



MINUTES

WRAC Meeting of the Board of Directors June 17, 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/>

1. Welcome/Introductions

- a. **Call to Order and Certification of Quorum** – Chair Greenberg (BABCNC) called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Host and WRAC Secretary/Treasurer Laferriere called the roll with 8 members present initially, and quorum met. Member Marton arrived at 6:45pm, Lynn by 6:46pm and Chiu at 7:01pm, for a total of **11 members present**.

Robin Greenberg, Chair (BABCNC)

Chris Spitz, Co-Chair (PPCC)

Marcello Robinson (NWNC)

Steve Sann (WCC)

Terri Tippit (WNC)

Ravi Sankaran (DRNC)

Amie Baron (WWNC)

Carolyn Jordan (BCC)

Andrew Marton (MVCC) arrived at 6:45pm Michael Lynn (SORONC) arrived at 6:46pm

Walton Chiu (WLASNC) arrived 7:01pm

Nonvoting Alternates Present: Barbara Broide (WNC), Nickie Miner (BABCNC) and Connor Webb (NWNC)

Also Present:

Tyler Laferriere-Holloway (Host and WRAC Secretary/Treasurer)

Cairo Rodriguez, Representative of CD5 Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky

Zac Gaidzik, Representative of Supervisor Lindsey Horvath

Michelle Persoff, Representative of Assemblymember Isaac G. Bryant

Chris Galindo, LA City Department of Planning Liaison

- b. **Chair Updates** –

(1) Status of WRAC meeting guest speakers:

State Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas is unable to attend on July 15, 2024 due to a conflict (to be rescheduled).

U.S. Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove is scheduled to attend August 19, 2024.

(2) Next board meeting: July 15, 2024

(3) New board members:

NWNC: 1st Alternate Connor Webb, 2nd Alternate Elizabeth Brady

WWNC: 1st Alternate Stephen Resnick, 2nd Alternate Amie Baron

WNC: 2nd Alternate Lisa Morroco

(4) Further letter re WRAC support for LAMC 41.18, sent 6/5/24:

<https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/WRAC-Letter-41.18-2.pdf>

2. Government Reports/Speakers

a. **Mayor's Office** – Marian Ensley, West Area Representative was not present.

b. Council Reports –

- (1) **Cairo Rodriguez, Sr. Field Deputy – Council District 5/Yaroslavsky** gave an update beginning with a motion the Councilwoman introduced in regard to 41.18, in Council File #21-0329-S4, the “No Camping Zone Ordinance.” He noted that the Councilwoman submitted this aiming for reforms to improve safety and enforcement, ensuring that new zones are accompanied by credible offers of shelters or housing when signs go up, and enhanced data collection in coordination with City departments. This is to emphasize LAPD enforcement at the most sensitive locations, e.g., schools, day cares, interim housing sites, and this motion is to study this. The Councilwoman authored an op-ed in the Westside Current. She supports 41.18 but wants to emphasize the enforcement around schools and day care centers, and when there are resolutions to certain locations for 41.18, she wants to make sure they are attached to credible housing beds.

Cairo reported on the UCLA Sustainable Move-Out this Saturday and invited volunteers with UCLA, their office and LASAN, who will be there to help students move out of their dorms to reduce items going to landfills, working closely with local nonprofits to repurpose items.

He also discussed the LA City Youth Development Department with other groups. Businesses are having their LA Youth Expo 2024, for young adults 15-25, for free community resources, networking, mentoring connections, and internships this weekend at LA Trade Tech; young people are recommended to attend. The application for LA City Youth Council is open. The Council seats 30 youth from across the City, for a one-year term, in City government. He'll share the application process. This is to empower youth to understand how government works. Three seats just became available; deadline is June 30th.

[Andrew Marton arrived at 6:45, and Michael Lynn arrived at 6:46 pm.]

Members' questions were asked and answered.

[Walton Chiu arrived at 7:01 PM.]

- (2) **Michael Amster, Field Deputy – Council District 11/Park** gave an update including but not limited to last week the Councilwoman joined the Venice Canals Community to honor Sarah Alden, in an uplifting ceremony to honor her and bring the community together in a very tough time. He reported on interim lane restriping at PCH near Castellammare, which has been providing some relief of traffic congestion, though there is still a need for permanent repairs, a larger conversation they are having with Caltrans

and other State and City partners.

Michael spoke on Councilwoman Park's two motions: 1) Last week the motion for Marilyn Monroe's former home to become a historical cultural monument was continued until sometime next week. 2) Last Friday, the Councilwoman introduced a motion involving the City's use of herbicide. The Palisades community and everyone who uses Potrero Canyon Park were shocked to see the use of herbicide to control the weeds in concern about the environment and where the City is going concerning green spaces. If adopted, the motion would direct Department of Recreation & Parks and BOE to report on their current herbicidal alternatives and current protocols for herbicide application if they choose to do that. https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2016/16-0651-S2_misc_6-14-24.pdf

Michael reported that the CD11 Beautification Team provides improvements around the community, such as trimming and trash pickup, and was recently activated along Sunset Boulevard by Paul Revere Middle School, making the sidewalk safer for the students and neighbors in the area.

He also noted that they would be activating the Beautification Team this Saturday for the Jefferson median in the Ballona Wetlands (a community event) and then for a big weed trimming along Palisades Drive. If you have other sites for CD11's Beautification Team, let him know. Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC) thanked the Councilwoman for the motion on herbicides on behalf of the Palisades community.

Questions were asked and answered. Member Chiu (WLASNC) noted that on Saturday from 2:00 to 4:00 PM, they are hosting a Summer Solstice picnic at the Bundy Triangle and requested help from the Beautification Team. Member Sann (WCC) thanked Michael for joining Councilwoman Park last Monday, and asked why the Marilyn Monroe home motion was suddenly pulled, to which Michael noted that he'd get back to him but that the Councilwoman is a proponent for preserving this home.

c. Additional Government Reports –

Michelle Persoff from Assemblymember Isaac Bryan's office noted that she is now the only field rep on the team temporarily, and is the field rep for the district. In the Capitol, the legislature passed the budget now getting finalized but she had no highlights to share. She noted that they have 17 bills in the Senate now, hopefully on the way to the Governor's desk. During the mid-July summer recess, Asm. Bryan will be in the district more. Saturday June 30th is the next Coffee with Asm. Bryan, co-hosted with SORONC at Schwartz Bakery and Café.

Zac Zaidzik, Westside and Coastal Field Deputy for Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, shared Happy Pride wishes and noted that on Tuesday, June 6th, Chair Horvath hosted the second annual Progress Pride Flag Raising at the Hall of Administration to officially kick

off Pride in LA County. Chair Horvath also joined the cities of San Fernando and Agoura Hills for their Pride flag raising ceremonies. Also on June 6th the LA County Board of Supervisors passed 2 motions to implement gender-affirming resource clauses and increased access to gender-affirming health care. He noted that on May 15, the LA County Board of Supervisors held its annual hearing where the public provided input on the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 24-25. He noted that the Supervisor related her plans to prioritize additional funding for homelessness prevention, the foundation of a climate budget, gender-based violence services and improvements to justice facilities within the final budget for LA County.

He noted that Governor Newsom announced that Topanga Canyon Boulevard was able to be reopened 3 months ahead of schedule. He gave thanks to coordination from State offices, Michael with Traci Park's office, and Caltrans. He noted that the Economic Mobility Initiative was launched this month, funded with \$25 million in Federal COVID relief funds to help small businesses grow; the Initiative will offer technical assistance, training, access to capital, commercial space as well as entrepreneurship academies. Always feel free to reach out to Zac directly at Zgaidzik@bos.lacounty.gov.

Chris Galindo, Community Liaison from LA City Planning: 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>.

Chris referenced an upcoming hearing on the Adaptive Reuse Ordinance update on June 27, an update on the draft Processes and Procedures Ordinance, and the Affordable Housing Linkage Fee update to the fee schedule taking effect on July 1, 2024. Refer to the Planning and Zoning dropdown & ZIMAS. Questions were asked and answered. Chris would be getting back to Member Broide (WNC) as to her questions.

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>.

3. Board Member Updates –

- a. Chris Spitz – recirculated Draft EIR for the proposed Sidewalk Repair Program: comment period June 6 - July 23, 2024. See <https://sidewalks.lacity.gov/environmental-impact-report>. *[Vice-Chair Spitz asked, and it was noted for the record, that three board members had arrived, Andrew Marton at 6:45pm, Michael Lynn at 6:46pm and Walton Chiu at 7:01pm.]*

4. Committee Reports –

- a. **WRAC Transportation & Mobility Committee (MTC)** – Mtg on 6/19/24
- b. **WRAC Land Use & Planning Committee (LUPC)** – No June mtg; mtg on 7/8/24

c. WRAC Homelessness Committee (HOC) – Special mtg on 6/10; regular mtg on 6/18

Chair Greenberg (BABCNC) and Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC) both related that the special HOC meeting was excellent, thanking Member Sann (WCC) who was instrumental in organizing the venue and working with Belmont Senior Village, as he was with the prior years' Roundtables at Belmont Village. Vice-Chair Spitz noted that several of the speakers spoke about being hopeful because the City and County are now coordinating and communicating with one another, which wasn't the case for many years. She hopes that with this coordination and communication, there will be some progress. Member Sann added his thanks again to Vice-Chair Spitz, and noted that the meeting was more candid and substantive than expected, as all of the speakers were surprisingly direct. He noted that Executive Director Adams-Kellum of LAHSA would like to come back to the Committee and offer a thorough walkthrough on the budget. He also noted that he heard for the first time from Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky that while it was important to have City and County at the table, it would also be important to engage with State and Federal officials, as they have a great deal of resources; he feels that the next step should be to engage at those levels.

5. Public Comment – None.

6. Approval of Minutes – The May 2024 meeting minutes were **approved** as moved by Chair Greenberg and seconded by Member Lynn (SORONC).

7. New Business

a. Motion (Chris Spitz/PPCC) – Oppose CF 21-0329-S5; support LAMC Sec. 41.18:

" ____ NC/CC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, opposes the motion in CF 21-0329-S5, which makes implementation of LAMC Sec. 41.18 unnecessarily and unreasonably complicated and needlessly involves county agencies in city policy. We agree with the protection of sensitive use sites and deem this Municipal Code section to be a necessary tool for combatting the proliferation of homelessness and protecting public health and safety citywide.* ____ NC/CC therefore strongly supports LAMC Sec. 41.18, which has been effectively implemented in Council District 11 and other areas of Los Angeles to protect public health and safety and preserve the use of our public spaces for all constituents. **According to the Chief Legislative Analyst, 'LAPD believes that LAMC Sec. 41.18 and its subsections have an overwhelmingly positive impact on public safety' (5/31/24 CLA Report in related CF 21-0329-S4).*"

Background information in Google drive and on WRAC Meetings page, linked above.

Vice-Chair Spitz moved the motion on behalf of her council, Pacific Palisades CC (PPCC), which had previously passed the motion; Brentwood CC (BCC) also passed a motion to oppose the council file, although only PPCC was bringing the motion in WRAC. Vice-Chair Spitz noted that the WRAC Homeless Committee hasn't had time to consider the matter. The motion was seconded by Member Jordan (BCC). Discussion ensued regarding the use of 41.18, including the issue of repopulation in the 41.18 zones. Following

discussion, the motion to oppose CF 21-0329-S5 and support LAMC Sec. 41.18 **passed** by 11-0-0.

8. Old Business

- a) **24.04. Request compensation for transfer of PROW easements** – Feb. 26, 2024 (*passed* May 2024). 8 councils adopted: BABCNC,* DRNC, MVCC, NCWP, Palms NC, PPCC,* WNC, WWNC (**modified versions*):
Position letter: <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/WRAC-Letter-PROW-Transfers.pdf>
- b) **24.05. Request cap on waivers for ED1 and Affordable Housing Streamlining projects** – Feb. 26, 2024 (passage deadline June 2024). 6 councils adopted: NCWP, Palms NC,* VNC, WCC, WWNC, WNC* (*modified versions*).
Motion: Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC) moved to extend the deadline by one month to July. Member Lynn (SORONC) seconded the motion. Member Jordan (BCC) suggested extending this by two months, to which Vice-Chair Spitz agreed. Following discussion, the motion to extend the deadline to August **passed** unanimously.
- c) **24.06. Oppose Metro congestion pricing on the Westside without robust North/South transit options in place** – Feb. 26, 2024 (*passed* June 2024). 8 councils adopted: BABCNC,* BCC,* NCWP,* PPCC,* VNC, WCC, WNC, WWNC (**modified versions*): *Position letter pending*. Vice-Chair Spitz related that NWNC has advised that it opposes the WRAC position.

9. Adjourn –

Prior to adjournment, for the Good of the Order, Member Sann thanked Vice-Chair Spitz for her work on the Homeless Committee Roundtable. He invited everyone to join Westwood Branch Library on Sunday June 30th (doors open at 2:00pm) at 2:30pm, for a Concert featuring a Woodwind Quintet in celebration of Independence Day. Vice-Chair Spitz invited us to the Palisades' 4th of July parade.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Next meeting to be held on **July 15, 2024**, at 6:30 pm