope that the workshops today will give you more tools to take back to your communities and use tomorrow. I also hope your networking experience today at City Hall is something you'll be talking about for a long time.

The 2012 Congress planning committee has been preparing for today's event since January. We've traveled around the city, taken surveys and worked to organize the event details. None of this would be possible without the help of Grayce Liu, Interim General Manager and Thomas Soong, Project Coordinator. Thank you to the department for extending Thomas to us and thank you Thomas for your dedication.

The workshop sessions were organized by a wide range of talented and dedicated committee volunteers representing a variety of special skills that are reflected in the large variety of presentations and panels. The workshop sessions have been organized by and for neighborhood council leaders to include resources and "how to" examples. Some of our presenters are back by popular demand and many are new. Be sure to fill out an evaluation survey today – we look forward to your feedback.

We are filming some of the workshops and will post them and their handouts to the NCCongressLA.com website after the Congress. We have kept the NCCongressLA.com website alive with resources from the 2011 Congress and we plan to do so with the 2012 Congress too. If you have not had a chance to check it out, I hope you will do so.

Congratulations to the 57 neighborhood councils celebrating their 10th year! That is over half of the neighborhood councils in the City of Los Angeles with 10 years of promoting more citizen participation in government and improving the quality of life in their communities.

I am grateful to the volunteers who are dedicated to serving on the Congress planning committee. The many details that go into planning this event are sometimes tedious but fun. I am honored to work with this great group of volunteers who step up "above and beyond" to help where ever and when ever they are able.

The 2012 Congress would not be possible without the funding commitments from the neighborhood councils. See the inside back cover for the list. Thank you. Thank you!

Finally, our partner, the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Grayce, thank you for standing with us and seeing to every detail in our work with the City staff for today's event.

We're proud of our continuing journey of empowerment and I, and our Empowerment staff look forward to a great Congress 2012, renewing friendships and making new ones, sharing stories and working to "*Make Government More Responsive to Local Needs*".

*Cindy Cleghorn, Chair
2012 NC Congress*

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



I am very pleased and excited to welcome you to the annual citywide Congress of Neighborhood Councils at our beautiful City Hall! Every year, Neighborhood Councils come together at the Congress to learn and be inspired by one another. Whether you are a 10 year veteran of the Neighborhood Council system or newly elected, there are a wide range of classes to help you and your Neighborhood Council not only set a solid foundation for your community work, but also

achieve higher levels of civic engagement. You are the voice of your community to the City, and today, you'll be with people who will show you how to get yourselves heard better, faster, and louder!

This Congress would not be possible without the hard work of the Congress Planning Committee, chaired by the wonderful Cindy Cleghorn, Vice President of Outreach for the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council. Cindy spearheaded the first Neighborhood Council led committee last year, which resulted in over 600 participants at the Congress. That great success continues with this Congress where her energy and can-do attitude was especially needed because planning for the Congress fell right into the middle of the Neighborhood Council election cycle. I want to thank Cindy and the members of the committee, many of whom are also working on elections, for the amazing number of hours they have contributed to make this Congress work for you. I also want to appreciate the Mayor's Office, City Councilmembers and City departments that supported this event, and especially our staff, particularly Thomas Soong who worked side by side with the committee members to provide support these many months.

This year, we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of many Neighborhood Councils, and it's beyond time for Neighborhood Councils to be recognized for their contributions to their communities and to the City family. The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners will be giving the first annual EmpowerLA Awards at the Congress, recognizing outstanding Neighborhood Councils who are meeting the mission of increasing civic participation and making government more responsive to local needs. I encourage all Neighborhood Councils to brag about the fine work that you are doing across the City. At the Department, we're working on new methods to recognize and publicize all the ways you are empowering your neighborhoods.

I, and our EmpowerLA staff look forward to working in collaboration with you and your Neighborhood Council in the near future. Enjoy your day!

*Grayce Liu, Interim General Manager,
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment*

EMPOWER LA™

Department of
NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

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

2012 Congress of Neighborhoods

Making Government More Responsive to Local Needs

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

Saturday, September 22, 2012 • 7:45 AM - 4 PM • City Hall • 200 N. Spring Street • Los Angeles

Planning for the 2012 Congress of Neighborhoods began January, 2012, with a team of dedicated neighborhood council and stakeholder volunteers. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment / EmpowerLA staff also gave their time, patience and history. 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.

2012 HOST COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

CHAIRPERSON

Cindy Cleghorn, Sunland-Tujunga NC

OVERALL EVENT LOGISTICS

Heinrich Keifer, Historic Highland Park NC

WORKSHOP SESSIONS LEADER

Tony Wilkinson, Panorama City NC

EXHIBITORS

Reuben Martinez, Atwater Village NC

Marlene Savage, Mid City West NC

DIGNITARIES

Jill Barad, Sherman Oaks NC

Stephen Box, EmpowerLA

CATERING

Jay Handal, West LA NC

Thomas Soong, EmpowerLA

SPONSORS/FUNDRAISING

Marlene Savage, Mid City West NC

REGISTRATION / NAME BADGES

Randy Waller, Westlake NC

HOSPITALITY

Marlene Savage, Mid City West NC

Denyse Selesnick, Tarzana NC

Lydia Grant, Sunland-Tujunga NC

Mark Seigel, Sunland-Tujunga NC

CONGRESS DAY VOLUNTEER COORDINATION

Reuben Martinez, Atwater Village NC

Heinrich Keifer, Historic Highland Park NC

Terry Ellen Robinson, South Robertson NC

Thomas Soong, EmpowerLA

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL AND STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

Russell Brown, DLANEC

Robert Guevarra, Eagle Rock NC

Christine Lee - Korean Culture Center, Inc.

Nina Royal, Sunland-Tujunga NC

Ivan Spiegel, Venice NC

Frank Wada - Lincoln Heights NC

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, City Controller Wendy Greuel, City Attorney Carmen Trutanich and the Los Angeles City Council, for their support of the NCCongress 2012

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

Paul Park, President

Leonard Shaffer, Vice President

Carlene A. Davis

Doug Epperhart

Daniel Gatica

Linda Lucks

Karen Mack

SPECIAL THANKS TO

DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

EmpowerLA.org

Grayce Liu, Interim General Manager

Thomas Soong, Project Coordinator – Community Strategist

LA CITY STAFF

Pierre Riotoc, LA City General Services

Ben Fores, Fire Marshall

Gennadiy Danilkevich, Watch Commander, General Services

Ken Moody, Council Audio

Guy Lupia, CD 13 (Council Chambers)

Los Angeles City, Information Technology Agency

WEBSITE / MARKETING / PRESS / SOCIAL MEDIA

Enci and Stephen Box

PHOTOGRAPHERS / FILMING

Skidrow Films, Michael Blaze

IlluminateLA, Enci Box

HOSTING COMMITTEE MEETING SPACE

Russell Brown at the Historic Downtown Outreach Center

Bob Gelfand, Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition at the Hollywood Constituent Center

Bradley at the Glassell Park NC Community Room

Jay Handal at the West LA NC

Jose Sandoval, Pacoima Neighborhood City Hall

Frank Wada, Lincoln Heights Library

EMPOWERLA ELECTIONS TEAM

Stephen Box, Elections Coordinator

VENDORS

AAA Rents

Crystal Audio

Goodway Copy & Print

Intercontinental Interpreting Translation Services

LA Spice - Catering

INFORMATION / EXHIBIT TABLES – CITY DEPARTMENTS

Bureau of Sanitation

Bureau of Street Services

Department of Building and Safety

Department of City Planning

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment / EmpowerLA

Los Angeles Housing Department

Living Art Los Angeles

Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Office of the City Attorney

Office of the City Clerk

Safe Moves and the LADOT

THANK YOU to all who may not be included in the program. We look forward to seeing you at the 2013 Congress.

2012 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

The 28 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 website. A link to this resource will be available on the EmpowerLA website at empowerla.org in the near future.

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

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

ROLL CALL OF THE 95 NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Ivan Spiegel, Venice NC

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE 2012 NC CONGRESS

INTRODUCTIONS: 2012 NC Congress Planning Committee Volunteers

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BUDGET ADVOCATES: Joe Hari, WestLA Area Director, Office of the Mayor;
Ed Novy, Sunland-Tujunga NC – North Valley Budget Advocate

WELCOME: Grayce Liu, Interim General Manager, EmpowerLA

INTRODUCTIONS: Members of the Los Angeles City Council, City Departments and other dignitaries.

PRESENTATIONS: 2012 EMPOWERLA AWARDS

Paul Park, President, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

9:15 am – 9:25 am BREAK

9:25 am – 10:40 am SESSION 1

MEET YOUR CITY OFFICIALS – City Council Chamber

Invited Dignitaries Include: City Councilmembers Richard Alaraon, Dennis Zine; City Attorney Carmen Trutanich

Network with your City Officials: Now is your chance to meet your city's elected officials and departments. After introductory remarks, you will be able to move around the room and talk to the city officials and their staff.

HOW NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS WORK – Room 1050

Presented by: Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian, Venice NC

There are many things that each NC Board member needs to know in order to be effective. On the surface, a neighborhood council is a government agency that holds public meetings. Because meetings are public, there are regulations for notifying your stakeholders as to what will happen at your meetings and how they can participate. You must be aware of the rules and procedures needed to make these meetings engaging and productive. Board Officers, each with a role to play, must learn to create an inviting environment so that stakeholders feel free to express themselves. There are financial reporting requirements that need to be followed in order to protect the taxpayer monies that you have been entrusted with allocating. At this session, you will also learn about the important roles that committees play in helping the Board reach decisions. On another level, there are best practices that councils should employ in order to attain the Holy Grail. At the core of it all, the neighborhood council is not a monthly meeting where people vote. You have joined a grass roots effort to make positive changes in both your community and the City of Angels.

PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS – Room 1020

Presented by: Nina Royal, Treasurer & Safety Committee Chair, Sunland-Tujunga NC

Speakers: Larry Bogatz, Battalion 18 Coordinator, Los Angeles City Fire Dept.; Mark Seigel, Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner, Sunland-Tujunga NC; Monica Marmon, LAPD Volunteer

This workshop has a dual focus. Most of the time will be devoted to emergency preparedness. However, you will also hear about Senior Lead Officers and Community Police Advisory Boards. In the emergency preparedness section, you'll learn how your neighborhood can take care of itself in a major emergency, such as a giant earthquake. Training and maintaining a local Community Emergency Response Team is one way neighborhood councils can help. This session will explain the CERT training, team maintenance and deployment process. It will also cover terrorist threats, profiling behavior, and how to take action. You will come away from this Workshop with a broad overview of many emergency preparedness programs and resources.

DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR BOARD MEMBERS – Room 1010

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

Panelist: Judith Daniels, Chatsworth NC

This workshop is designed for neighborhood council Presidents and Board members to acquire the know-how and confidence to conduct successful meetings and to motivate your Board to participate and work as a team.

Topics will include: The social skills necessary to be a leader; how to put together an agenda that will ensure transparency, attract the public and keep within time constraints; how to maintain control at meetings and still be fair.

Also, how to deal with controversial issues, public comment, and to have effective and functioning committees.

2012 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

BEST PRACTICES IN OUTREACH TO STAKEHOLDERS AND CITY GOVERNMENT – Room 1060

Presenters: Linda Lucks, BONC Member and President, Venic NC (Moderator) and the winners of the 2012 BONC EmpowerLA Awards from the seven planning areas:

- Sherman Oaks NC
- Mar Vista Community Council
- Park Mesa Heights NC
- Mid City NC
- North Hills East NC
- Silver Lake NCI
- Harbor Gateway North NC

The neighborhood council system is ten years old! To mark this important milestone, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners has launched the Empower LA Awards to acknowledge those neighborhood councils who effectively carry out their basic mission to engage local stakeholders with government and to make government more accountable and responsive to the needs of communities. Come hear from this year's award winners about their successful efforts to reach out to and involve community members and to partner with City Departments to get things done in their neighborhoods.

CITY BUDGET: IS THE CITY HEADING TOWARDS INSOLVENCY – Room 1070

Presenter: Jack Humphreville, Greater Wilshire NC

Is the City of Los Angeles heading towards insolvency? The balanced budget is hardly balanced. The City has declared a State of Financial Emergency. There is a \$10 billion unfunded pension liability. Our lunar crater streets, the second worst in the country, our sidewalks and curbs, our parks and trees and the rest of our deteriorating infrastructure needs at least \$10 billion in repairs and maintenance. And the City is projecting a four year budget gap of over \$1.1 billion and that includes the very limited impact of the Mayor's so called pension reform plan that was announced on Wednesday.

We will discuss where we are today, how we got into this mess, and the prospects for the next few years. But the emphasis will be on solutions.

RESOURCES: TREASURER TRAINING FOR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS – Room 350

Speaker: Betty Wong Oyama, EmpowerLA

You'll get an overview of how neighborhood council finances work. Treasurer Training is required for neighborhood council Treasurers and second-signatories. It is also recommended for all Board members, since the Board regularly reviews and approves financial statements and decides how to allocate funds. This session will satisfy the Treasurer Training requirement for newly elected Treasurers.

YOUTH ISSUES COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY – Room 1035

Moderator: Kevin Taylor, Reseda NC

Panelists: Bobby Arias, Joseph Collins, Beth Ryan

Growing up in an urban area poses special challenges. This is particularly true in lower income neighborhoods, where ethnic identities, the sense of 'turf', and fewer life options can lead the most vulnerable youth out of mainstream life and into gangs. Gang involvement can start as early as elementary school. The life prospects for young people who join gangs are bleak. This workshop will cover ways in which the city, the community, and young people themselves are working to assure that all youth have options. It will cover the city's Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) program, youth programs of the Los Angeles Police Department, collaboratives like the San Fernando Valley Coalition on Gangs, the Safe Routes to Schools program, the work of ministries and social service organizations, and programs in which young people themselves interact to provide peer counseling and support. Community involvement in programs that provide activities, mentoring and jobs is crucial. There are many opportunities for neighborhood councils to improve both youth opportunities and safety in the neighborhoods they serve.

10:40 am – 10:50 pm BREAK

10:50 pm – 12 noon SESSION 2

WORKING WITH CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES – Council Chambers

Presenter/Coordinator: Ankur Patel, Northridge NC; Jeff Ebenstein, Legislative Deputy; Councilman Paul Koretz

City Council committees are one way for you to have impact on legislation while it is being developed. This program will describe each committee, its current members, the subjects it handles, and key staff contacts. You will find out how to use the Early Notification System to get agendas by electronic mail. You will learn how to use the online Council File system to obtain documents relating to issues pending before the City Council, along with the history and current disposition of each Council File. Probably most important, you'll learn that battles are won or lost long before they get to the City Council floor. Ever wondered about all those 15-0 council votes? Committees are the answer.

COUNCIL FILES COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENTS GETTING HEARD – Room 1035

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

This workshop is a practical tutorial on how to listen to the system, and how to get the system to listen to you. You will find out how to use the Early Notification System to get agendas by electronic mail. You will learn how to use the online Council File system to obtain documents relating to issues pending before the City Council. You will learn how to file a Community Impact Statement to place the official actions of your neighborhood council into the Council File. Perhaps most important, you'll learn that when your Board takes a position on an issue, that's only the beginning of your work. Your council needs to actively promote its position through email and telephone calls to officials, through your web site, and through personal appearances at City Council committees.

2012 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

CHARMING THE CHALLENGING PERSON – Room 1050

Presenter: Emily Williams, Deputy Chief of Staff, Los Angeles City Councilmember Tony Cardenás

Challenging and difficult people are everywhere. Begin by understanding that their troublesome behavior is (in their opinion) a matter of survival and self-protection. Then remember that if difficult people can get you to 'lose it,' they have won. This workshop will help you to:

- Identify strategies that will protect colleagues, the public, and the process from being usurped by the difficult person;
- Learn ways to more effectively work with people who frequently display difficult behavior; and
- Familiarize yourself with coping mechanisms that you can use when conflict reaches a fever pitch.

ETHICS AND OPEN GOVERNMENT (State-Required Training) Session 1 of 2 – Room 350

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

IMPORTANT: You must also take the second half (after lunch) of this session to complete your Ethics Training requirement.

Government Code section 53235 requires ethics training for local government officials, including neighborhood council Board members. You must take this training within the first year of gaining office and every two years after that. In order to get a certificate of completion, you MUST enroll in and complete both this program and the second part, which will be held during Session #3. Part 1 will show you examples of conflicts of interest under the Political Reform Act, explain how Common Law controls personal bias in decision-making, and cover Government Code Section 1090's prohibition of financial interests in public contracts.

PLANNING AND LAND USE 101 (What Land Use Committees Do; Planning Packets) – Room 1060

Moderator: Russell Brown, Downtown Los Angeles NC

Planning and Land Use committees are common to all neighborhood councils. The cases and other issues they bring to neighborhood council Boards are often matters of strong community interest. These matters also can be hard to understand without some basic knowledge. This program will give you that basic knowledge. It is intended to help Board members and stakeholders as well as new members of land use committees. You will get a general idea of how planning and zoning work, by-right versus discretionary development, conditional use permits, the hearing process and "findings", and the planning appeals process. The General Plan, Community Plans, Specific Plans, Historic Preservation Overlay Zones, sign districts, and some important State laws that affect the local planning process will be briefly described. You will learn how planning cases are numbered, and how to look up cases and properties on a wonderful online tool called ZIMAS. You'll also learn why it can be important to consider land use proposals BEFORE a case is filed, and why your council should care about issues like "code simplification" and "development reform". Finally, you will leave the program with numerous ways you can learn more and get help, including PlanCheckNC.

CONSOLIDATED PLAN SURVEY — INFLUENCE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Room 1070

Moderator: Ana Lynn Rocio, Senior Director, Community Development Policy and Programs, Office of the Mayor

The Consolidated Plan is the City's five year strategy to revitalize low income neighborhoods through community and economic development projects, affordable housing, and activities that address homelessness. Neighborhood councils will have an opportunity to learn more about the Consolidated Plan process and give their feedback on proposed City strategies.

ROLE OF THE CITY'S PORT AIRPORTS AND DWP IN TRADE AND BUSINESS – Room 1025

Moderator: Robert Gelfand, President LA Neighborhood Council Coalition

The core element is that international trade is expected to grow robustly during the next several years, including exports as well as imports. This is going to provide opportunities for local job creation and business development. The question we have been asking is this: How can we arrange for the most job and business development in the private sector based on international trade? One answer involves making Los Angeles more business-friendly, and this is something that neighborhood councils should definitely take up. Another answer involves negotiating with foreign trade organizations and their governmental representatives in order to maximize the number of us locals who will be hired or contracted to do value-added work on imports.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ALLIANCES AND COLLABORATION – Room 1010

Moderator: Jill Banks Barad, Founder and Chair Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils

Panelists: Leonard Shaffer, LA Neighborhood Council Coalition; Doug Epperhart, Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils

This workshop introduces the ways neighborhood councils are forming alliances to help each other and advocate as one voice. How did these alliances start and how do they function? What is their organizational structure? These include the regional alliances with similar communities of interest and LANCC. The Budget Advocates, NC/DWP MOU Oversight Committee and PlanCheck focus on specific City issues. And this year cooperation is being built through the City's 12 election regions. With deep staff cuts at DONE, the department is unable to provide a high level of training and support, so the councils are helping themselves through a peer network such as the Valley Alliance Resource Board which is a "go-to" place for guidance and mentoring. You will come away with a wide range of contacts and opportunities for organizing and being more effective within the neighborhood council system.

2012 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

WORKING WITH SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION - HOW TO HELP MAKE REAL CHANGE – Room 1020

Presenter: Lydia Grant, Parent Representative, Sunland-Tujunga NC

This workshop will help you learn how to help your schools regarding the following: How to outreach at neighborhood council meetings and events and how your school can partner with them in order to promote community engagement and use of school facilities. How crime and safety issues regarding your schools affect your community's property values. Consider safety issues facing children to and from school, reporting graffiti, etc. Provide you with information you may need regarding land use issues that can negatively affect students. You will come away with a better understanding of the LAUSD structure and how to find information, such as test scores, on their local schools. Receive contact information for the district and their school board members and how to become empowered to speak at school board meetings. How to interface with LAUSD to facilitate parent meetings and many different best practices.

LADWP IN THE COMMUNITY: PROJECTS, PEOPLE AND RESOURCES – 4th Floor Press Room

Presenter: Kimberley Hughes, Public Affairs, LA Department of Water & Power

The Department of Water and Power has more active projects going on in city neighborhoods than at any time in its history. will provide a complete list of the local projects and discuss the most important ones. In addition, you'll get a full list who and where to call for local project information, billing issues, energy efficiency programs, water conservation, solar programs, and information on many other DWP services.

12:05 pm – 1:10 pm LUNCH

1:10 pm – 2:25 pm SESSION 3

ROUNDTABLE WITH CITY DEPARTMENTS – Room 1010

Moderator: Marlene Savage, Mid City West NC

Panelists: Alan Bell, Deputy Director of Planning, Department of City Planning; David Lara, Chief of the Office of Inter-Governmental Relations and Communications (IRC); Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS); Enrique Zaldivar, Director of the Los Angeles City Bureau of Sanitation; Carmen Hawkins, Deputy City Attorney

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

GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIVING - WHERE TO GO FOR HELP – Room 1020

Presenter: Carolyn Casavan, President, San Fernando Valley Green Team

Many neighborhood council board members and stakeholders are concerned with "green" issues. This program will present a wide-ranging survey of technologies, organizations, resources and activities that help us make a lighter footprint on the earth. The workshop won't explain any one area. It WILL give you a huge toolkit with which you can make your neighborhood a more earth-friendly place. Utility-related subjects include residential solar power, water conservation and dual meters, gray water systems, rain barrels, runoff capture, and gardening with native plants. Community beautification with plants will be viewed for the benefits of an urban forest, water conservation, and permeable hardscapes. Water-efficient landscaping laws and planning requirements will be referenced, as well as Green Building Standards and Low Impact Development rules. Fruit trees, vegetable gardens and composting are great for those with a place to grow. There is also a community garden movement to provide everyone with an opportunity to grow fresh food, herbs and flowers. Finally there is the sustainability movement and Green politics (dark green, light green and bright green!). Who knows how much of this the speakers will be able to cram in? It should be fun.

LOBBY LIKE A PRO: WHO AND HOW TO GET THINGS DONE? – Council Chambers

Moderator: Tony Wilkinson, Panorama City NC

Presenter: Jay Beeber, Sherman Oaks NC

Everyone complains about the power and influence that lobbyists and special interests have at City Hall. Often, we hear the charge, "But the people don't have a lobbyist." However, ordinary citizens, especially those working within the Neighborhood Council system, can be as effective as the most seasoned lobbyist. This session will show how to lobby City Hall like the professionals do and how the voice of the people can be heard above the clatter of the influence peddlers.

HOW TO RUN A MEETING – Room 1050

Presenter: Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian, Venice NC

Running an effective meeting is an art, not a science. At the end, the group must have accomplished real work, participants must feel that they had an opportunity to be heard, and people should believe that the process was 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 committee chairs as well as for Board Presidents. Learn how to create a clear, descriptive agenda with time targets and ways of keeping your stakeholders aware of what the procedures are. Where does the Brown Act come into play and how does it help to insure the integrity of your meetings? Roberts Rules of Order is only one framework for fair meeting control, but there are other options that can sometimes be more effective, especially if you have to work with difficult people. Learn what role a parliamentarian can play to help plan and orchestrate a meeting. This session will give you tips and best practices on how to be a more effective leader, most of which you can't learn in a textbook.

2012 Congress of Neighborhoods Program

ETHICS AND OPEN GOVERNMENT (State-Required Training) Part 2 of 2 – Room 350

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

IMPORTANT: You must take the first half (before lunch) of this session to complete your Ethics Training requirement.

Government Code section 53235 requires ethics training for local government officials. In order to get a certificate of completion, you MUST enroll in and complete both this program and the first part, which will be held during Session #2. This second part of the program covers bribery and extortion, misuse of authority for private benefit, limitations on mass mailings, and prohibition on the use of public funds for political purposes. Most of the time will be spent covering the state open meetings law, the Brown Act, which controls many aspects of neighborhood council operation. The California Public Records Act also applies to neighborhood councils, and its strict deadlines for compliance will be covered. Finally, city rules on competitive bidding will be described, along with city rules for entering into contracts.

RECRUITMENT, TRAINING AND MANAGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS (Including The Board!) – Room 1025

Moderator: Thomas Soong, EmpowerLA

Presenter: Pedro Barrientos, Volunteer Center of LA

The more connected people feel to a community, the more likely they are to volunteer their time and skills to make it better. The first part of a successful neighborhood council volunteer program, which includes Board volunteers, is the care and feeding of that connection. A shared sense of purpose is contagious. The second part is to realize that while volunteers provide their services free, they (we!) need the same careful attention as paid staff. Your recruitment should not be arbitrary. Although all are welcome, it is a selection process. Training is not going to be provided by an understaffed DONE. Each NC needs to have a real training program. Training is a right. It's also a way to incorporate volunteers as members of the family. When volunteers are on board and trained, they need to be managed like any workforce. There's a need for leadership, division of labor, responsibility for work, time and project management, and thanks and recognition. When you can recruit talent, match people with their interests and provide a cheerful working atmosphere, there is no end to what you can do.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: HOW TO FIND AND ENCOURAGE PEOPLE WHO CARE – Room 1070

Presenter: Stephen Box

How do you find someone to join the neighborhood council? Could it be schools, senior centers or other community groups? This workshop will give you some first hand ideas for finding and encouraging even the busiest people to volunteer to empower their community.

CREATING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (Both Financial And Joint-Action) – Room 1035

Presenters: Sun Valley Area NC: Julie Monroy-Cantor, Treasurer; Robert Lim, Board Member; Mike O'Gara, 2nd VP

It's not in the Charter, but one of the important functions of a neighborhood council is community-building. One of the best ways to build community relationships is to work together. As a city agency, a neighborhood council is often in a great position to "pitch a tent" and invite everybody to come. Health fairs, education fairs and anti-gang collaboratives are examples of this kind of partnership. Partnering with other organizations is also a practical way to get things done that an NC can't do alone. Businesses, business organizations, elected officials, religious groups, schools, colleges, service clubs and non-profit service organizations are examples of possible partners who have funds, expertise, or volunteers. There are also many events put together by others in which NCs can participate. These are both outreach opportunities and "photo ops". This program will give you tips on how to team up with others, ways to handle funding, and events that work.

INTEGRATING WEBSITES, EMAIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA – Room 1060

Presenters: Liz Harsch, AdTeamLA; Enci Box, EmpowerLA

Learn how to enlist the "big three" Internet resources for your neighborhood council. A content-rich, timely web site is the foundation of your neighborhood council's public image. Learn how to work with webmasters to keep your site up to date. Email is the basic tool for communicating news and notices. You'll get tips on how and when to email, and how to use bulk email services like Constant Contact and MailChimp. Finally you'll learn how to use social media like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to promote your neighborhood council and drive traffic to your web site.

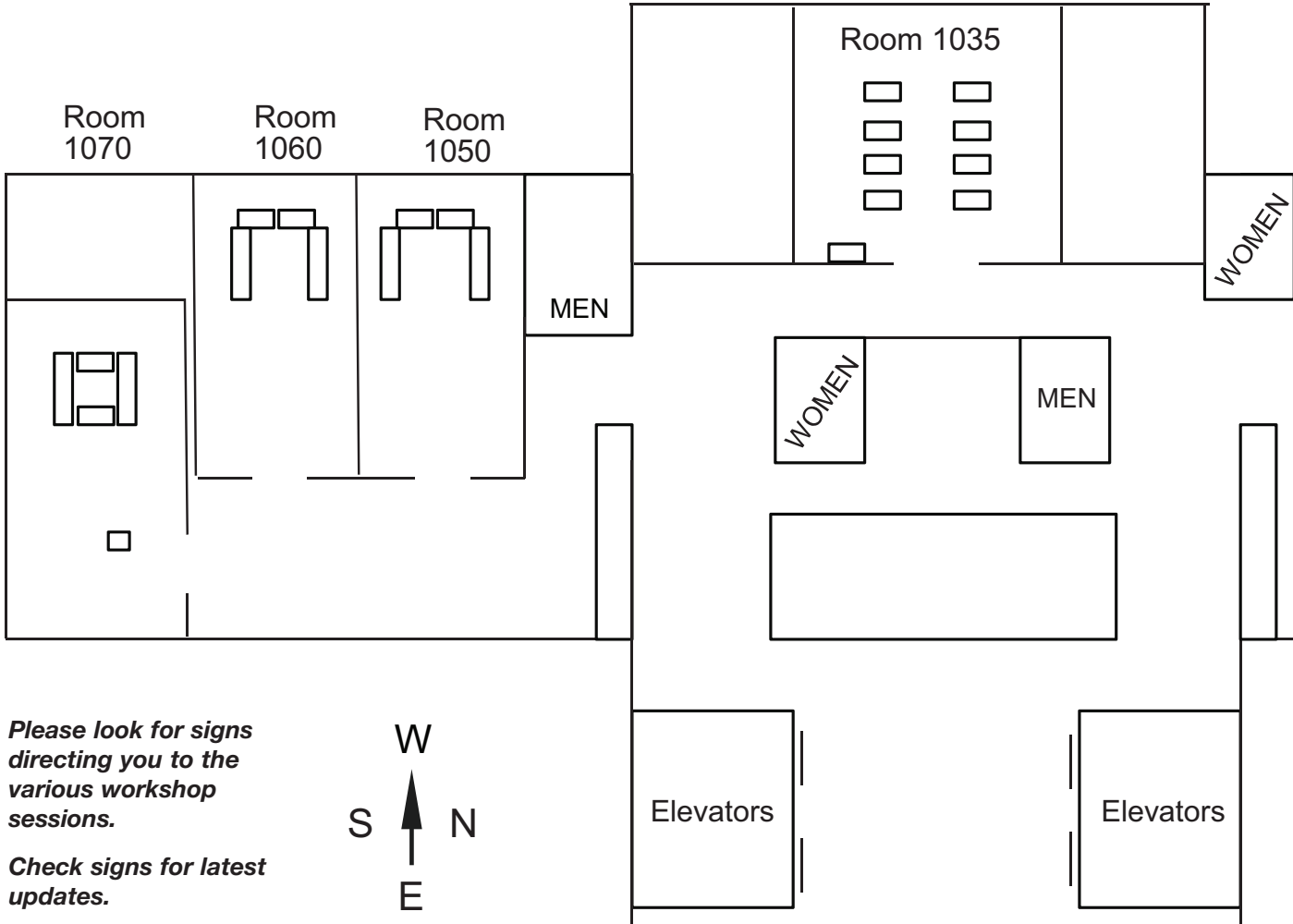
2:35 pm – 3:00 pm NC CONGRESS ACTION SESSION – City Council Chambers

3:05 pm – 4:00 pm PRIMARY ELECTION 2013 CANDIDATES FORUM / CONGRESS CONCLUDES

THANK YOU to all who may not be included in the program. We look forward to seeing you at the 2013 Congress.

Map to Workshop Sessions

10th FLOOR ROOMS

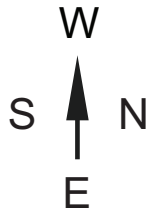


Please look for signs directing you to the various workshop sessions.

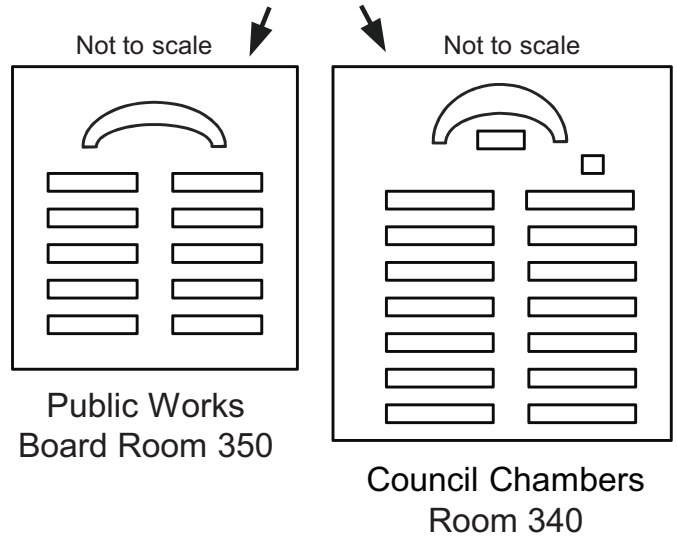
Check signs for latest updates.

Name badges needed for all events.

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

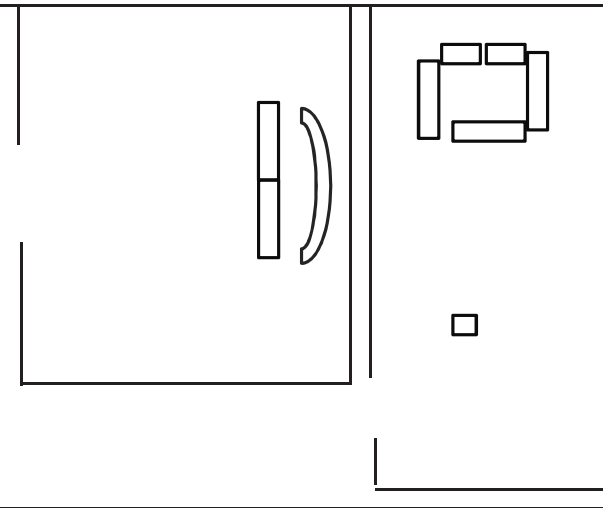


3rd FLOOR ROOMS



Room 1010

Room 1020



EMPOWER LA™

Department of
NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

PURPOSE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS:

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

— *Los Angeles City Charter, Article IX*

WORKSHOP SESSION	ROOM
MIXER and CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST • 7:45 am - 8:30 am	
OPENING SESSION, NC ROLL CALL, WELCOME • 8:30 am - 9:15 am	
BREAK • 9:15am - 9:25am	
SESSION 1 • 9:25am - 10:40am	
Meet your City Officials	Council Chambers
How Neighborhood Councils Work	1050
Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness	1020
Developing Leadership Skills for Board Members	1010
Best Practices in Outreach to Stakeholders and City Government	1060
City Budget: Is the City Heading Towards Insolvency	1070
Resources: Treasurer Training for Neighborhood Councils	350
Youth Issues Community Involvement, Public Safety	1035
BREAK • 10:40am - 10:50am	
SESSION 2 • 10:50am - 12:00pm	
Working with City Council Committees	Council Chambers
Council Files Community Impact Statements Getting Heard	1035
Charming the Challenging Person	1050
Ethics and Open Government (State-required training) session 1 of 2	350
Planning and Land Use 101	1060
Consolidated Plan Survey – Influence Use of Federal Funds in Your Community	1070
Role of the city's Port Airports and DWP in Trade and Business	1025
Neighborhood Council Alliances and Collaboration	1010
Working with Schools and Education	1020
LADWP in the Community: Projects, People and Resources	4th Floor Press Room
LUNCH • 12:05pm - 1:10pm	
SESSION 3 • 1:10pm - 2:20pm	
Lobby Like a Pro: Who and How To Get Things Done?	Council Chambers
Roundtable with City Departments	1010
Green and Sustainable Living - Where to go for Help	1020
How to Run a Meeting	1050
Ethics and Open Government (State-required training) session 2 of 2	350
Recruitment, Training and Management of Volunteers	1025
Empowering Communities: How to Find, Encourage People Who Care	1070
Creating Community Partnerships	1035
Integrating Websites, Email and Social Media	1060
BREAK • 2:20pm - 2:30pm	
NC CONGRESS ACTION SESSION • 2:35pm - 3:00pm	Council Chambers
PRIMARY ELECTION 2013 CANDIDATES FORUM • 3:05pm - 4:00pm	Council Chambers

This schedule is subject to change due to meeting room capacity limits.

Please plan to get to your session early to be sure you have a seat.

Check signs for latest updates.

PLEASE, name badge needed for all events.

Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



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

Jill, a civic leader in Los Angeles for over 30 years, is in her eighth year as President of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council which she organized. She is also Founder and Chair of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils, now in its ninth year, and it has been called a "model of regional governance" and a model for other alliances throughout the City. Jill also chaired Mayor Tom Bradley's Advisory Committee on Education, serves on several volunteer Boards and has a long list of civic recognition's for her many accomplishments. Among her awards are "Most Inspirational Woman in Business" by State Senate and Assembly members. "Valley Leader of the Year" by the San Fernando Valley Business Journal, Harmon Ballin Award from VICA for community service and the CD5 Pioneer Woman Award. Jill owns her own public relations, political consulting and government affairs firm, Jill Barad & Associates. She has also been teaching political public relations, media, and fundraising at UCLA since 1988.



Pedro "Peter" Barrientos, Program Manager, Volunteer Center, Manager, HandsOn Volunteers Program, Volunteer Center of Los Angeles. (VCLA)

Pedro has more than 8 years of experience in volunteer management working in various capacities including recruitment, training, retention, and recognition of volunteers. He has extensive experience engaging community volunteers to serve as mentors for at-risk youth, support "done-in-a-day" projects, connect to various cause-focused organizations and organizing large-scale special events such as 9/11 Day of Service. Currently, Pedro delivers VCLA's Volunteer Management Training Program to help community organizations improve how they engage volunteers and, ultimately, their ability to deliver their mission. He recently worked with the Councils 4 Councils Task Force, made up of various NC members, and advised the development of the new DONE Volunteer Program. Pedro was born and raised in the San Fernando Valley and is a proud, new Downtown Los Angeles resident.



Enci Box, Actress, Activist, Networker, EmpowerLA Webmaster

Actress, Activist and über Networker Enci has performed in New York and Los Angeles, appearing in print campaigns, in commercials, on stage, and in films. Along the way, in the process of promoting her career, she put the full spectrum of social media tools to work and began forging alliances and networks in the entertainment industry. She teaches the popular "Get Connected" class at AFI, at the SAG Conservatory, at the SAG Foundation and USC. Enci is the the webmaster for the Silver Lake NC, EmpowerLA and the 2012 Neighborhood Council Elections.



Stephen Box, Cycling Advocate, Community Organizer, EmpowerLA Elections Coordinator

Avid Cyclist, Cycling Advocate, Community Organizer, Stephen is passionate about grass-roots politics and believes that building community is one of the most important things we can do. He promotes social change and community building by promoting alternative modes of transportation. "I believe that our streets are the new 'public space' and our ability to share that space is one of our greatest opportunities for revitalizing and redefining our communities. Stephen has served on the Caltrans 7 Bicycle Advisory Committee and is the co-founder of the Bike Writers Collective. His "Common Ground" and "Solemates" campaigns have been presented to community groups as well as transportation and planning organizations. Currently Stephen is EmpowerLA's Elections Coordinator organizing the elections for the neighborhood councils across the City including training and coordination of all outreach, polling sites through to election day and beyond.



Jay Beeber, Board member, Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

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



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

Alan is responsible for Development Services and Zoning Administration. Also, Policy Planning and Historic Resources with focus primarily on community planning, long-range and citywide planning, zoning code amendments and simplification, and development reform. Alan recently led the effort to reorganize the Department and implement the eight strategic changes outlined in Blueprint 2010-11. Prior to his appointment as Deputy Director, he was the Senior City Planner in the Office of Zoning Administration, where he managed the code studies, case management, zoning investigations, and nuisance abatement units.

Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



Larry Bogatz, CERT Battalion Coordinator and very active in developing emergency preparedness programs for communities and neighborhoods.

Larry is the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) coordinator for the Los Angeles City Fire Department's Battalion 18 and the administrator of the Neighborhood Team Program (NTP). He also serves on the LAPD Wilshire Division's Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB)

Emergency Preparedness Committee, the Pico Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Committee, and is Chair of the Safety and Security Committee for South Carthay Neighborhood Association. He also serves as a Red Cross Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Presenter. Larry received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Penn State and a Master of Public Administration from USC prior to serving as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, working for the Central Intelligence Agency and becoming involved in computers.



J. Russell Brown, Former Executive Director - Historic Downtown LA Business Improvement District (HDBID)

The Historic Downtown LA Business Improvement District (HDB) provides clean & safe services to 30 blocks of Historic Downtown LA, including over 1600 property owners. Russell has been responsible for economic development, urban policy, Art Walk, coordination with City of L.A. departments since 2008. He has

served as president of the Downtown LA Neighborhood Council from 2005-2010. DLANC represents a community of 500,000 daily workers and visitors. Other positions included president Pershing Square Park Advisory Board, Film LA Community Relations Board member, Founding Director of The Exchange, a community event center which facilitates community engagement, education and creative events. He has also held multiple positions on the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council and served on the BID Consortium a coalition of 38 Business Improvement Districts.



Carolyn Casavan, President, San Fernando Valley Green Team

Carolyn has been developing and implementing sustainability programs for business throughout her career. She is experienced in energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, greenhouse gas emissions, waste minimization and emerging green technologies. She has conducted green building education conferences and energy efficiency/water conservation work-

shops for businesses and Neighborhood Councils under funding received from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Prior to her current position, Ms. Casavan ran her own environmental consulting and engineering firm for twenty years. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering, is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of California and is an Accredited Greenhouse Gas Emissions Verifier. She believes that the environmental challenges we face today can and will be solved while maintaining a vibrant economy and improving our quality of life.



Cindy Cleghorn, Chair, Congress of Neighborhood Councils 2011-12, Secretary, Sunland-Tujunga NC (STNC)

Cindy worked with community leaders to certify the STNC and she has served two terms as President and is currently Vice President. Her involvement with the community helped to spearhead the restoration of the community's business section of Commerce Avenue that has now been designated as Historic Olde Towne Tu-

junga. She also serves on the STNC Land Use Committee, Safety Committee and on the Executive Board for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils and PlanCheckNC. She was selected to serve as a Los Angeles City Commissioner on the Neighborhood Council Review Commission representing the North Valley. Cindy also serves on the DWP Advocacy Committee, which collaborated with Neighborhood Councils citywide to defeat local Measure B. Cindy is a licensed Amateur Radio Operator and has served on the LA County Disaster Communications Service and Tournament of Roses Radio Amateurs.

Judith Daniels, Board member, Chatsworth Neighborhood Council

Judith served as president of the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council (CNC) for 5 years and currently serves as vice president. She was part of the organizing committee and was a founding board member of CNC in 2003. She has been serving on the executive board of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils for 4 years. She spoke to numerous NCs after the September 12, 2008, Metrolink train crash about emergency preparedness and how CNC provided more than 2,000 full meals for police officers in the first 72 hours after the accident. Judith forged a strong alliance with the Chatsworth Neighborhood Watch and has been active in public safety issues in the area. As President Judith was proud to be able to say that in the CNC "equestrian" is a legal definition of a stakeholder. She recently helped with inaugural elections for two Valley-area Neighborhood Councils and has mentored several new board members and officers.

Judith served 20 years as a local news editor at the Los Angeles Times after stints at the Long Beach Independent, Press-Telegram, Orlando Sentinel and The Ledger, in Lakeland, FL. She then moved into a second career in family practice medicine.



Doug Epperhart, Member Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Doug Epperhart has been on the Board of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council since February, 2002. He served four years as president. He chairs the Rules and Bylaws Committee for the Council.

He has been involved with the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (HANC) since its founding in June 2009. Doug also chaired the Budget

Advocates in 2010.

Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



Lydia Grant, Parent Representative, Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

Lydia has many years of experience on the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council. She served on the Board as a Region Representative, followed by two terms as the Education Representative, and currently holds the position of Parent Representative, in her second term.

Lydia is also a Parent Revolution Board Member, a non profit organization, and was instrumental in helping to get the Parent Empowerment Act SBX5 4 passed in California, also known as the "Parent Trigger". Lydia considers herself an Education advocate and is willing to help communities across the city with school issues including those involving land use, such as the issues raised in Sunland-Tujunga's battle to stop a Home Depot. She helps other neighborhood councils with LAUSD and school issues.



Monica Harmon, Public Safety Advocate/LAPD Volunteer

Public Safety Advocate/LAPD Volunteer for over 15 years, Monica was one of the first female LAPD Cadets. She completed LAPD's Community Police Academy and LAPD's State Certified Domestic Violence Abuse Team Training (DART program). In 2009 Ms. Harmon graduated from the 1st LAPD West Bureau Detective Community Police Academy. She organizes events that

"Partners Kids, Cops and Community" throughout the City. In 2003 Los Angeles Mayor James Hahn selected Ms. Harmon as one of 30 community leaders Citywide to participate in a roundtable discussion with LAPD Chief William Bratton to discuss Community Policing.



Liz Harsch, Tailor-Made Advertising

Liz Harsch of Tailor-Made Advertising has been helping small businesses make more of their marketing budget since 1988. She has been awarded by Constant Contact as an All Star Email Marketer and an Authorized Local Expert to present Email and Social Media Workshops and offers other Small Business and non-profit Workshops.



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

Ms. Hoppes is responsible for managing, directing, and organizing the daily functions of staff in providing legislative services to the public, Mayor, City Council, Council Committees, and City entities. She has served the City of Los Angeles for the past 17 years and has held various positions within the departments of Recreation and Parks, Los Angeles World Airports, and

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



Jack Humphreville, Greater Wilshire NC

Jack Humphreville is the Windsor Square representative to the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council. He is also the GWNC DWP and Budget representative and a Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate.

Jack is a frequent contributor to City Watch (www.CityWatchLA.com) where he has commented upon the rates and transparency of our Department of Water and Power and the City's dire financial condition.

Jack wrote the Opposition Argument to Measure B that was rejected by the 50.5% of the voters in March 2009. He was also an early proponent of the Ratepayers Advocate that was approved by 78% of the voters in March 2011.

Given the blatant failure of our spineless Elected Elite to address the City's march to insolvency, Jack is proposing a "Live Within Its Means" charter amendment that would reform the City's finances and restore our streets and sidewalks.

Jack is an owner of Target Media Partners, a mid Wilshire publisher of classified ads throughout the United States, including Recycler Classifieds (www.recycler.com), a Sherman Oaks based company that has been serving the Los Angeles metropolitan area since 1973.



David (Dave) Lara, Chief of the Office of Inter-Governmental Relations and Communications (IRC) Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS)

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

12 years serving as liaison to the City Council and Neighborhood Councils. This has provided them with immediate assistance to any LADBS services such as code enforcement, case management, inspections, and plan check. His formal experience in prior years was in commercial/residential and disabled-access inspection, code enforcement, and supervision.

Dave continues to assist the City Council and Neighborhood Councils. But as part of his new role as the Chief of the Office of Inter-Governmental Relations and Communications (IRC), he also serves as liaison to the Office of the Mayor and the Office of the City Legislative Analyst (CLA) on any and all pertinent legislation. He also represents LADBS on department related matters involving County, State, and Federal legislation.

His related responsibilities include assisting in managing employee relations between the public and Department staff; evaluate, identify and recommend changes to top management on policy to enhance customer service and community relations; coordinates and performs outreach efforts to various Neighborhood Councils, City staff, professional and community organizations, and public officials, to ensure a positive public image of the Department and facilitate the delivery of the Department's core services.

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

Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



Grayce Liu, Interim General Manager, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Grayce is the Interim General Manager for the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and is responsible for the overall management of the department, including development of the budget, strategic planning, programs and services, policies, personnel and constituent and City government relations. She has been with the Department for 5 years and was the Director of

Policy and Communications for the Neighborhood Council system before stepping into her Interim role. Prior to this, she was the Community Program Director for the Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF) and the co-chair of the Asian and Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Task Force in the San Gabriel Valley. In her roles at CPAF and on the Task Force, Grayce worked to educate the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities about domestic violence and sexual assault and to build coalitions with domestic violence service providers, law enforcement, hospitals, and social services in order to provide effective and culturally sensitive services to API domestic violence and sexual assault survivors. She continues to teach classes on domestic violence, sexual assault, compassionate communications and self-defense in her free time.

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



Linda Lucks, Member Board of Neighborhood Commissioners/President, Venice Neighborhood Council

Linda Lucks is a former elementary school teacher in Pacoima, where she was raised. Principal of her own community relations consulting firm, she has worked as a U.S. Senate campaign aide and as a Los Angeles City Council Deputy. During the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, Lucks was manager of public relations for the Olympic Torch Relay and then directed an in house

outplacement program for the transition of 800 full time Olympic employees back into the job market. Lucks' public service on behalf of the State of California includes appointments multiple state boards and commissioners. She was the first woman president of the Los Angeles County Beach Commission. A community activist and 40 year Venice stakeholder, Ms. Lucks was elected president of the Venice Neighborhood Council in 2010 and has been an office holder since 2005 as Vice President and Community Officer. In 2006 Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa appointed Ms. Lucks to the City Board of Neighborhood Commissioners as the first NC member, where she served as president for three years and was reappointed last year to a second term. Ms. Lucks is a founder of the annual Venice Garden & Home benefiting the non-profit Neighborhood Youth Association's Las Doradas Children's Center. She received the annual "Spirit of Venice" award in 1998 and a "Women Leaders" award presented by the National Women's Political Caucus, Westside in 2008 and 2012 Volunteer Award from the Neighborhood Youth Association. Ms. Lucks earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles and is graduate of John H. Francis Polytechnic High School in Sun Valley, CA.



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 the University of Notre Dame in 1988 and UCLA School of Law in 1991.

Julie Monroy-Cantor

Julie was born in El Salvador and migrated to the United States at the age of 10. She has served on the board of the Sun Valley Area NC since 2006 as vice president, treasurer and secretary. A graduate of CSUN with a bachelors in radio/television/film with an emphasis in TV production and minor in Central American studies. Julie attended a Citizenship workshop hosted by the Panorama NC and from that workshop became a U.S. Citizen. Julie knows the struggles immigrants face when filing immigration documents and hoping to qualify and how extremely expensive it is to pay for help from immigration lawyers. Julie is married with one child who loves coming to NC meetings too!

Ankur Patel

Ankur Patel is a graduate student at California State University Northridge who regularly makes public comment during City Council meetings and has a weekly commentary on KPFK during Uprising Radio titled "Civic Circus."

SAVE THE DATE
2013 CONGRESS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2013

Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists



Paul S. Park, General Counsel and Secretary of the Cesar Chavez Foundation

Paul S. Park is the General Counsel and Secretary of the Cesar Chavez Foundation, where he oversees and directs all legal matters pertaining to the Chavez Foundation's operations including litigation, corporate transactions, and all compliance matters involving tax, labor and employment, and nonprofit laws. The Chavez Foundation houses over 16,000 low-income residents at its affordable housing facilities throughout the Southwest, inspires over 500,000 daily listeners through its nine nonprofit radio stations, educates thousands of students through its after-school tutoring programs, and preserves its National Historic landmarks and properties such as the 40 acres in Delano, California, and the National Chavez Center. Since 2002, Paul has also served in an array of executive management roles at the Chavez Foundation, including Acting President and Chief Operations Officer.

Prior to working at the Chavez Foundation, Paul practiced law in the San Francisco offices of O'Melveny & Myers LLP, on secured lending transactions, venture capital financings, mergers and acquisitions, as well as civil and criminal litigation matters. Clients included Bank of America, Wells Fargo Bank, Fremont Ventures, Pacific Gas & Electric and Advanced Micro Devices.

Paul is a board member and past president of the Korean American Bar Association of Southern California. During his tenure, he established the KABA Foundation, a subsidiary charitable organization that provides free legal services, community workshops, and law student scholarships.

Paul is admitted to practice in the State of California, and holds a JD from the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law, where he served as an editor for the UCLA Law Review. He also received an MBA from the Anderson School of Management at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he was awarded a Global Access Program Fellowship. Paul earned an AB with distinction from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.



Nina Royal, Treasurer and Safety Chair, Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC)

Nina, a 25+ year community activist is one of the organizers of the STNC. She served as Treasurer, Secretary, Vice Chairman and Vice President of Outreach. She is a staunch supporter of public safety and improving the quality of life for everyone and serves as Safety Chair as well as on the Land Use Committee. She founded Sunland-Tujunga Safety & Emergency Response

Volunteer Services (S-T SERVS) and serves on the Foothill Div. Community Police Advisory Board. She also serves on the DWP MOU and Advocacy Committees, PlanCheckNC, and on the IRP Committee for the Bureau of Sanitation. Her professional career was in Materials Management for the aerospace industry, but her first love is journalism. She is the Publisher and Editor of the North Valley Reporter, an all volunteer community service newspaper whose mission is Keeping You Informed at www.northvalleyreporter.com.



Marlene Savage, Mid City West NC

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

and knowledge of neighborhood council veterans to provide support and training for councils that request assistance. Also, she currently serves as a 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. Marlene has been involved in the development of the last five Neighborhood Council Congresses.



Mark Seigel, President, Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC)

Mark is one of the founders of the STNC. He chaired the Ad Hoc Committee to certify the STNC in 2001. He also served on the Board as a Group Representative for Scouting, Representative for Region 4, Treasurer, and now President. He also chaired the STNC Fact Finding Committee for what is known as the Canyon Hills Project. Mark served as a certified Neighborhood

Council Independent Elections Administrator (IEA) and has served as an election volunteer for several neighborhood councils throughout the city. He also serves on the Executive Committee for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. Mark is an Extra Class Amateur Radio operator and holds classes twice a year to license new operators as a Volunteer Examiner recognized by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).



Leonard Shaffer, Chair, Tarzana Neighborhood Council and Member Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Leonard's neighborhood activities began in 1972 when he joined the Tarzana Property Owners Association board. He became interested in neighborhood councils after he attended a conference at USC prior to the passage of the 1999 Charter. In 2003 he led the effort to form the Tarzana Neighborhood Council, which he currently

chairs. In 2005 he participated in the formation of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition, (LANCC) a city wide group that he also chairs.

Meet Your Moderators, Speakers, Panelists

Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian for Venice and Boyle Heights

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

Vivienne Swanigan, L.A. City Attorney

Vivienne is a 25 year veteran of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, with extensive expertise in employment law. Ms. Swanigan worked as a criminal prosecutor before joining the civil side of her office, handling employment litigation and advice, and conducting EEO, workplace violence, and other training for supervisors and employees. She currently works in the Labor Relations Division, provides employment advice to City departments, leads the City Attorney's Workplace Violence Unit within Labor Relations, and is the longest standing member of the City-wide Threat Assessment Team. She holds a BS in Criminal Justice from Cal State University - Los Angeles, is a native Californian, and earned her Juris Doctor from the UCLA School of Law.



Kevin Taylor, Reseda Neighborhood Council

Kevin Taylor was born and raised in the San Fernando Valley. A current resident of Reseda, he's served on the Reseda Neighborhood Council since April 2011. With a focus on Youth Advocacy, he's been a member of the San Fernando Valley Coalition on Gangs and has helped lead on connecting kids and families to available resources and positive opportunities. Also focusing on economic development, Kevin is one of

the creators of the lauded "Spend \$25 on the 25th in Reseda" and Shop-RESEDA programs. After a 15+ year career in the music business, Kevin shifted his focus to local advocacy and politics in recent years. In Los Angeles, he's worked to elect outsiders to City government, as Finance Director for Stephen Box for City Council, District 4 and as Campaign Manager for Cary Iaccino for City Council District 3. While still an active participant in Iaccino's ongoing campaign, he's since shifted his focus to the EmpowerLA Elections team, as the Independent Election Administrator for Region 4 in the Southeast Valley.



Tony Wilkinson, Vice Chair, Panorama City Neighborhood Council

Tony Wilkinson is a founder and currently Vice Chair of the Panorama City Neighborhood Council. He is retired from a career in the land title insurance business. Tony has 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 is also the Independent Election Administrator for EmpowerLA neighborhood council elections in the West LA region. Tony has helped coordinate the workshop sessions at both the 2011 and 2012 Congress.



Emily C. Williams, Deputy Chief of Staff to Los Angeles City Councilmember Tony Cárdenas who represents the Sixth District in the Northeast San Fernando Valley. Within the Sixth District are the following neighborhood councils: Arleta, Lake Balboa, North Hills East, North Hollywood Northeast, Panorama City, Sun Valley, and Van Nuys.

Emily began her career with the City in 1999 with the Human Relations Commission, serving as a liaison between public safety agencies and community groups. In 2002, she joined LAPD's instructor cadre and continues to teach leadership courses at the academy. In 2005, she established the Los Angeles Fire Department's (LAFD) Human Relations Training Section, dedicated to the delivery of non-tactical training to the Department's 4,000 employees. She went on to establish LAFD's Workforce Excellence Unit and served as its civilian commander until 2010. Emily earned her B.A. in Political Science and Master of Public Policy (MPP) from UCLA.



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

Enrique is a licensed Civil Engineer in the State of California. He received his Degree in Civil Engineering from Cal Poly Pomona in 1985, where he continued his graduate studies. He began his career with the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering in 1985, as a design engineer on wastewater treatment plants and major sewer projects, including projects at the Terminal Is-

land, the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation plants and the 200 million dollar North Outfall Relief Sewer (NORS). In October 2007, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa appointed Enrique Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, one of the largest agencies in the City, with nearly 2,800 employees and an annual value exceeding \$1.2 billion.

THANK YOU to all speakers for your participation.

To those whose photos and bios arrived after our deadline, we will include them on the nccongressla.com website.

Follow the Congress on Facebook and Twitter.



PLEASE NOTE Northridge South was inadvertently omitted from the list on Neighborhood Councils on the back cover.

NORTHRIDGE SOUTH

Meets 4th Thursday (except November & December)
Northridge Middle School
17960 Chase Street
Northridge, CA 91325

THANK YOU

to the following **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS** for their
vote of financial support to the **2012 Congress of Neighborhoods**

Westlake North

Sherman Oaks • Rampart Village

Empowerment Congress North • Sunland-Tujunga

Mid City West	Granada Hills North	Northridge West
Bel Air Beverly Crest	Tarzana	Mid-Town North Hollywood
West LA	Harbor Gateway North	Panorama City
Valley Village	Greater Wilshire	Venice
North Hollywood East	Chatsworth	Eagle Rock
Pico Union	Encino	Sun Valley Area
Hollywood Studio District	Studio City	Lake Balboa
	Mar Vista Community Council	

and to those who contributed after the printing deadline.

Thank you to Neighborhood Council Valley Village for their generous contribution for the 2011 Congress too.

THANK YOU

The 2012 CONGRESS OF NEIGHBORHOODS
was made possible by the following



empowerLA.org

CITYWATCH
www.citywatchLA.com

NORTH VALLEY
Reporter
KEEPING YOU INFORMED
northvalleyreporter.com

