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

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

February 22, 2023

To: WRAC Member Councils (Chairs/Presidents and Board Representatives)
From: WRAC Chair Robin Greenberg and Vice-Chair Chris Spitz

In case you missed it, here's an update on our February 20, 2023 WRAC Board meeting.

Presidents' Day: Robin remarked on the significance and history of the day.

Government Reports:

The Board was honored to welcome our guest speaker, **Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin** (AD 42 – representing Pacific Palisades, Brentwood, Bel-Air Beverly Crest & a portion of Westwood/Westwood Hills). She related her background in local and state government (including her years as Mayor of Thousand Oaks, which informs her support for local control over zoning decisions); provided information about her policies, plans and concerns (including possible legislation to amend SB 9 to exempt areas in the VHFHSZ from additional density); introduced her staff in attendance (Deputy District Director Nancy Frawley and Field Representative Skylar Payab); and explained that she and her staff are excited to be learning more about the new communities she now represents on the Westside. An extensive and informative Q&A with board members then ensued. We thank Asm. Irwin for speaking with us on Presidents' Day and look forward to working with her in the months and years ahead.

We also had an important presentation by LADWP representatives Clint Kautsky (Civil Engineer) and Deborah Hong (Community Liaison), who discussed the concerning proposal before the State Water Resources Control Board to **restrict LADWP's water rights in the Mono Basin**. They maintained that there is no emergency to justify prohibiting LADWP from exercising its long-held water rights. LADWP now encourages all member Councils and stakeholders to submit written comment opposing the proposal, which Mr. Kautsky explained will have significant consequences (including rate increases) for Los Angeles ratepayers if the Water Board approves the proposal; comment submission deadline **March 17**. Submit comments to monolake@waterboards.ca.gov. For more information, visit: www.ladwpeasternsierra.com.

In addition, we heard informative reports and updates from additional government representatives: Jake Ettinger (District Representative for Sen. Ben Allen); Michael Amster (Field Deputy for CM Traci Park); and Veronica de la Cruz-Robles (Neighborhood Prosecutor).

Future WRAC Meetings and Events:

Robin announced the following in-person **WRAC Board Member Roundtable events** with elected officials:

- February 27:** Traci Park, Councilwoman CD 11
- March 13:** Katy Yaroslavsky, Councilwoman CD 5
- April 10:** Lindsey Horvath, County Supervisor District 3
- June 5:** Hydee Feldstein Soto, City Attorney

We have also invited **Mayor Karen Bass** (date TBD). The Roundtables will each take place on Monday mornings, 9am-10:30am, at Belmont Village Senior Living on Wilshire Blvd. in Westwood. Due to space limits and per WRAC tradition, two representatives each from WRAC member Councils are invited to attend with the elected officials and staffers. We look forward to the Roundtable with CM Park this coming Monday – *the first in-person WRAC meeting in three years!*

We will welcome additional elected officials as guest speakers at Monday evening virtual Board meetings in March-May:

March 13: Asm. Rick Chavez Zbur (AD 51)

April 10: Congressman Brad Sherman (CD 32) and Asm. Isaac Bryan (AD 55)

May 15: Asm. Tina McKinnor (AD 61)

Next Board Meeting: March 13. As noted, our guest speaker will be Asm. Chavez Zbur; we will also have an update on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor project by Yusef Robb of TK Communications. The Board decided to postpone our June 19th meeting (the Juneteenth holiday) to **June 26, 2023**; other upcoming 2023 Board meeting dates will remain as scheduled.

WRAC Committees:

The Board heard reports and updates from WRAC standing committee chairs on the work of their respective committees: Selena Inouye (WRAC MTC), Judie Hewlett (WRAC PSEPC) and Jay Handal (WRAC HOC).

New & Pending Motions:

The board passed two new WRAC-recommended motions: (1) *Request re RSO Housing Replacements*, and (2) *Request for STAP program audit*. The passage deadline was extended to March for one pending motion: *Venice Blvd. Improvements Project Concerns/Withhold Support*. Please consider taking up these new and still-pending motions if you haven't yet done so. All such motions can be found at: <https://westsidecouncils.com/pending-motions/> (click on the "Read More" button for additional background information about each motion). As always, we ask that you let us know if you've passed any of the pending motions.

Reminders:

- Pending motions are *recommended only* – they are not WRAC positions until they are passed by at least a majority (8) member councils, who are free to decide whether to take up any pending motions.
- Chris again invites everyone to visit the new, spectacular **George Wolfberg Park at Potrero Canyon** in Pacific Palisades; contact her at ppfriends3@hotmail.com for more information.
- Members who are so inclined are invited to contribute to reimbursement of Robin for expenses necessary to cure a technical problem with the WRAC website, which inexplicably crashed and could not be accessed a few weeks ago. *Please contact Chris if you can participate.*

Thank you again for your continuing interest in and engagement with WRAC.

Best regards,

Robin and Chris