



## MINUTES

### WRAC Meeting of the Board of Directors May 20, 2024 – 6:30pm

**Webinar link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8727511207>  
**Or Dial** (669) 900 9128 **Webinar ID** 872 7511 1207

ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE AT:

<https://tinyurl.com/bdf6pxpv> and <https://westsidecouncils.com/meetings/>

*Items on the Agenda may be taken in any order at the discretion of the Chair – Attendees who do not identify themselves upon request of the Chair will be removed (see Item 5 below).*

#### 1. Welcome/Introductions

- a. Call to Order and Certification of Quorum** – Chair Greenberg (BABCNC) called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. Roll was called with 11 members present and quorum met; Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC) arrived shortly thereafter for a total of 12 present:
- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Robin Greenberg, Chair (BABCNC) | Chris Spitz, Co-Chair (PPCC) ( <i>arr. @ 6:42pm</i> ) |
| Michael Lynn (SORONC)           | Steve Sann (WCC)                                      |
| Terri Tippit (WNC)              | Tanya Leal (PalmsNC)                                  |
| Ravi Sankaran (DRNC)            | Lisa Chapman (WWNC)                                   |
| Andrew Marton (MVCC)            | Carolyn Jordan (BCC)                                  |
- Brian Averill (VNC) Jay Handal & Walton Chiu (WLASNC) split the meeting time.  
**Nonvoting Alternates Present:** Barbara Broide (WNC), Nickie Miner (BABCNC) and Nico Ruderman (VNC).  
**Also Present:**  
Tyler Laferriere-Holloway (Host and WRAC Secretary/Treasurer)  
Ted Lieu, U.S. Representative, 36<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Janet Turner and Nicholas Rodriguez, Representatives of Congressman Ted Lieu  
Kenneth G. Miller, Office of the Mayor, WLA Rep.  
Zac Gaidzik, Representative of Supervisor Lindsey Horvath  
Chris Galindo, LA City Department of Planning Liaison
- b. Chair Updates** – Chair Greenberg related upcoming WRAC guest speakers:  
**State Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas** – July 15;  
**U.S. Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove** – August 19;  
Next board meeting is on June 17, 2024

#### 2. Government Reports/Speakers

- a. The Honorable Ted Lieu, U.S. Representative, 36<sup>th</sup> Congressional District**  
We welcomed our esteemed U.S. Representative Ted Lieu, who represents many of our member councils. The Congressman spoke about his work in Congress, including his important service as Co-Chair of the House Bipartisan Task Force on Artificial Intelligence. He noted that this amazing world is where we are heading, which will have enormous impacts on healthcare.  
(Vice-Chair Spitz joined us at 6:42 pm.)

Questions submitted in advance were asked and answered on a wide range of topics, from federal community projects funding, the Sepulveda Corridor Transit project funding and fire insurance challenges, to campaign legislative reforms, regulation of digital signage on federal highways, and more. We thanked Congressman Lieu for graciously attending our meeting and speaking with us.

- b. Mayor's Office** – Report and update was provided by **Kenneth G. Miller**, the Mayor's West Area Representative for CD5. [kenneth.g.miller@lacity.org](mailto:kenneth.g.miller@lacity.org) (213) 721-9833.

Kenneth introduced himself for the first time at WRAC and noted that Marian Ensley will be handling CD11 while he'll handle the other districts on the Westside. Kenneth reported on the Mayor's housing efforts for Angelenos, while trying to retain as many public services as possible in a difficult fiscal year. He announced the Mayor's appointments including Carmen Chang, the new GM of LA Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE); Janisse Quiñones will be heading up the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), working towards clean energy goals. Mayor Bass also appointed Dr. Etsemaye Agonafer as the City's first Deputy Mayor of Homelessness and Community Health.

**c. Council Reports** –

- (1) Cairo Rodriguez, Sr. Field Deputy – Council District 5/Yaroslavsky had sent a written report in his absence, which Chair Greenberg read from.
- (2) Michael Amster, Field Deputy – Council District 11/Park was not present this evening.

**d. Additional Government Reports** –

**Zachary Gaidzik from the office of County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, District 4** gave an update beginning with recent concerns about safety on LA Metro. He noted that the Supervisor introduced a motion to enhance Metro's response, bringing law enforcement agencies that Metro contracts with to discuss public safety, and for a cost analysis of all of Metro's Public Safety personnel, to achieve coverage and address safety concerns. See <https://mybudget.metro.net/online>. He related that as to LA County's budget process, the Supervisor is prioritizing and addressing our homelessness crisis, climate change, gender-based violence and justice reform in this year's budget. He noted that the Department of Economic Opportunity launched the Business Interruption Fund to help small businesses in the entertainment industry that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the two Hollywood strikes. The funds will provide grants to small and micro businesses serving the entertainment sector that experienced the economic impacts of those two things. He noted that the Supervisors launched the Economic Mobility Initiative with a Federal Covid Relief Fund to help small businesses grow; it will offer technical assistance, training, and access to capital and commercial space as well as entrepreneurship academies. May is Mental Health Awareness month; the LA County Department of Mental Health kicked off its Take Action for Mental Health LA County Campaign: [www.takeactionla.com](http://www.takeactionla.com). May is CalFresh Awareness month, which was launched at Mar Vista Park this month. Lastly, he welcomed us to join the Supervisors with the City of West Hollywood on May 20, in celebrating

Harvey Milk Day. Questions were asked and answered from Board members and attendee, Nick Antonicello, who asked about Metro having their own police force such as that at the airport, to which Zac noted that this is being looked into. Feel free to reach out with additional questions to Zac Gaidzik Westside and Coastal Field Deputy at [Zgaidzik@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:Zgaidzik@bos.lacounty.gov).

**Chris Galindo, Westside Community Planning Liaison, from the LA City Department of Planning:** Chris gave updates. Some comments included that there will be a hearing on June 27<sup>th</sup> regarding the proposed Citywide Adaptive Reuse Ordinance, a housing policy that aims to address our critical housing shortage. He noted that the Westside Community Plan Update has released a General Plan story map, which features an updated draft of the General Plan and land use designations for Westside areas, including the coastal zone. The entirety of Chris's update can be found in the new published monthly report - now available on Planning's website directly under the "Community Corner" tab in publications.

<https://planning.lacity.gov/resources/publications>.

For the Westside communities, please see:

<https://planning.lacity.gov/plans-policies/community-plan-update/planning-westside>

Westside Community Plan Updates Virtual Office Hour Sign Up Form -

<https://planning.lacity.gov/plans-policies/community-plan-update/planning-westside#office-hours>. Questions were asked and answered.

**3. Board Member Updates** – Vice-Chair Spitz related that she had sent us an email regarding the presentation we heard last month on AT&T's application to stop selling copper landlines, noting that there are news articles indicating that this application is being considered by CPUC which is expected to hear and likely deny the application on or around June 20<sup>th</sup>. She has already sent us a link to one of these articles.

**4. Committee Reports** –

a. **WRAC Transportation & Mobility Committee (MTC)** – Mtg on 5/15/24

b. **WRAC Land Use & Planning Committee (LUPC)** – Mtg on 5/13/24

c. **WRAC Homelessness Committee (HOC)** – Mtg on 5/28/24; Special Mtg on 6/10/24.

Vice-Chair Spitz related that she is Vice-Chair of this committee, and that at the next meeting in May they will be discussing the upcoming June 10<sup>th</sup> special meeting, in preparation for this meeting with several prominent officials, including the LAHSA CEO, on homelessness issues.

**5. Public Comment** –

**Leor Alpern, Director of Local Government Relations at UCLA**, introduced himself.

His contact information was left in the chat as follows:

Leor Alpern - [lalpern@support.ucla.edu](mailto:lalpern@support.ucla.edu) <https://www.stc4all.org/our-coalition.html>.

Email: [sepulvedatransit@metro.net](mailto:sepulvedatransit@metro.net). Website: <https://metro.commentinput.com/?id=7WmN5>.

Leor acknowledged WRAC's motion on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project, and related that Metro is accepting public comment on this. Member Sann (WCC) thanked Leor for his important announcement, and discussed what this Board has previously passed. Vice-Chair Spitz provided

clarification as to what WRAC did and did not support.

## 6. Approval of Minutes

- a. The April 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously **approved** as moved by Chair Greenberg.

## 7. New Business

- a. **Motion (R. Greenberg, S. Sann, S. Spitz/Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee)** – Board approval of the proposed WRAC bylaws amendments.

Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC) provided a brief explanation of agenda item 7.a., paragraphs 1 through 5 regarding several proposed amendments to the WRAC Bylaws and Standing Rules, on behalf of the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee, including changes to allow appointment of Second Alternate Representatives to the WRAC Board and committees, as directed by the Board at the April 29th WRAC meeting.

See the WRAC Bylaws at: <https://westsidecouncils.com/bylaws/>. See also:

<https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Proposed-WRAC-Bylaws-Amendments2024.pdf>.

- 1) Group A amendments (re WRAC Representatives – Article II, Secs. 5 & 6; Article IV, Secs. 1 & 2). Vice-Chair Spitz related that Group A amendments allow for an appointment of up to two alternates; not floating or temporary alternates. The first alternate only votes when the primary rep is not there, and the second alternate only votes if the primary and first alternate are not there. She also noted that there was cleanup of some sections, e.g., asking for telephone and email addresses, and not street addresses, as well as about the term of officers.

Group A amendments were **approved** by 11 yeses from Chair Greenberg (BABCNC), Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC), and Members Jordan (BCC), Sankaran (DRNC), Marton (MVCC), Leal (PalmsNC), Lynn (SORONC), Averill (VNC), Sann (WCC), Tippit (WNC), Chapman (WWNC); 0 nays, and 1 abstention by Chiu (WLASNC).

- 2) Group B amendments (re Meetings/anonymous attendance – Article V, Sec. 5). Vice-Chair Spitz related that one sentence was added: **“Anonymous attendance, monitoring or participation in WRAC meetings is not permitted.”** She noted that the Board has actually been functioning under this policy, but the committee wanted to make the policy clear in the Bylaws.

Group B amendments were unanimously **approved** by 12 yeses from Chair Greenberg (BABCNC), Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC), and Members Jordan (BCC), Sankaran (DRNC), Marton (MVCC), Leal (PalmsNC), Lynn (SORONC), Averill (VNC), Sann (WCC), Tippit (WNC), Chapman (WWNC) and Chiu (WLASNC).

- 3) Group C amendments (re Officers’ election and term – Article VII, Secs. 1 & 2). Vice-Chair Spitz related that these are mostly just cleanup on the issue of the term of the officers and when the election occurs.

Group C amendments were unanimously **approved** by 12 yeses from Chair Greenberg

(BABCNC), Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC), and Members Jordan (BCC), Sankaran (DRNC), Marton (MVCC), Leal (PalmsNC), Lynn (SORONC), Averill (VNC), Sann (WCC), Tippit (WNC), Chapman (WWNC) and Chiu (WLASNC).

- 4) Group D amendments (re Conduct – Article III, Sec. 2, subsections D & E). These were mainly grammatical changes to provide that **committees shall not discriminate, and committee representatives and alternates should not engage in harassment and bullying**. Vice-Chair Spitz also clarified what those provisions are.

Group D amendments were unanimously **approved** by 12 yeases from Chair Greenberg (BABCNC), Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC), and Members Jordan (BCC), Sankaran (DRNC), Marton (MVCC), Leal (PalmsNC), Lynn (SORONC), Averill (VNC), Sann (WCC), Tippit (WNC), Chapman (WWNC) and Chiu (WLASNC).

- 5) New Standing Rule 9

Vice-Chair Spitz explained the proposed new Standing Rule 9, which was unanimously **approved** by 12 yeases from Chair Greenberg (BABCNC), Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC), and Members Jordan (BCC), Sankaran (DRNC), Marton (MVCC), Leal (PalmsNC), Lynn (SORONC), Averill (VNC), Sann (WCC), Tippit (WNC), Chapman (WWNC) and Chiu (WLASNC).

Steve Sann shared his appreciation of Vice-Chair Spitz, whom he noted did about 99% of the work on this, and **stated** that we all owe a huge debt of gratitude to her for doing this. He wanted everyone to know how much she continues to do for this organization.

## 8. Old Business

**a. 24.04.** Request compensation for transfer of PROW easements – Feb. 26, 2024 (passage deadline May 2024). 7 councils adopted: BABCNC,\* DRNC, NCWP, Palms NC, PPCC,\* WNC, WWNC (*\*modified versions*); *possible motion to extend deadline*.

It was noted that both Venice and Westwood CC will be addressing both b & c tomorrow.

A **motion** to extend the deadline for this item to the end of June **passed** unanimously as **moved** by Vice Chair Spitz.

**b. 24.05.** Request cap on waivers for ED1 and Affordable Housing Streamlining projects -- Feb. 26, 2024 (passage deadline May 2024). 4 councils adopted: NCWP, Palms NC,\* WWNC, WNC\* (*modified versions*). A **motion** to extend the deadline for this item to the end of June **passed** unanimously as **moved** by Vice Chair Spitz.

**c. 24.06.** Oppose Metro congestion pricing on the Westside without robust North/South transit options in place – Feb. 26, 2024 (passage deadline May 2024). 5 councils adopted: BABCNC,\* BCC,\* NCWP,\* WNC, WWNC (*\*modified versions*). It was noted that WLASNC will also take these up in June, and a **motion** to extend the deadline for this item to the end of June **passed** unanimously as moved by Spitz.

**9. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm in honor of Ron Migdal, Member of WLASNC's Public Safety Committee, who sadly passed away of an unexpected death, as **moved** by Members Handal and Chiu of WLASNC.**

Next meeting to be held on **June 17, 2024**, at 6:30 pm.