



# NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OF WESTCHESTER / PLAYA 2016 ELECTION INFORMATION

On Sunday, June 5, 2016, the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa will hold its board elections along with a number of other Neighborhood Councils on the Westside.

This is your opportunity to get involved, select those candidates who will serve on your Neighborhood Council and make a difference in your community. Think of your Neighborhood Council as a group of local residents and representatives of local businesses, churches and schools, etc., working together to address important issues in our neighborhood.

As part of the city's Charter, Neighborhood Councils are an integral part of how local government operates, providing elected officials with a direct line to the community and how it stands on all issues. The election for the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa board of directors will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Westchester Municipal Building Community Room at 7166 West Manchester Avenue in Westchester.

## ON THE BALLOT ...

About half of the seats on the Neighborhood Council's board of directors will be up for election. The following candidates will appear on the June 5 ballot:

At-Large Community Interest Director  
**Phivan Ha**  
**Gilbert Raymond Oviedo**  
**Ted Grose**  
**Trevor Candler**

Residential District 2  
**Gregg Aniolek**  
**Jennifer Mateo Robinson**

Residential District 4  
**Heather Tuttle**

Residential District 6  
**David Mannix**

Residential District 8  
**Thomas Flintoft**

Residential District 10  
**Chris Gemgnani**

Residential District 12  
**Gordon Welty**

Residential District 14  
**Peter M. Dray**  
**Alex Eychis**

At-Large Director Seat 1  
**Mark P. Redick**

Business Seat 90045  
**Geoff Maleman**

Business Seat 90293  
**Vacant**

Community Organization Director  
**David Voss**

Education Director  
**Andrew Kamm**

Loyola Marymount University Director  
**Grace Yao**

Service Club and Fraternal  
Organization Director  
**Jack Topal**

Youth Organization Director  
**Scott Carni**  
**Anthony Iglesias**

### You Must Bring Documentation to Vote

The election is open to any member of the community who is at least 18 years of age on the date of the election and lives, works or owns property in Zip Codes 90293, 90045 or 90094. According to the election procedures approved by the City of Los Angeles, voters must verify their stakeholder status by providing acceptable documentation.

Every voter planning to vote in the election must bring with them to the polling location proof of stakeholder status, including driver's license, utility bill, property tax statement, pay stub, business tax registration certificate or other documentation that proves they live, work or own property in Zip Codes 90293, 90045 or 90094. Those who do not provide this proof will be given a provisional ballot, which will not be counted until stakeholder status can be verified.



## Election Day

**10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
**Sunday, June 5, 2016**

at Westchester Municipal Building  
Community Room  
7166 W. Manchester Ave.,  
in Westchester



**www.ncwpdr.org • 213.473.7023**



# meet the candidates ...

Each candidate was asked to answer the following questions:

1) How long have you been in the

Westchester/Playa community, a bit about your past community involvement?  
2) What is your favorite thing about our community?

3) What are your strongest skills and leadership qualities and how they will be an asset to the community as you serve as a board member?

4) What inspired you to run for the NC seat and what you would like to accomplish while serving as a board member of the NCWP?

## AT-LARGE COMMUNITY INTEREST DIRECTOR



**Gilbert Raymond Oviedo**

1) I have lived in Playa Vista and Playa Del Rey for 6 years and proud to call this community my home. One of the biggest contributions I have made thus far is becoming a foster dad to a 1 year old boy. One of the many things that I like to do in my off-time is to volunteer at various missions, feeding the homeless, as well as rolling up my sleeves with my volunteer work with Habitat with Humanity.

2) My favorite thing about this community is the small town feel, and the friendliness of the people and activities it has to offer. Whether it be going to Playa Vista's Concert Park for a food truck lunch or walking to Playa Del Rey for wine at Bacari, beer at The Tripel or meeting my wife at MO's Place to watch a game.

3) As a leader in the community I bring authenticity, integrity, and perseverance. Bringing

these qualities to the community as a board member, I am committed to doing what's best for the community with the interest of the community paramount. Doing whatever it take and tirelessly standing for the writes of the community and it safety.

4) There I was, on a nature hike with my wife when the sidewalk I was walking on ended and we were left to traverse the oncoming traffic of Culver Blvd.

Shortly there after a pedestrian was struck and killed by a passing motorist on the same stretch of road side that we were previously on. I realized this could have been my wife or I. This inspired me to get into action and raise the safety concerns of the community and the lack of proper infrastructure for our growing community. One of the many things I am committed to is saving lives. I am doing this with my volunteer work with the Bridging

Communities initiative, an effort I have created to promote safety awareness, protect pedestrians and preserving the ecology by building a raised sidewalk along Culver Boulevard in front of Ballona Wetlands. Another goal that I am committed to is preserving the beauty & cleanliness of our neighborhoods by cleaning our streets of abandoned vehicles and make-shift homes that litter the road sides.



**Ted Grose**

*Mr. Grose did not answer the questions, but provided the following bio:*

I am a resident, business owner, community volunteer & leader in Westchester/Playa for over 35 years. I chose to make my home, raise a family and later relocate my business to Westchester because of the wonderful small town feel.

I am passionate about giving back to the community I love.

I know how to listen, how to serve and how to be decisive. Sitting on the NCWP will provide me the opportunity to represent your views to city government. Our community faces challenges from many outside interests. I promise to protect and preserve the place in which we live, work, raise our families and play. I am in favor of balanced and sustainable growth compatible with the personality and environment of our neighborhoods.

A few of my Westchester-Playa credentials:

- Westchester Family YMCA – Board Chair
- Westchester Vitalization - Director
- LAX Chamber – Public Policy Committee
- Westchester Rotary Club – Past President
- Westchester Rotary Foundation – Director
- Recycled Water Advisory Group – City of L.A.



**Phivan Ha**

*Ms. Ha did not answer the questions but posted the following bio online:*

I am currently serving as the Vice-President of the Emerson Avenue Community Garden Council. I see many opportunities in the neighborhood where the community can come together and support each other. My goal is to create and facilitate a safe and supportive environment where everyone can thrive in collaborative efforts and open communications. I am interested in becoming a candidate for the election in 2016 because I feel like there are many issues at stake and I am interested in working more collaboratively with the community to address them. By trade, I am a community nutritionist and I collaborate with many organizations including the American Diabetes Association, Los Angeles Food Policy Council, Los Angeles Community Garden Council, Downtown Women's Center, and many more in the greater Los Angeles area.



**Trevor Candler**

1) A 22 year resident in the Loyola village, 20 year home owner on Loyola blvd. I have a high attendance record at the neighborhood council meetings having missed only six in the last five years and three of those while in New Zealand.

2) While planning my move from New Zealand I lived in several areas and selected Westchester for its "home town" feel and the history surrounding the area

3) An executive level person in the engineering and construction fields for a major entertainment company for the past 17 years. Extensive experience with how the city of Los Angeles works related to property ownership and development with knowledge of current codes. Resulting from two CUP applications and the required input from the neighborhood council system.

4) Interested in promoting responsible redevelopment without changing the character of the areas covered by this council. Also an advocate for the environment as a car guy I have switched to 100% electric for all my travels except special events my total spend on gas last year in California was less than \$200! I also conserve water and power with minimal irrigation and LED lighting.

## RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 2 DIRECTOR



**Gregg Aniolek**

Angeles Fire Department on new response methods.

2) I love the small town feel of Playa Del Rey while still being part of the vast City of Los Angeles.

3) My engineering background and problem solving skills can be a tremendous asset to the community when considering new development and the effects it may have on the people living or visiting here. In addition, my corporate safety training has taught me how to seek out problems and resolve them before they result in injuries or property loss.

4) Keeping Playa Del Rey a special beach town has been my inspiration to run for a council seat. It is no secret that LAX needs modernizing (not

1) I have been a Playa Del Rey resident for the past 8 years and have actively contributed to the neighborhood council with my ideas and suggestions on how to improve our community. I have also been an active member of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and attend regular training sessions by the Los

expansion) and I would want to contribute to the appropriate improvement of our immediate neighbor. I would also want too assist with and oversee the safe construction of the Dual Force Main sewer line project to replace the current, heavily corroded and obsolete existing pipeline. Finally, I would like to try to help resolve the short term rental issue that has divided some of the community so bitterly.



**Jennifer Mateo Robinson**

*Ms. Robinson did not answer the questions, but provided the following bio:*

I was born and raised in Kansas, but have been in Los Angeles for 17 years. I have lived in Playa Del Rey for 10 of those 17 years. I am a strong community supporter and am thrilled when we get to welcome new neighbors and businesses to our neighborhood. My husband's

family has roots in this neighborhood as residents and students at both St. Bernard & Paseo del Rey schools. I love to hear their stories about the area and find myself delving into the history of our land & neighborhoods. At a larger community level, I have in the past been involved with both The Unusual Suspects Theatre Company (in LA) and the non-profit Architecture for Humanity Los Angeles as a volunteer. In addition, I co-chaired the Student Competition Committee & Event for 2 years (a volunteer for a total of 8 years) under the AIA Los Angeles Interior Architecture Committee. The event included up to 24 students, from 12 Southern California colleges/universities, in a one-day charrette in which selected teams were awarded more than \$20,000 in scholarship prizes. As you can see I am very passionate about

being involved and making a difference. Being a long term neighborhood resident, I have seen a lot of changes in our community; and I would like to get our constituents even more engaged to ensure our resident's voices & opinions are represented in the Council and at large. Day to day I work as a Senior Associate with the same group of designers & architects I have been with for 14 years. This position has allowed me to take on a leadership role, while also collaborating with and mentoring our staff. I believe these skill sets are well suited to serving as a board member on the Neighborhood Council and lend well to other aspects of the various Committees. I very much care about where we have been as a community; and learning and growing successfully together. I hope that you will come out to our neighborhood council elections and vote for me!

# meet the candidates ...

Each candidate was asked to answer the following questions:

1) How long have you been in the

Westchester/Playa community, a bit about your past community involvement?  
2) What is your favorite thing about our community?

3) What are your strongest skills and leadership qualities and how they will be an asset to the community as you serve as a board member?

4) What inspired you to run for the NC seat and what you would like to accomplish while serving as a board member of the NCWP?

## RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 4 DIRECTOR



Heather Tuttle

1) I have lived in Westchester and Playa Del Rey since 2007. I serve as the President for the local chapter of the International MOMS (Moms Offering Moms Support) Club. Through monthly service projects and weekly events, we have given back to the community while getting our children involved as well. We have organized various donation drives for local charities, facilitated community and beach clean-ups, and volunteer regularly at local

senior centers. I am also involved in the religious education program at our church, St. Anastasia.

2) I was born and raised in the suburbs of St. Paul, Minnesota. My community was small. I went to the same high school as my parents and grandparents. Everyone knew everyone. When I moved to the sprawling metropolis that is Los Angeles, I never dreamed of finding a community like the one I had grown up in. But, the

longer I live in Westchester/Playa Del Rey, the more similarities and Midwest values I discover. This community has a rich history and citizens who are proud to live here. It's small enough that you can expect to run into someone you know just about anywhere you go. Westchester has that hometown feel that you can't just build or create- you have to cultivate it. What I love the most is that the people truly care and are always willing to help. When residents see a problem

or opportunity, they unite and make a difference.

3) I am a mom of three young boys. This means by trade I am a mediator, an efficiency expert, a motivator, a listener, a problem-solver, and an enthusiastic doer. I lead with passion and perseverance.

4) I am excited about the opportunity to get involved and make positive change in the community where I live and raise my kids. During the past

few years, I have witnessed the power of this community. I have consistently been blown away with what we can accomplish together. I am running for Neighborhood Council to empower young families in our community to get involved and to make an impact. It is my goal to work with stakeholders in maintaining and furthering the unique qualities that make Westchester/Playa Del Rey such an incredible place to call home.

## RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 6 DIRECTOR



David Mannix

1) My wife Toni and I moved to Westchester from Venice in 2014. I currently serve on the LMU Neighborhood Advisory Committee

2) The sense of community, the quality of life, our neighbors and the true feeling of a neighborhood watching out for each other are my favorite things.

3) My approach is to listen, ask questions and develop a through understanding of the

topic. Then develop a positive team approach to arrive at the best recommendation. This will include working with my neighbors, fellow board members and city agencies to insure all viewpoints are considered.

4) Simply put, I want to insure the viewpoints of my neighbors in Residential District 6 are part of the process in keeping Westchester one of the best places to live in LA

## RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 14 DIRECTOR



Peter M. Dray

1) I have resided on the Westside of Los Angeles for over 8 years and in Playa Vista for over a year. My past community involvement includes volunteering in youth athletics and mentoring for the Just in Time - Foster Youth Organization. I am also an active supporter of the Junior League of Los Angeles, which is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving the community.

2) My favorite thing about the

community is that it retains a close knit small town feel while evolving & innovating to become the central business hub and premiere technology center of Los Angeles. Playa Vista and the neighboring communities also promote and encourage a solid foundation around education with Loyola Marymount University being a pillar of academic excellence.

3) My strongest skill sets are networking, bringing people together and unifying individuals behind a common cause. As a technology executive with over 10 year's industry experience, I am well versed in identifying critical issues/challenges and leading a team to create mutually beneficial solutions for both short and long-term objectives. An important facet of any leader is having the ability to listen and understand the different perspectives of all stakeholders. I have always been forward thinking and will continue to apply that asset

to keep growing ideas and opportunities here in Playa Vista.

4) The inspiration to run came from a true appreciation and gratitude of the community development over the last several years. It has changed the trajectory of my path and level of community involvement and I feel an obligation to participate and add my expertise wherever I can to better serve the community. My main focuses will be on strategy toward making sure the LAX modernization project is done as efficiently as possible. I will also put an emphasis on addressing the growing concerns of homelessness impacting the community. My service to the community will always be centered on the wellbeing of our citizens and ensuring their protection. With your support, I intend to do so with integrity and meaningful oversight.

## RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 8 DIRECTOR



Thomas Flintoft

1) I have called Kentwood home for 25 years this July along with my wife Ingrid. Our children were educated at Kentwood Elementary and St. Anastasia. I was instrumental in the last campus upgrade

to Kentwood Elementary over a decade ago and Ingrid continues to run its computer lab. I have served on the Neighborhood Council board since 2007 and I am a current member and Past Chair of the LAX Coastal Area Chamber of Commerce.

2) The people of our community are by far my favorite part of living here. We are welcoming and unassuming. If you have ever been to the 4th of July parade you will know what I mean.

3) I pride myself on being a good listener and fair to all parties. Whether you are a homeowner, business owner or

organization in our community there is always a solution that addresses everyone's concerns while maintaining the quality of life we all enjoy. It's not about me and it's not about you; it's about us.

4) I enjoy being part of the community in which I live and work. Being on the Neighborhood Council allows me to interact with those that I have chosen to spend a majority of my life with. I hope to continue to participate in the Neighborhood Council process and making the Westchester/Playa community the most desirable place to live, work and play.

*Mr. Eychis did not answer the questions but posted the following bio online:*

My name is Alex Eychis, I have been a resident of Playa Vista since 2005 and am the incumbent Residential Director of Playa Vista to the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa. I am a graduate of University of Southern California and have a Masters Degree in Business Administration. I have been on the neighborhood council since 2010 and served as the

Treasurer of the Board for 4 years. I live with my beloved wife Katie and we are expecting our first-born child later this summer. I enjoy running with the Playa Vista run club, working out at the gym, and spending time at the beach. I am concerned about LAX expansion, the mitigation of crime, and outreach to seniors living in the Westchester/Playa neighborhoods. If re-elected I will continue to serve the people of Playa Vista with great honor and enthusiasm.

## RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 10 DIRECTOR



Chris Gemgnani

1) I have been involved in the community for 25 years and I have served as board member on several youth sports organizations

2) The potential that we have to be a model community for all of Los Angeles

3) My ability to break down issues into achievable challenges and to remain calm in doing so.

4) As a mechanical and environmental engineer, I believe that I bring a unique and helpful perspective to the issues that our community faces today and in the future. My hope is that this perspective will make our city stronger.

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## AT-LARGE DIRECTOR SEAT 1



Mark P. Redick

1) I have been in this community for 7 years. My past community involvement includes being a past President and Co-Founder of the Del Rey Neighborhood Council. I am currently the NCWP Board Vice President.

2) The wonderful location, our neighbors, and locally-owned businesses. Our great weather doesn't hurt either.

3) Strong management and organizational skills and the ability to work through an issue to completion.

4) Neighborhood Councils are the essence of dynamic grassroots democracy. I want to continue my efforts to bring city government closer to the neighborhoods we serve.

## YOUTH ORGANIZATION DIRECTOR



Scott Carni

that got me here today. This includes chairing, co-chairing and being active on dozens of the committees and boards. More recently, you've seen the transformation of our parks from dodgy to inviting. Westchester Recreation Center is now being called one of the Westside's "Crown Jewels." I've been fortunate enough to lead these efforts. It's been a long haul. And there's plenty more improvements coming our way.

thousands of local contacts, associates and friends. These relationships are why I've been so successful here locally.

4) I'm the incumbent, so this is not my first election. But I do know that my work needs to continue. I liaison with all the sports leagues, youth groups, the colleges, the schools, the environmentalists and businesses, the City and the Council office. I'm also the President of the W/PDR Park Advisory Board which oversees the 9 parks in our area. These two community jobs work hand in hand and affect the lives of thousands. It's going really well and I would like it to continue. And if you would like to get involved, please let me know. city government closer to the neighborhoods we serve.

## BUSINESS DIRECTOR, ZIP CODE 90045



Geoff Maleman

community since 1990 and opened my business here in 1995.

2) What I love best about our community is that we are an oasis in the sea of Los Angeles. While most people in other parts of L.A. don't (or don't want to) know their neighbors, we see our neighbors as friends and work together to make our community better.

3) My ability to calmly listen to all side of an issue and work to create consensus has

and will continue to help our Neighborhood Council get through tough issues and make sure that all voices are heard even if we don't always agree.

4) I was inspired to run for the Neighborhood Council initially because I saw it as an opportunity to give back to the community and work hand-in-hand with others in the community to make our corner of the world an even better place. I look forward to continuing to chase that goal.

1) I'm a native of Westchester/ Playa del Rey, which means I have over 50 years of great memories about our area. This is "home", it's the community I chose to raise my family in and the place I've chosen to teach my children how to "give back" to society. My work for our neighbors goes back to the early 90s when I started the 1,000s of hours

2) Its small town feel and our big beautiful blue ocean. Anytime you can get near the ocean, be in it, or be on it, your life will be better.

3) "Relationships" are the key to local community success. My "Rolodex" (I know, using that word dates me) extends from City Hall to Sacramento to Washington DC, along with

at neighborhood council meetings and its Education Committee. You can find me volunteering my time at the Emerson Ave Community Garden, The Ballona Wetlands, beach cleanups, and more.

4) I am inspired to run by the energy, the idealism, and the potential of the thousands of young stakeholders and students who need fair representation. As a board member, I would love to implement both informal and institutional avenues to engage more diverse leadership so that City Council is aware of our strength. We need to work beyond just parks and facilities so that the next generations are able to advocate for those same public works, and more. I have already knocked on hundreds of doors and completed extensive research to make evidence-based decisions.

1) I have been involved in the Westchester/Playa del Rey

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DIRECTOR



David Voss

community since 1983 when I first purchased a home in Westchester. I now reside in Playa del Rey. I have been involved with local schools, girl scouts, the LAX Coastal Area Chamber of Commerce and the Playa Venice Sunrise Rotary Club amongst other civic involvement and am one of the few remaining charter members of this Neighborhood Council.

2) What I love best about our community is that it is a hidden jewel of a small town smack in the middle of a metropolitan area of ten million people. It is

a place where you know your friends for decades.

3) I look forward to continuing to bring my background in property matters to bear on the Planning and Land Use Committee including my time serving the City of Los Angeles on the West LA Area Planning Commission.

4) I believe that everyone on the Neighborhood Council comes with the same good intentions of trying to protect the quality of life in our area.



Anthony Iglesias

1) I serve as the recruitment chair for the MLT LA Board, a non-profit that coaches underrepresented students. I also work to provide free critical skills programs to schools, including those in Westchester/ Playa. I am a regular attendee

2) The ability to give back is my favorite part of the Westchester/Playa community. I am proud to call Northwestern University and LMU my alma maters.

3) The willingness to put in the work, my experience as a teacher and education advocate, and my past work in asset-based community development make me the perfect candidate for the Youth seat.

1) I have been involved in the Westchester/Playa del Rey

## SERVICE CLUB AND FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION DIRECTOR



Mr. Topal did not answer the questions but provided the following bio:

Jack Topal is a current board member of The Westchester Playa Del Rey Neighborhood Council and has served on the Budget and Finance and Outreach committees. He is a member of both the local Elks Club and Masonic Lodge and has actively

served for five years as the Neighborhood Council Representative of Service and Fraternal Organizations. He has lived and raised a family in Playa del Rey, for 30 years. Our community's primary focus should be on coming together and understanding, supporting, and addressing the needs of all of our stakeholders.

## Important Announcement from the NCWP Education Committee

The NCWP is conducting a survey of current and future community MIDDLE SCHOOL needs and interests. There have been nearly 500 responses and we want your voice included as well. Please take a moment to complete this BRIEF SURVEY (5 minutes). Among others, the results will be shared with LAUSD and the LAUSD Westchester/Playa del Rey/Playa Vista Instructional Pathways Collaborative Work Group that is working together to explore a possible new instructional program at Wright Middle School.

To access the survey, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EdSurveyWP>

This survey is for all stakeholders in the Westchester/Playa del Rey/Playa Vista communities.

Thank you for your participation. Please share the survey with others and encourage their participation.