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Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

April 30, 2024

To: WRAC member Council Board representatives
From: WRAC Chair Robin Greenberg and Vice-Chair Chris Spitz

In case you missed it, here's an update on the April 29, 2024, WRAC Board meeting.

Guest Speakers:

We welcomed AT&T representatives Ursula Moran and Noel Pallais, who gave a presentation on AT&T's application to the State of California to be relieved of its obligations as a "Carrier of Last Resort" to provide copper land line service to customers statewide. They provided details about the lengthy (multi-year) regulatory process (requiring approval of both the California Public Utilities Commission/PUC and the Federal Communications Commission/FCC) and the reasons why the carrier believes that it must transition from outdated copper to high-speed fiber optic technology. Responding to numerous Board member questions, they explained that hard-wired land lines (home phones) will not be shut off during the process, that access to 911 will continue, that home phones will be made available with VOiP ("voice over internet protocol") technology, and that safeguards imposed by the FCC require the carrier to provide "like for like" service. They also suggested the possibility of a larger educational meeting on the Westside for interested constituents to learn about the process (TBD) and reminded us that we are welcome to distribute the AT&T handouts (previously sent to the Board) to our respective members. We thanked Ursula and Noel for providing this important information.

Government Reports:

We were pleased to have reports and updates from several government representatives: CD 5 and CD 11 representatives, respectively, **Cairo Rodriguez** and **Michael Amster**; Congressman Lieu's representative, **Janet Turner**; Supervisor Horvath's representative, **Zac Gaidzik**; and Planning Dept. Westside Community Liaison **Chris Galindo**. **Aldenae Williams**, LADWP Westside Community Liaison, was also on hand to answer questions. Thanks as always to our government reps for attending and keeping us updated.

WRAC Meetings & Events:

-- **Upcoming Board meeting: May 20, 2024.**

-- **Upcoming guest speakers:** U.S. Representative **Ted Lieu** will join us on **May 20**. Please let us know about questions you have for the Congressman, so that we can provide them to his representative Janet Turner (at her request), no later than May 3. Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas will be our guest speaker on July 15, 2024, and U.S. Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove will join us on either June 17 or August 19 (TBA).

-- **Upcoming committee meetings:** HOC May 6 special meeting with City and County officials postponed due to conflicts with a recently scheduled City Council meeting (new HOC date TBD); LUPC May 13, 2024; MTC May 15, 2024.

WRAC Representatives Discussion and Action:

The Board engaged in extensive discussion as to whether the WRAC bylaws should be amended to allow 2nd Alternate representatives and/or "substitute / temporary" representatives to the WRAC Board and committees. The consensus was that the bylaws should be amended to provide for *2nd Alternate representatives*, who would be allowed to participate in meetings but would not vote unless both the primary and the 1st Alternate were absent. With members expressing concerns about the need for continuity at WRAC meetings, the Board passed a motion calling for bylaws amendments to

be drafted to provide for appointment of *2nd Alternates*, but not for “substitute / temporary” representatives. Draft amendments consistent with the Board’s direction will be presented for a vote at an upcoming WRAC meeting.

New & Pending Motions

-- ***New Motions:*** No new policy motions were taken up.

-- ***Pending Motions:*** Three motions remain pending, with passage deadlines now in May 2024 (*Compensation for PROW Easement Transfers; Cap on Waivers for ED1/Streamlining Ordinance Projects; Metro Congestion Pricing*). See all pending motions at: <https://westsidecouncils.com/pending-motions/>. If you haven’t already done so, please consider placing one or more of the currently pending motions on your upcoming board meeting agendas.

Reminder: Pending motions are *recommended only* – they are not WRAC positions until they are passed by at least a majority (8) of member Councils, who are free to decide whether to take up any pending motions.

See you at our next Board meeting on **May 20, 2024**.

Best regards,

Robin and Chris