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Westside Neighborhood Council  
Westwood Community Council  
Westwood Neighborhood Council

## **WRAC LUPC MINUTES**

**February 13, 2023, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm  
Conducted by Zoom**

**1. Call to order** - the Chair called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

**2. Roll call** – The Chair called roll and certified that there was quorum

Present: M. Zar, S. Sann, Julie Ross, C. Jordan, B. Broide, D. Ruesch, M. Jansen, Jay Ross, A. Lewis, S. Twinning, K. Hartman. Alternates; J. Spak, T. Longcore.

**3. Chair's Welcome & member announcements**

**3.1.** The Chair noted that a member of our committee would like to invite Peggy Huang from neighborhood Voices to an upcoming meeting.

**3.2.** The Chair announced that the Westside Community Plan Updates: Advisory Committee needs a representative from our committee from one of the communities that is in the current group of updates. She asked for a volunteer.

**4. Approval of minutes**

**4.1.** The minutes from January 23<sup>rd</sup> were approved.

**5. Presentations/guest speakers** – Dylan Sittig, Planning Deputy for CM Yaroslavsky, and Jeff Khau, Planning Deputy for CM Park made presentations to the board.

Dylan: Comes to CD5 from City Planning. Three planning motions she's already brought to City Council. These include: A) Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, B) Cinders Canyon, asking RAP to look at how to preserve that property, C) DBS to provide update on implementation of the city's seismic safety programs (in light of tragic earthquake in Turney and Syria). CM is focused on affordable housing bringing more AH into the district. Also plan to participate/ramp up participation in the community plan redevelopment.

Jeff: Introduced Sean Silva as part of the District Planning staff. Spent the past 6 years working in the Planning Department and project planning bureau in the westside, working on coastal issues and other community plan updates on the westside, as well as zoning codes. Working already on issues in Palisades, Brentwood, Westwood and West LA. Working also on LAX matters, even though not in District 11 but part of the discussion of that 227 acre campus (20 acres of which is located in CD11). The rest is adjacent to MV, and he is in touch with MVCC to discuss what they envision. Working on

Metro bikeshare station in Venice. DWP Sepulveda waterline replacement (northbound) is being monitored (Feb-Oct 2023). Meeting with Diego, the Planning lead for CP updates and happy to take our questions or concerns to him. The Chair informed Jeff that we have two representatives appointed to the CPlan Advisory Bd, as well as some of our members who are appointed as representatives from their respective councils.

Sann: Question for CM Yaroslavsky about housing for unhoused people. CM has hired a Dir, of Housing and Homelessness policy as well as a four member "homeless outreach team". Will refer the question to them. Thanked CD5 participation in the homeless count.

Spitz: Question about transportation. Field Deputies will be handling transportation issues and report to Jeff. Ordinance that calls for all electric appliances in LA City homes (Building Decarbonization Ordinance) . Would you entertain an exemption for homes using gas appliances. Jeff will look into it. Dylan said CM is generally in favor is moving away from carbon, but might entertain some exceptions. She is the Chair of the Energy Environment Committee. Could work on specific language for exception, and happy to look at that. But general direction of the ordinance is favored. Chair said this ordinance went under most people's radar and many groups that may have advocated for some exceptions may have been more vocal. Asked for both CM to be open to discussion.

Ruesch: Question about what's happening with the Community Update plan. Advisory Group was created last year but what have they really done. Jeff will be asking for timeline and a review of where they are going with this Advisory group, and when. Some discussion of Venice Streets improvement and CD11 discussion with LADOT.

Broide: Question about meeting with Diego and CPAB, please ask what their role will be and what impact they'll have in the outcome. Also brought up the bus shelter program and its perils as well as billboard ordinance. Both deputies pledged to scrutinize both programs. Jeff said the ordinance is still being drafted and sights for billboards are still being negotiated. CPC has historically been against billboards and when the ordinance goes before them, it will likely be amended. Long way to go before this ordinance is shaped to its final iteration.

Some more Q/A ensued... the Chair thanked both deputies and asked them to keep up apprised of updates on issues raised.

## **6. Old business**

**6.1.** the Chair re-presented the motion below, which was discussed and attempted to be passed at the end of our last meeting but didn't have quorum. The Motion passed. (one opposed and one abstaining)

The \_\_\_\_ NC/CC requests that the Los Angeles Housing Department presume that 100% of RSO units slated for demolition per the Ellis Act are inhabited by low-income households, and 100% of the replacement units shall be rented at the corresponding low-income rent. If the Housing Department or the developer wish to lower that standard and require that fewer replacement units are affordable, then they must do the outreach and secure estoppels from the tenant households that demonstrate their income exceeds the low-income requirements (instead of putting the burden on low-income households to prove that they are low-income tenants). We further request that the Housing Department formulate and implement alternative income verification methods for current tenants who are elderly, disabled or undocumented to be able to qualify for their right of return.

**6.2.** the members agreed to continue discussion of rezoning, up-zoning plans to achieve RHNA goals in communities without a proper assessment of real zoning capacity in impacted neighborhoods. Guests will be invited.

**8. Open forum/public comment:**

Barbara Broide: Will make report for Plan Check available to all. Metro Board meeting approved transit communication program. She's like to ask for reconsideration and an extra 30 days for appeals. Chair suggests she works with jeff to see if Traci can be a helpful CM. BONC needs a new member. Do we have any suggestions? The most recent appointee had some issues and the nomination has been withdrawn.

Michael Jensen: Wants to talk about continuation of discussion about rezoning. Chair says she will agendise this for the March meeting. Michael Jensen wants to have this discussion with experts present. Jay Ross has sent info and methodology. Drew also has a speaker request for Peggy Huang to speak on the issue. Chair asks both Michael and Drew to line up their speakers for march meeting. Chair affirms this matter be up for discussion and vote at the march meeting.

Michael, Barbara and Julie: discussion about the community plan update process and the level of input that is implemented in the final outcomes. The committee is concerned about the value of the input and how best to ensure that the community's contributions are factored into the final plans. Julie suggests communities start working proactively to gather information and organize it to pass on to CP in a digestible way so as the info is taken into account. A lot of work to be done and Westchester (Ballona, LAX and more in the district) aren't waiting for the city – they are taking the bull by the horns, present them with a package, and hope that has more impact. Barbara believes this is being driven by housing density numbers and is afraid community input is not substantively being taken into account, The CAP will be used to say, we met with the community, but the info will not be reflected in the CP. Barbara says planning staff rotates too fast to take what communities impart to them into the process and lend it to the outcome. Chair suggests we agendise discussion on how the community advisors' input can be substantively taken into to account in the CP process.

Steve Twining: Al Fresco Dining Ordinance – discussion of the outdoor dining program continuing within legal parameters that address the program on public right of way as well as on private property. Issues include parking, safety, permits (CUP process) and fees (unfairly burdensome) etc... We believe more study needs to be done on the part of the City before a draft ordinance can be well received.

**9. Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm