

Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

**Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Brentwood Community Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa
Pacific Palisades Community Council**

**Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council**

www.westsidecouncils.org

MINUTES

**Board of Directors Breakfast
Jerry's Deli (Westwood), 10925 Weyburn Ave., Westwood
February 20, 2013, 8:30-10.00 a.m.**

Represented: Venice, West L.A., Westwood N.C., Westwood CC, Brentwood CC, Mar Vista CC, Bel-Air Beverly Crest, Venice, Palms

Guests: Jack Humphreville, Phil Recht, Gabe Kramer

1. Welcome/Introductions (3 mins) Meeting opened at 8:45 A.M. Newhouse
2. Approve January Minutes (1 min) postpone until next meeting
4. Government Rep. Updates (5 mins)
 - Paola Valdivia, Mayor Villaraigosa's Office (5 mins)
- DONE update-Joseph Hari
 - Plan review moving ahead. Next meeting 2/20 in South L.A.
 - Budget Survey-take it
 - Regional budget day is 3/16 in 4 locations
 - Funding program- Important that all NC's submit their funding reconciliation on time Educate your NC's about the early notification system
5. Committee Updates:
 - A. Emergency Preparedness (Cindy Hensch/Mike Stajura) (2 mins)
 - B. Land Use (Sharon Commins) (5 mins) Land Use Sharon gave a brief report
 - C. Mobility (Steve Twining) (2 mins) Mobility Steve Twinning: CD11 Transportation committee opposed to the Casden Project. Working on the bike plan.
6. Continued Discussion re: proposing motion demanding more effective notification of projects to NC/CCs, WRAC and other Regional Councils (Mike Newhouse, Mike Stajura) (5 mins)
 - Mike Stajura, has this gone to WRAC LUPC yet? Jay to forward LANCC motion to Jack and Mike
7. Budget Advocates Motion (Jay Handal, continued from January) (10 mins) Motion Jay Second: Nancy 8-0-0

The Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates, representing the 95 neighborhood councils regarding budget and fiscal issues, met with Council member Englander on Tuesday 1/8/2013.

The advocates, after hearing the council member explain the 3 Billion Dollar initiative, voted the motion below.

We ask each and every NC and NC member to contact your council member and request they respect the request of the budget advocates.

In addition, please ask your NC to adopt this motion, and if possible, file a community impact statement. For questions or comments, please feel free to contact me directly at 310-466-0645 or by e mail to sgrest@aol.com.

MOTION : RE: City Council File 13-1300-S1

Whereas the City Council believes that the Neighborhood Councils do not inform their stakeholders about Council initiatives; and

Whereas the City Council requests better participation in city issues by Neighborhood Councils; and

Whereas Councilmember Parks held hearings at his Education and Neighborhoods Committee regarding Neighborhood Council participation in city issues; and

Whereas the City Council recently approved a citywide valet parking ordinance without enough time for Neighborhood Councils to weigh in; and

Whereas yet again, the City Council, without any warning or advance notice, introduced a motion on January 4, 2013 to place a three billion dollar bond measure on the May ballot with a vote scheduled to be taken on January 10, 2013, thereby again silencing their Neighborhood Council's voice in an important matter; and

Whereas the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition has already unanimously adopted and transmitted a position to the City Council on January 5, 2013 asking for 60 days time so that Neighborhood Councils are able to weigh in on issues affecting all of their stakeholders;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates instructs the Chair to immediately transmit the NCBA's opposition to the City Council's predeliction for precluding the Neighborhood Councils and their stakeholders from weighing in on citywide measures.

Furthermore, the NCBA's demands that a City Council decision on City Council File 13-1300-S1 be postponed for 60 days until the City can issue a financial impact report of the new debt, and the 95 certified Neighborhood Councils have an opportunity to hold a Brown Act compliant meeting and report back to the Councilmembers with their stakeholders' views.

8. Presentation by TakeThemDown.org/Marathon/Summit Re: WRAC Support for their Illegal Digital Billboard Motion (sample resolution/motion/letter attached hereto) (Nancy Freedman, Gabe Kramer) (10 mins) Phil Recht represents Summit. Gave an overview of the billboard issue. Motion made to approve the short form motion as presented. Motion: Jay Second: Twinning 8-0-0
9. Proposed "Live Within Its Means" Charter Amendment (Jay Handal, Jack Humphreville) (10 mins)
 - To save the City from insolvency, the City Council needs to place on the ballot a charter amendment that will require the City to LIVE WITHIN ITS MEANS. This would mandate that the City develop and adhere to a Five Year Financial Plan, pass two year balanced budgets based on Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, and over the next ten years, fix our streets and the rest of our infrastructure and fully fund our pension plans. See Exhibit A Hereto for more Live within your means
 - Motion to postpone till next month with clarification of language Motion Sann Second Eli 7-1-0
10. Proposed Infrastructure Motion (Sharon Commins) (10 minutes). Mike to e mail updates
 - Which Councils have passed? BCC, WWNC, MVCC, WLANC, VNC, BABC
_____.
11. Casden Motion Update and Proposed Motion (Terri Tippit) (2 mins) Mike to e mail updates
 - Letter sent. Updates?
12. Community Care Facilities Motion Update (WRAC Ltr. Sent): (Sharon Commins) (2 min) Introduced new motion with updated language Motion Commins second Mike S 7-0-1
13. www.westsidecouncils.org . Visit the site.
14. Remove any of the above items for future meetings?
15. WRAC Mayoral Candidate Town Hall in March, April or May? There is a mayoral debate scheduled for Sinai Temple 4/29. Suggested we contact sponsors and tag on to their event.
16. WRAC CD 5 Town Hall: February 26, 2013, 6:30-8:30 St. Paul's Catholic Church. CD5 debate updated for all
17. Update delegate and alternate lists, as well as new NC/CC Chairs.

18. Adjourn, next meeting, March 20, 2013. Adjourn 10:10

Exhibit A

To save the City from insolvency, the City Council needs to place on the ballot a charter amendment that will require the City to LIVE WITHIN ITS MEANS. This would mandate that the City develop and adhere to a Five Year Financial Plan, pass two year balanced budgets based on Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, and over the next ten years, fix our streets and the rest of our infrastructure and fully fund our pension plans.

Live Within Its Means Charter Amendment Term Sheet

The City will be required to develop and adhere to a Five Year Financial Plan (the “Plan”) for the General Fund, all Special Revenue Funds, and the Budget, excluding the three proprietary departments. The Plan will include detailed information, including, but not limited to, income statements, balance sheets, cash flows, and levels of outstanding debt.

The Plan will also incorporate the financial requirements of the Infrastructure Plan, the Pension Funding Plan, and all other phases of the City’s operations.

Each year, the City will be required to approve a two year Budget.

The Plan and the Budget are required to be balanced, where revenues exceed expenses, at all times.

The City will develop an Infrastructure Plan that will detail the financial requirements necessary to allow our infrastructure to be in a “good to excellent condition” by June 30, 2024. Infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, streets, sidewalks and curbs, parks, street lights, buildings and facilities, sewers, storm water drainage, motor vehicles, and information technology systems.

The Infrastructure Plan will also include the budget for capital expenditures.

The City will develop a Pension Funding Plan that will detail how the City will fully fund its two underfunded pension plans (the Los Angeles City Employee Retirement System and the Fire and Police Pension Plans are only 72.6% funded) by June 30, 2024, using reasonable assumptions consistent with other pension plans.

After June 30, 2024, the City will maintain its infrastructure in a “good to excellent condition” and its pension plans will be at least 100% funded.

The Plan and the Budget will require the City to have actual funding sources to finance any increases in spending or decreases in taxes.

The Plan, the Budget, the Infrastructure Plan, and the Pension Funding Plan (collectively, the “Plans”) will be prepared based on Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

The Mayor and a majority of the City Council will be required to approve the Plans.

The Controller and the City’s independent accounting firm will each be required to attest that the Plans have been prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

The Controller and the City’s independent accounting firm will each be required to attest that the Plan and the Budget are balanced, where revenues exceed expenditures.

Within 60 days of the end of each fiscal quarter (September 30, December 31, and March 31), and within 120 days of the fiscal year end (June 30), the Controller will be required to affirm that the Budget is balanced and is projected to be balanced in the future.

The City Attorney will be required to attest that the Plan and the Budget meet all legal and regulatory requirements, including that all transfers involving City departments are legal, including those with the three Proprietary Departments.

The General Managers of all departments will be required to approve their sections of the Plans.

The General Managers of all departments will be required to notify the Mayor, the City Council, the Controller, and City Attorney if their department’s budget is not balanced at any point in time or is inconsistent with the Plans.

The Neighborhood Councils will be notified of all approvals and any notifications indicating that the Plans are not balanced.

The City will have community presentations at least four times a year detailing the status of the Plans.

The Plans will be updated annually.

Beginning June 30, 2014, the City will be required to maintain a Reserve Fund equal to at least equal to 5% of General Fund Revenues.

The City will be required to maintain its existing bond ratings, and take all measures necessary to maintain such bond ratings.

In the case of a natural disaster, the target date envisioned by the Infrastructure Plan may be extended for one year.

The City bears the burden of proof that the Plan, the Budget, the Infrastructure Plan, and Pension Funding Plan are consistent with a balanced budget, where revenues exceed expenditures based on Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.