

NCWP Board Special Meeting

MINUTES

Submitted by Geoff Maleman

Tuesday, February 4, 2025 – 6:32 p.m.
*@ LAWA Police Department Headquarters
9160 Loyola Boulevard, Los Angeles 90045*

Present: Nicole Carcel, Steve Donell, Thomas Flintoft, Paula Gerez, Jack Hughes, Debra Huston, Jennifer Kingshott, Matt Lipschutz, Geoff Maleman, Chip Mallek, Greg Melton, Dennis Miller, Dan Mohler, Kevin O'Brien, Alexandra Reynolds, Julie Ross, Denny Schneider, Garrett Smith, Theresa Torrance, David Voss, Julie Zaller

Absent: Gregg Aniolek, Al Hernandez, Sarah Howard, Jessica Lesley, Brian Lockwood, John Logsdon, Fred Puza, Alan Quon, Casey Yeazel

Excused:

1. **Call to Order**– President Gerez called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
2. **Salute the Flag** – President Gerez led the flag salute
3. **Introductions**
4. **Consent Calendar:** (*The following items will be treated as one item and enacted with one vote unless a Board member or a stakeholder requests that an item be placed on the Discussion Calendar.*)
 1. Approval of Minutes from January 2024 Board Meeting
 2. Motion to approve that the NCWP send a letter to Councilwoman Traci Park requesting that she put forth a Motion to the City Council to request that Mayor Karen Bass make an immediate Executive order to make all fires, including warming fires, illegal in any area defined as sensitive areas, Very High Fire Severity Zones (VHFSZ), critical infrastructures and all 41:18 areas, with consequential enforcement and criminal charges for those having/setting fires in these areas.
 3. Motion to remove the Community Services Committee as a standing Committee.
 4. Motion to approve the removal of Brian Lockwood, Residential Seat 13 and the Community Services Committee per the BYLAWS of The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa, page 7 & 8: Section 9: Removal – A Board Member may be removed for any of the following reasons: E. Three (3) unexcused absences from duly-noticed Board meetings shall result in automatic removal.
 5. Motion to accept the resignation of Denny Schneider, Residential District 12 Director. I would like to thank Denny for taking two years to help create our NCWP Board, and his additional twenty four (24) years service to community through his work for the NCWP, public safety in regards to LAWA, his unwavering belief in the stakeholders and working together for a better community. I know I can always count on you to fight the good fight and be a partner we can believe in. Thank you again Denny.
 6. Motion to accept the resignation of Alan Quon, Service Club and Fraternal Organization Director. I would like to thank Alan for his fourteen (14) years of service to community through his work for the NCWP and the LAX Kiwanis. We don't say goodbye to Alan, but see you later, who knows we may see him back in a few years. Thank you again Alan.
 7. Motion to approve appointment of Sarah Howard, Residential District 12 Director. Sarah is running unopposed in the March NCWP elections. An early appointment is in the best interest of the Board and Stakeholders.
 8. Motion to approve appointment of Jessica Lesley, Service Club and Fraternal Organization Director. Jessica is running unopposed in the March NCWP elections. An early appointment is in the best interest of the Board and Stakeholders.
 9. Motion to approve the sponsorship request from LAX Coastal Education Foundation to take place on March 8, 2025 at 7:30am-11am located at LMU for Backstage (\$1000) or Fanclub (\$500) sponsor level.
 10. Motion to approve NPG request from World Harvest Food Bank (WHFB) in the amount of

\$3,000, with total amount requested from all NCs in the city being \$65,000.00.

11. Motion to approve NPG request from Westside Pacific Villages in the amount of \$1,500 for funds to help service seniors needing assistance in the Westchester/Playa area, more specifically to offset the cost of 2 special deliveries to clients who are aging in place. This service is for aging residents of the westside, with approximately 60% of clients in the Westchester, Playa del Rey and Playa Vista area.
12. Motion to approve letter asking for the immediate removal of non-native and invasive foliage in the Ballona Wetlands.

Items struck out were removed from the agenda by President Gerez. Highlighted items were called Special and discussed as part of the Discussion Calendar.

M/S Maleman/Kingshott to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion passes unanimously (19-0). (AYES: Donell, Flintoft, Hughes, Huston, Kingshott, Lipschutz, Maleman, Mallek, Melton, Miller, Mohler, O'Brien, Reynolds, Ross, Schneider, Smith, Torrance, Voss, Zaller. NAYES: None. Carcel abstaining)

Schneider stopped participating as a board member following the acceptance of his resignation

5. Announcements from Governmental Representative (limit to 3 minutes please)

Trey Grogan, Councilmember Park's Office/Airport Liaison, spoke re: the city's fire response, Town Hall meeting with Councilmember Park, thanking the public for the community response to the fire disaster, homeless response during the fires and the current status of dealing with the homeless issue, provided a public safety update on the recent residential burglaries, LAPD overtime deployment, and license plate reader cameras.

Vincent Autiero of Department of Neighborhood Empowerment spoke re: redeployment of DONE staff to help with fire/disaster support, NC elections.

6. Announcements from Board Members

President Gerez is working on an update to the Neighborhood Council's resident boundaries district 13, district 15 and split district 14 into two separate districts. District residency shall be determined by street address with boundaries. Goal is to have this for the Board to review and approve at the July 2025 Board meeting.

1. Asking **David Voss** to complete the new BYLAW verbiage to make sure that if a holiday (i.e. July 4th) falls on a regular Board meeting date, a Special Meeting can be held to conduct Board business and the NCWP doesn't have to wait for the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Goal to have this for the Board to review and approve at the July 2025 Board meeting.
2. Asking **Steve Donell** to take our Board approved changes and complete the application for the September 2025 Board Meeting for approval and final submission to DONE.

President Gerez will schedule a Board Training Session. Possible dates are March 22, March 23, March 29, March 30, April 5 or April 6, please let me know your availability. Time to be 12:00pm – 3:00pm and local meeting location TBD.

Proposed Agenda SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD FOR BOARD MEMBER TRAINING

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Public Comment – non-agenda items
4. Neighborhood Council Governance
5. Presentations by Committees
6. Open discussion re NCWP

7. Announcements
8. Adjourn

President Gerez is asking again for volunteers for Westside Regional Alliance of Councils Committees:

3. WRAC Mobility and Transportation Committee
4. WRAC Land Use & Planning Committee
5. WRAC Homelessness Committee
6. WRAC Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee (PSEPC): Inactive; chair position vacant

Carcel introduced LAWA PD Senior Lead Officer Larry Henderson and provided the following report from LAWA:

2025 ACE Mentor Trades Day at LAX — On January 25th, Hensel Phelps hosted the annual ACE Mentor Los Angeles/Orange County Trades Day at LAX, where high school students were able to engage with industry professionals to learn more about career opportunities in architecture, construction, and engineering. Over 400 students gathered at the Flight Path Museum, where they were welcomed by Board of Airport Commissioners President Karim Webb, Commissioner Vanessa Aramayo, CEO John Ackerman, Chief Development Officer Mike Christensen, and other members of the LAWA team.

Westchester Parents Nursery School Visits LAX — On January 29th, the Westchester Parents Nursery School joined the Community Relations team for an airfield tour of LAX and an Airport Police K-9 demonstration. The young visitors enjoyed watching planes take off and land, while learning all about how the airport works. Officer Torres and his K-9 partner, Zero, helped make the field trip extra special.

Nightly Lane Restrictions: Century Blvd. and La Cienega Blvd. — To facilitate work by the Roadway & Utility Enabling Project, lane restrictions will be in place at the intersection of Century Boulevard & La Cienega Boulevard beginning Monday, February 3 through Friday, February 7, nightly from 9PM to 6AM. Additionally, the SB I-405 Off Ramp south of Century Boulevard will be closed as needed during this time (nightly work hours only) to facilitate work. Traffic will be maintained at all times via open lanes or, when necessary, detours. Flaggers will be in place to facilitate local access. Please watch for posted signage and always use caution when traveling near construction areas.

Aerial Survey of LAX Northside — In support of the Maintenance Yard Relocation project, LAWA is coordinating an Aerial Survey, which will take place the week of February 17th. The survey will be conducted with a Cessna aircraft flying over the Northside area at 2500 ft. The flyover is expected to occur mid-day and will take about 1 minute.

Westchester Del Rey Little League Opening Day — The Community Relations team will join the celebrations on Saturday, February 22nd for the Westchester Del Rey Little League Opening Day. The team will be onsite to answer questions about the airport and share upcoming community engagement opportunities. Deputy Executive Director of Major Events and Strategy Erin Trapp join in the fun, she will throw out the first pitch. LAWA is excited to be an engaged community partner as the Carl E. Neilsen Youth Park where the games are played belongs to the airport.

Terminal 2: Arrivals Graphic Installation — New graphics are landing at Terminal 2! This week, crews will continue work to install graphics in the Arrivals Hall just east of Bag Claim to help welcome guests to the City of Angels. The graphics are inspired by the diverse landscape of all that Los Angeles has to offer, from iconic LAX sights such as the Theme Building to the Hollywood Sign, Santa Monica Pier and more. It blends our city's love of film, entertainment and of course the beach over a backdrop of warm oranges and

yellow to mimic the unbeatable West Coast sunset. There will be no impact to the traveling public while installation occurs.

February 2025: 24/7 CTA Lane Restrictions — Attached is a collective snapshot of scheduled 24/7 lane restrictions for CTA Departures and Arrivals Level Roadways for the month of February 2025. This map only reflects 24/7 continuous lane closures in the CTA; nightly lane / sidewalk restrictions may be in place to facilitate construction activities. Traffic around the Central Terminal Area will be maintained at all times, as well as access to passenger pick-up and drop-off and ingress to / egress from parking structures. Motorists should plan ahead for potential delays and use caution when traveling near construction areas. Visit FlyLAX.com to check LAX Live Traffic Conditions 24/7!

LAWA PD Senior Lead Officer **Larry Henderson** spoke re: LAWA PD responsibilities at the airport and the surrounding community

Smith announced that it was **President Gerez's** birthday and the board congratulated her

Mohler announced that on March 8 National Women's Day Wellness Center will be hosted at the Senior Center, April 5 Arbor Day event at Westchester Park and said there are many programs happening at Westchester Park

Donell spoke re: PVPAL's lawsuit against LMU for improperly maintaining the Westchester Bluffs

7. Presentations

There were no presentations at this meeting.

8. Discussion Calendar and Related Public Comment

1. Motion to approve the sponsorship request from LAX Coastal Education Foundation to take place on March 8, 2025 at 7:30am-11am located at LMU for Backstage (\$1000) or Fanclub (\$500) sponsor level. **(Called Special by Ross)**

M/S Kingshott/Maleman to approve the motion in the amount of \$500. Motion passes unanimously (18-0). (AYES: Donell, Flintoft, Hughes, Huston, Kingshott, Lipschutz, Maleman, Mallek, Melton, Miller, Mohler, O'Brien, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance, Voss, Zaller. NAYES: None. Carcel abstaining)

2. Motion to approve NPG request from World Harvest Food Bank (WHFB) in the amount of \$3,000, with total amount requested from all NCs in the city being \$65,000.00. **(Called Special by Ross)**

M/S Maleman/Kingshott to deny the motion for FY24-25. Motion passes unanimously. (AYES: Donell, Flintoft, Hughes, Huston, Kingshott, Lipschutz, Maleman, Mallek, Melton, Miller, Mohler, O'Brien, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance, Voss, Zaller. NAYES: None. Carcel abstaining)

3. Motion to approve NPG request from Westside Pacific Villages in the amount of \$1,500 for funds to help service seniors needing assistance in the Westchester/Playa area, more specifically to offset the cost of 2 special deliveries to clients who are aging in place. This service is for aging residents of the westside, with approximately 60% of clients in the Westchester, Playa del Rey and Playa Vista area. **(Called Special by Ross)**

M/S Maleman/Ross to approve the motion in the amount of \$1,500. Motion passes unanimously (17-0). (AYES: Donell, Flintoft, Hughes, Huston, Kingshott, Lipschutz, Maleman, Mallek, Melton, Mohler, O'Brien, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance, Voss, Zaller. NAYES: None. Carcel and Miller abstaining)

4. President Gerez said she is open to a special meeting ASAP to better prepare, but we need to do better as a Board, and that starts with me. On January 17, 2025, the NCWP approved a community impact statement that (1) creates an airport exemption zone, (2) caps the number of units within a particular zip code and (3) implements a “Distance Rule” to prohibit clustering within a zip code. Discussion on creating this CIS, who should write it. I have included a suggested CIS for your input. What committee is doing the work for this? Do we need an Ad Hoc – Committee on the Executive Directive 1 Possible Impact to Downtown Westchester and surrounding areas? Should it live in Government Affairs, PLUC or new Ad Hoc? Discussion and possible motion to find a solution for this gap in coverage, whatever that may look like. Additionally, President Gerez received approximately 10+ emails asking for help from the community with regards to the ED1, CPU and Homelessness, several emails attached. How can we do more, help more, if it’s another ad – hoc or committee, who will step up? A committee needs to do the work, we can’t do the work at the Board Meeting, that’s for approving and editing. Can we have a motion to get the ball rolling on these items that are time sensitive and then address non time sensitive items through a committee?

Cord Thomas spoke re: what said was a mischaracterization in the wording of the agenda item and attachments and the calculation of the unhoused population and the proposed ED1 developments

Rosa S. spoke re: the homeless and public safety issues throughout the community and the impacts of additional housing

M/S Torrance/Mallek to approve the submission of the draft letter shared at the meeting as a CIS regarding this issue. Motion passes unanimously (18-0). (AYES: Donell, Flintoft, Hughes, Huston, Kingshott, Lipschutz, Maleman, Mallek, Melton, Miller, Mohler, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance, Voss, Zaller. NAYES: None. Carcel abstaining)

5. Discussion on creating a virtual component to the NCWP Meetings and the budget ask of \$2,248 to purchase. Possible motion to approve the purchase of the Meeting Owl 4+ & Expansion Mic. Expand the audio range of the Meeting Owl 4+ by bundling it with our Expansion Mic for a combined range of 26 feet (8 meters). Seamlessly collaborate with the Meeting Owl 4+, our 4K 360° camera, microphone, and speaker device that focuses on the speaker. Our Expansion Mic ensures quieter voices can always be heard.

M/S Kingshott/Torrance to approve the motion. Motion fails (3-15). (AYES: Huston, Miller, Zaller. NAYES: Donell, Flintoft, Hughes, Kingshott, Lipschutz, Maleman, Mallek, Melton, Mohler, O’Brien, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance, Voss. None. Carcel and O’Brien abstaining)

9. **Public Comment** – non-agenda items *(limited to 1 minute per speaker unless otherwise declared by the President or presiding director. Public comment on agenda items will be called as each agenda item is brought forward.)*

There was no public comment for non-agenda items

10. **Committee Reports**

There were no committee reports

11. **Adjourn** – President Gerez adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 4, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.