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## Minutes

WRAC Meeting of the Board of Directors  
September 15, 2025 – 6:30pm

### Join Zoom Meeting:

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*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 6:35pm; roll was called by Host & WRAC Secretary/Treasurer Tyler Laferriere. Quorum was met with 9 present initially. Member Webb arrived at 7:09pm, and Member Torrance was noted to be present by 7:11pm.

#### **Board Members Present**

**BABCNC** Robin Greenberg (WRAC Chair)

**PPCC** Chris Spitz (WRAC Vice-Chair)

**BCC** Carolyn LoBuglio

**MVCC** Andrew Marton

**NWNC** Connor Webb

**PalmsNC** Reza Akef

**SORONC** Michael Lynn

**NCWP** Theresa Torrance

**WCC** Steve Sann

**WLASNC** Jay Handal

**WNC** Barbara Broide

**DRNC** Quenton Richards (Members Richards & Sankaran were present until 7:25 PM, following which **11 members** remained.)

#### **Nonvoting Alternates Present:**

Vic Pacheco, (WLASNC), Nickie Miner (BABCNC). Carolyn Jordan (BCC)

#### **Also Present:**

- WRAC Meeting Host/Secretary/Treasurer, Tyler Laferriere-Holloway
- Capt. III Eric Eppolito, new Commanding Officer, Pacific Division: [34270@lapd.online](mailto:34270@lapd.online)
- Ben Wong, Supervisor, Water Resources Strategic Planning Division, accompanied by Leah McKenzie, Senior Public Relations Specialist and Kharla Pimentel, Civil Engineering Associate, from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
- Cairo Rodriguez, Sr. Field Deputy – Council District 5/Yaroslavsky
- Michael Amster, Field Deputy – Council District 11/Park

- Nicolas Rodriguez - Deputy Chief of Staff for 36<sup>th</sup> District Congressman Ted W. Lieu
- Samantha Gallegos, District Representative for 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District State Senator Ben Allen
- Michelle Persoff, District Director for California's 55th Assembly District Assemblymember Isaac Bryan
- Sherwin Shamoeil, Senior Field Rep for California's 51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur
- Amanda Laflen, Metro & Westside Field Deputy for 3<sup>rd</sup> District County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath

**b. Chair Updates –**

(1) Next Board meeting: October 20, 2025

(2) Welcome new WRAC Board rep: WLASNC – Vic Pacheco, Alternate (Primary Jay Handal remains)

- Vic Pacheco introduced himself, noting that he has been involved with the WLASNC for his first term but has been attending meetings for 7 years and earlier with Mar Vista when he found out he lived outside the border by only 50 feet. He was the alternate on the WRAC Transportation Committee.

(3) Update on future breakfast meetings at Belmont: tentative/invited speakers at breakfast meetings: Paul Krekorian, Exec. Director, Mayor's Office of Major Events (2028 Olympics); LA County D.A. Nathan Hochman (dates TBD); other possible speakers at board meetings: Assemblymembers Zbur and Irwin (dates TBD).

- Vice Chair Spitz noted that Member Handal has helped and is working on reaching out to Paul Krekorian, who is currently the Executive Director of the city's Office of Major Events, and we are putting Nathan Hochman on hold until that is set.

(4) January and February meeting dates (1/19/26 MLK Day; 2/16/26 Presidents Day); does the board wish to change to the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month (i.e., to 1/26 and 2/23)?

- Chair Greenberg opened the floor to discussion. Vice-Chair Spitz supported the idea of the date change from third to fourth Mondays of the month for national holidays, which would also give flexibility to future guest speakers at a breakfast meeting. Following Board discussion, Chair Greenberg took a count of those who agreed, to include Chair Greenberg, Vice-Chair Spitz, Members Sann, LoBuglio, Pacheco, Richards, Marton, Broide and Sankaran. There were no noes, and the consensus was to switch to the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday for our meetings if the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday is a national holiday.

**2. Government Reports/Speakers**

**a. LAPD Guest: Capt. III Eric Eppolito, new Commanding Officer, Pacific Division**

[34270@lapd.online](mailto:34270@lapd.online) - Captain Eppolito introduced himself, noting that Captain Michael Applegate has relocated to Emergency Services Division, and this is his 4<sup>th</sup> week here. He wanted us to all know that they will take care of any concerns, challenges or questions. He provided a brief crime report noting that they are 12% overall down in violent crime, and burglaries are down about 19%, though he understands that none of that matters to us if we are

the victim or have a quality of life issue. They are fortunate to get an extra body as a SLO, Sam Gill, who now has the beach for Venice and Dockweiler; instead of having someone in charge of the beach and other areas of the division, they've instituted an SLO *only* for the beach. They have had a lot of complaints about e-bikes especially in the beach communities, and are working on that with task forces and DOT. He noted that there are not a lot of DOT out there with illegally parked cars as in Dockweiler, and other areas of the division, and they do have a new captain, and they've been great working in areas like Dockweiler. As to the unhoused, they understand their restrictions and guidelines but are also working to keep our areas safe.

He announced that on November 2<sup>nd</sup> they'll have an open house pancake breakfast fundraiser at Pacific Station, and on November 15<sup>th</sup> there will be a celebration of the 100-year anniversary for Pacific, which will be a much larger event. Captain Eppolito concluded that he wanted to say hi and let us know that he is here for what we need. He is also available via email; so email him at [34270@lapd.online](mailto:34270@lapd.online) at any hour of the day and include your contact information and he'll make sure he has someone get back to you. Chair Greenberg thanked him for what he does and he thanked us for letting him speak.

**b. LADWP Presentation: Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) –**

See <https://www.ladwp.com/who-we-are/water-system/sources-supply/urban-water-management-plan>  
**Mr. Ben Wong from the LADWP Water Resources, Strategic Planning Division spoke on the Urban Water Management Plan.**

Mr. Wong gave a presentation on what the LADWP does with regard to water and some history of water in LA, dating back to a drought in 1976-1977, which resulted in the Urban Water Management Planning Act in 1983, passed by the State. He noted that it standardizes water planning throughout the state. If you serve over 3,000 customers they complete a plan every 5 years and submit it to the CA Department of Water Resources. This helps them to qualify for state lands and grants for water. Looking at the future, they consider factors including growth, economy impacts, climate impacts and balance that out with projected supplies. They have a Demand Forecasting tool that they have developed, to evaluate how different sectors use water and identify strategies.

He discussed our water supply, noting they have a diverse portfolio, in which they source water from LA aqueducts in the Eastern Sierras, their own supply, and local supplies through local ground water basins, and recycled waters that they produce in the city. They also purchase supplemental supplies from their regional wholesaler, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, (MWD), and that water is sourced from Northern California through the State Water Project through the northern Sierras, and the Colorado River, through the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Mr. Wong noted that although they have this very diverse supply portfolio, part of the challenge of developing the Urban Water Management Plan is that all of these sources face various

challenges looking into the future, e.g., climate change and intensifying extremes in hydrology. They have experienced reduced exports along the Los Angeles Aqueduct in recent decades. The Colorado River is over-allocated, and there are ongoing negotiations on how to best manage that supply. There is a lot of uncertainty in the Bay Delta with the other state water project contractors. And even locally, we have contamination that we've experienced or encountered in our local groundwater basin. So, part of the challenge of this plan is addressing how we're addressing these challenges now and into the future.

He then discussed when we look at balancing supplies and demands, looking at different scenarios, including long-term scenarios. He explained that the Urban Water Management Plan also includes another plan called the Water Shortage Contingency Plan. When encountering conditions that they didn't foresee, the Water Storage Contingency Plan outlines how the department can identify potential shortages, and how to respond to those shortages.

He noted that he was here today to bring us this plan, and reach out to us and let us know that outreach is a big, important part of the development of the Urban Water Management Plan, and they are continuing to work on this plan through the end of this year, with various stakeholder engagement and outreach, and then in next year. They plan to release a public review draft of this document, which will be accompanied by a formal public hearing period and public comment period, then finalize the plan based on the comments received, and ultimately get that adopted by our board and submitted to the state by the official deadline of July 1st, 2026. They are also collecting input and as they develop the plan, try to incorporate or address some concerns this year. He noted that if we have any of those, he'll take questions now, but they also have a contact email we can send our questions or comments to.

For more information, visit the website [www.ladwp.com/UWMP](http://www.ladwp.com/UWMP) which will be updated on how they are planning and when they release the public draft, along with other public meetings. He noted that they were here this evening to bring us the plan, as they continue to work on this plan through the end of this year, and will continue doing outreach. Next year they plan to release a public review draft of the document with public hearing and public comments, following which they'll finalize the plan based on comments, and submit for the board to approve by July 2026. They are collecting input as they prepare the plan. If you have those, they can answer questions and send comments to a comment line. For more information contact [UWMP@ladwp.com](mailto:UWMP@ladwp.com)

The floor was opened for questions. Member Broide asked about how water is distributed and how the model looks at changing state laws, e.g., SB 79, how that will affect infrastructure as well as about earthquakes and impacts on dams. Mr. Wong noted that the intention of the plan is to look at the city as a whole and that other planning efforts ongoing are focusing down to the granular level of infrastructure. There are also folks looking at the safety of the dams under safety conditions. Robin welcomed and thanked Mr. Wong as well as Kristine Ly and Leah McKenzie who accompanied him, noting that Leah had sent us the email about his presentation.

**c. Mayor's Office** – Konstantin Hatcher, Senior Director of Community Engagement was not present, nor was WLA Area rep, Jennifer Hull, who couldn't come tonight.

#### **d. Council Reports –**

##### **(1) Cairo Rodriguez, Sr. Field Deputy – Council District 5/Yaroslavsky**

###### Key updates:

- Nuisance properties threaten our safety health and quality of life, with rodents, unsanitary conditions, fire hazards, and crime risks at the city level. The current system only acts after serious incidents rather than preventing. Councilmembers Yaroslavsky and McOsker introduced a motion for a long overdue report on how to enforce these nuisance properties, noting that the city needs to act in an urgent manner.
- The Village Midvale project midterm housing site in WLA is near full capacity, residents are beginning their journey to stability and self-sufficiency. One of the participants is moving into permanent housing after Section 8. The Village offers connections and resources to moving forward in life. This shows the real impact we can make as public servants.
- He thanked everyone who joined us for the opening of their new district office, meant to be a welcoming space for residents and business owners, and to coordinate for neighborhood priorities.
- This week, City Council approved a motion of Councilmembers Yaroslavsky and Padilla to strengthen partnership with Metro, LAUSD in the Los Angeles Community College District on a housing initiative. Metro is committing to 10,000 new units by 2031. LAUSD is developing employee housing. NLACCD has launched a student housing program and city planning will coordinate with the agencies.
- Regarding arson fires in or near the freeway, Cairo noted that they invited the Fire Department Captain Michael Suarkeo to join us (*tonight*) to speak about community concerns related to arson. His expertise will help us better understand the risks, what's being done to investigate and prevent incidents and how neighbors can stay informed and protected.

##### **(1) Michael Amster, Field Deputy – Council District 11/Park**

###### Key updates:

- One of the councilwoman's recent top resolutions was in regard to 9 new 41.18 Special Enforcement Zones adopted throughout the district. Signage needs to be posted now, but the resolution was adopted for 9 sites at Barrington Rec Center, Wilshire Granville, Wilshire Westgate in Brentwood and West LA, then Sawtelle Boulevard underneath the 405-10 which touches both Mar Vista and West LA; 3rd and Rose, USPS on Grand Avenue, and a former bridge home site in Venice, at Braddock and the 405, in Del Rey, and 8301 Lincoln in Westchester. Those are new, soon-to-be posted 41.18 sites that the Councilwoman has gotten implemented in the past month.
- Some on-the-ground constituent services: Tree trimming is a top service that they are seeking to supplement throughout the city. Her December 2024 public safety package included \$100,000 dedicated towards tree trimming, and these past 2 weeks they were

able to implement this tree trimming budget in two areas of dire need. Brentwood in the Brentwood Glen neighborhood along Church Lane between Montana and Waterford. There were two trees that fell into the 405, and service along this portion of the church was especially direly needed. And also, this past weekend, they trimmed over 40 trees along Iowa Avenue between Bundy and Barrington in West LA.

- Also, in West LA, the Council Office is sponsoring a new thing, on Friday nights in the community: The Bundy Triangle Night Market. He hopes that you have seen this on their social media, but this is a new Farmers Market, a new citywide special event that they are sponsoring that is 2 nights in, and is delivering a lot of great life to Friday nights in the West LA community, each Friday night from 9 to 5 at the Bundy Triangle, at the intersections of Bundy and Santa Monica. Come on down and enjoy some good times at the Bundy Triangle Night Market.

- He noted that we just heard from Captain Eppolito, and the councilwoman recently had a ride-along with the captain to cover issues throughout the Pacific Division, so they are very excited to have that partnership underway.

- As regards RV dwellings underneath the 90 freeway, along Centinela and Inglewood it is an established city right-of-way, and CD11 is fulfilling its responsibility to address the RV dwellings along these two underpasses. He noted that there is state land adjacent to the 90 freeway that falls within state government responsibility. The Councilwoman is leading advocacy to address these encampments, they recently had an official letter sent to the governor to activate resources to address these encampments, and we also recently convened an intergovernmental meeting to create a plan in effectuating services and enforcement at this area; more to come on that, hopefully, very, very soon..

- He also made a point that his colleagues who cover Venice and Marina Del Rey recognize that there is a new wall behind the Ralphs and they are actively exploring this issue. Member Sankaran (DRNC) noted, as to the wall behind the Ralphs, it is a Venice and Del Rey thing and they are working on a motion regarding this.

(Carolyn Jordan was also noted to be present at this point.)

**e. Additional Government Reports –**

**Nicolas Rodriquez - Deputy Chief of Staff for 36<sup>th</sup> District Congressman Ted W. Lieu**  
**[nicolas.rodriquez@mail.house.gov](mailto:nicolas.rodriquez@mail.house.gov)**

Nicholas was here in the place of Janet Turner, who was off. Nicholas reported on recent action of the Congressman legislatively in Washington included his reintroduction of The Enhancing Subnational Diplomacy Act. He noted that the city has a deputy mayor for International Affairs who typically works with their counterparts in consulates throughout the city. The Congressman has passed legislation that he has introduced to expand the ability of cities, counties, and states to do diplomacy. In past National Defense Authorization Acts, which have become law, this bill would enhance the current efforts that already exist from that passage which included a part in the Department of Defense to expand some of that work, and the congressman reintroduced that; something of national importance, especially seeing the number of actions by the administration to use pardon powers, particularly for a lot of violent felons.

The Congressman introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution limiting the pardon power of the presidency, particularly because of the rank of use by the current administration; it would prohibit the president from granting a pardon or reprieve to himself or herself; it would prevent them from using it on relatives, members of the administration, paid campaign employees, persons or entities for an offense motivated in interest of those people; public safety matters.

Another piece of legislation they have worked on includes the Naomi Schwartz and Susan Rose Safe Parking Act of 2025. They have a letter to the EPA, opposing the elimination of vehicle emission rules that the Congressman co-signed. They have a letter to HUD expressing concerns about their efforts to weaken the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. He discussed housing discrimination.

He discussed the big federal effort right now on funding, which lasts for most federal agencies through to September 30th, and without passing appropriations legislation, the federal government will shut down. He noted that a key concern for a lot of members, including the congressman, has been the illegal use of rescission and seizing of appropriated dollars, which is a direct violation of the Appropriations Clause to the Constitution. He noted that you will see this in the efforts of the administration to seize dollars meant for the state of California, which in turn would be meant to go to cities like the City of Los Angeles, go to LAPD, LAFD, which deliver critical emergency services. On top of that, we are seeing cuts to a number of critical grant programs to local agencies like the Ed Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, a leading source of federal justice funding for state, local and tribal jurisdictions, used vitally by a number of police departments, including LAPD, to fund basic policing services. Then we've seen the seizure of a whole host billions of dollars going to entities like LA Unified as the administration works to try to dismantle the Department of Education and end Title I and Title II funding, critical for schools on the Westside. He noted that if there is no guarantee that the administration and the current majority will stop seizing dollars and will not return appropriated dollars that Congress has appropriated for basic services the Congressman will not support a budget vote, so we will see where that goes.

Additionally, the current majority just passed a rule today in the Rules Committee, which would prevent the House of Representatives from taking up any legislation which would eliminate the President's tariff authority; tariffs which Congressman Lieu considers have drastically increased the cost of living, sped up inflation, and have been hurting the economy, and that is why we are seeing larger numbers of unemployed filings now. He noted that we will see how we will be able to get that data, as the administration tries to dismantle the Bureau of Labor Statistics, but at the end of the day, we're all seeing the cost of these tariffs and the Congressman will oppose this rule, which passed out of the Rules Committee and will be considered by the House of Representatives.

All in all, he noted that we are looking at a difficult economic situation, particularly because of the actions of the administration and the Congressman is fully against those efforts, and

will do his best to try to prevent the administration from further harming American families and the economy.

Coming up in November, they are hosting an event called the Conversation with Veterans event. He is posting the flyer for that event online. The Congressman has hosted this event every year; we bring veterans of various branches of the military that have served to talk and reflect a little bit about their experiences as service members and as veterans. It is a great event taking place a couple of days before Veterans Day. Please spread the word about that. This is a really great event that we have been doing roughly since 2018, bringing together these veterans. It's done by a few other members of Congress.

Their deadline for high school students to apply for nomination to the Military Service Academies is coming up Friday. We're focusing more of that on our meetings with LA Unified and our high schools on the Westside as we'll be doing those interviews coming up soon in El Segundo.

Member Broide asked for the number on the pardoning bill, to which he noted that it is in the Congress.gov in the Library of Congress's legislative information system - but will try to get for her.

**Samantha Gallegos, District Rep for 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District State Senator Ben Allen**

Sam Gallegos noted at the last meeting, Sophia was here; she and Sophia split the Westside, so they'll also be splitting WRAC, so we might see Sophia at next meeting.

Sam noted that session ended last week. Seven bills are heading to the Governor's desk. Of note is their SB394 bill, their hydrant water theft bill, SB495 passed, their bill that requires insurance companies to pay wildfire survivors 60% of their contents coverage without needing a detailed inventory list and grants consumers additional time, to 100 days to provide proof of loss; SB682 bill, their PFAS - Forever Chemicals bill a comprehensive approach to phasing out unnecessary uses of PFAS in 6 categories, namely, cooking products is one of the larger ones; and, SB766, their Combating Auto Retail Scams (CARS) Consumer Protections Bill, that increases consumer protections for car buyers, creates a 3-day return period for used cars, and other protections when buying new and used cars.

They will be joining Heal the Bay September 20th for a Coastal Cleanup Day in Torrance Beach, She recommended that we look into locations near us.

Their internship program just started for our high school students, and things like that from our high school students on our social media. Lastly, the 405 extended weekend closure is, this weekend, the next one, Friday through Sunday, so that is September 19th through the 22nd. She asked us to please tell our friends and those around us, as the more we know about the 405 closure, more people can use detours and if the 405 is necessary, it shouldn't be as bad. But if you have feedback regarding that, please let her know.

Member Jordan (BCC) mentioned that a number of Westside residents and neighborhoods are very concerned about the current iteration of the Zone Zero regulations, asking if the Senator has commented on it yet, noting that her assemblywoman got a letter in and local leaders are also putting in comments. Sam noted that she is chatting with their press



secretary to see what they will be putting out regarding Zone Zero; he asked the Board of Forestry to create some sort of regulation, because we do want to see less wildfire damage in our state but she was chatting with their press secretary knowing that the upcoming Board of Forestry Los Angeles meeting is coming up and she will be tuning into that as well. Vice-Chair Spitz noted that they are interested as well at PPCC, and we just sent another letter on this, this afternoon, to the Board of Forestry Committee, noting that we are aware of the meeting and we are very much opposed to the current regulations as drafted. She noted that Brentwood and Brentwood homeowners as also opposed. She hasn't had a chance to send her letter to staff at Senator Ben Allen's office but will do that tomorrow, noting that we would appreciate his support.

**Michelle Persoff, District Director for California's 55th Assembly District**  
**Assemblymember Isaac Bryan**

Michelle noted that Sam mentioned that the end of session was last week. She noted that members were on the floor until about 3 AM on Saturday, recessed, and then finished things up Saturday morning.

She noted that SB79 was mentioned and that she spent a lot of time in the last few weeks having conversations with constituents about the positions on both sides of the bill. She received the WRAC letter from Vice-Chair Spitz, and got one from Del Rey, Mar Vista, as well as from people more inland in their district. They logged the positions with the assembly member and legislative team.

She reported that they got 14 bills passed, a couple related to wildfires, and because of the Zone Zero mentioned, they have AB1455, 1075, preventing private firefighters from using public water without permission. She can follow up with us on all the wildfire bills. Other bills related to the wildfires include the Incarcerated Firefighters Bill, to bring their pay from \$2 for 8 hours of work to the federal minimum wage, \$7.25 during an act of wildfire. They have a few bills related to foster care and expanding the rights for incarcerated parents to be able to always go to a child welfare hearing for their child virtually, instead of having to report, facing the challenges that come with reporting in person, whether not able to get the bus working, having something they are responsible to do that day, and are not being allowed to leave the campus. They have those bills going off to the Governor, 14 in all.

Michelle mentioned Caltrans related to the 90 Freeway, that recently they were told that we should be using the county for all outreach services instead of going through LAHSA, so they started doing that. Requests for Caltrans property should still get made to Caltrans but when we make outreach requests like before, Caltrans doesn't have those services, and they outsource them to the city and the county; now they are just changing who we reach out to and who we are working with. They have bi-weekly meetings with CD5 and CD10.

She noted that, as Michael referenced, they have been meeting at the CHP headquarters with CD11 and other levels of government specifically about the 90 and are waiting to hear back from LA Sanitation to see if they can help with removal requests, vegetation maintenance requests that are along the 90 because the capacity for Caltrans is at a limit, and making those requests in a timely manner has been challenging.

Member Jordan asked how AB1455 has gone through, and is it going to the Governor's desk, or does it need more? Sam responded, yes, the last week of session ended Saturday morning,

so, everything either passed out, got held for next year, because this is the first of a two-year cycle - or died and won't be moving on, or if a member wants to try again, they would have to reintroduce it and start all over. Michelle Persoff noted that it did pass and it is going to go to the Governor who has 30 days to sign all bills or veto them.

**Sherwin Shamoeil, Senior Field Rep for California's 51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District Assembly-member Rick Chavez Zbur**

Prior to opening the floor to Sherwin, Chair Greenberg shared anecdotally that while she was in Sicily last week, she came down an elevator to the first floor, where she found Americans including Robert B. Oliver, District Director for Rick Chavez Zbur. Sherwin said that Robert told him to say "hi" to her and acknowledged what a great story that is.

Sherwin related that the Assemblymember passed seven bills, four with bipartisan support; one passed with full consent from both chambers, so they went for 120, a bill relating to evacuation for pets during emergencies. They passed AB715, a bill that combats anti-Semitism. One of them that has been signed so far by the governor is the expansion of the Film Tax Credit, which passed a couple months ago.

He discussed the 405 being closed off from the Valley down to the area of the VA. He noted, as to SB79, he knows a lot of us feel very strongly one way or the other on this bill. He noted that the assemblymember thought that the bill was well-intentioned but ultimately decided to vote against it.

Member Broide (WNC) wanted to send a message back to the Assemblymember to thank him for being a brave representative, representing his constituents, and speaking in opposition to SB79 on the floor. Those of us who've been working very hard to support more density, and even density near transit, but not by a blanket rezoning of all R1 properties in this state, except for the 80% of land that Mr. Weiner exempted through exceptions in order to get his bill through. Sherwin said he will make sure to relay that to the assembly member. Member Torrance (NCWP) noted that this was very good. Sherwin noted that they got more comments in opposition from this bill than on any other position they received on any other bill since the Assemblymember took Office in the Assembly.

Vice Chair Spitz expressed, on behalf of WRAC, our thanks and appreciation of Assemblymember Zbur all of the time but in particular for his bravery and eloquence in speaking against this bill and asked Sherwin to please convey this to him once again.

Member Sann (WWC) also wanted to express his personal thanks and deep appreciation, as someone who truly cares about Westwood Village and the historical character of the village, with iconic locations such as the Geffen Playhouse, the Fox Theater and others, and noted that under this disgusting bill, historic buildings now no longer are protected. We have in our village 44 buildings that are identified in our Westwood Village-Specific Plan as having historical and cultural significance, and under the bill, we are allowed to save 10% of them even if they are declared monuments. They are allowed to bulldoze 90% of declared monuments, which means we get to pick four out of our 44 buildings, and the other 40 get to be bulldozed. So, maybe we get to save the Fox Theater, and maybe we get to save the Bruin Theater, maybe we can save the Geffen Playhouse and the Dome building, but the entire block on Glendon, where Violet Restaurant and others are, those buildings you can just kiss

goodbye. He stated that you can kiss goodbye 90% of what gives Westwood Village its character, its identity, and what has made it a very special place for nearly 100 years. He doesn't think people truly understand the devastation that this bill will bring on the city of Los Angeles, and shame on Scott Weiner, who does not represent this city, knows nothing about our city, and as Rick said, knows nothing about the zoning and land use patterns of this city, which is a world of difference from the way San Francisco and the rest of California was developed.

Member Sann thanked Sherwin and Rick Chavez-Zbur for his righteous bravery, knowing that he had seven bills that he wanted to get through, and by speaking out on the floor, he possibly could have jeopardized anyone or all of his bills passing. So he thanks him for that. Sherwin will make sure to relay that to the Assemblymember, whom he noted does have a very good working relationship with Senator Weiner who has been a friend with regard to their legislation on fighting anti-Semitism, and as well in the LGBTQ plus space.

Member Webb (NWWNC) wanted to follow up on Steve's statement that it's no more than 10% of the entire transit-oriented development zone for that station that can be exempted, so the 44 buildings are almost certainly within that total 10% area of the station area. He said he didn't want to freak anyone out, the Westwood Village Historic Buildings can be protected if they want to be, almost certainly, all 44 but if not, the majority and then secondly, with the Assemblymember's comments, he understand we have differences of opinions on a few things, but he did say something that Connor found, pretty hurtful, and about three quarters of his constituents live in apartments, and he said something in there about, how single-family neighborhoods create, stable and safe communities; however, in North Westwood, almost all of our residents live in apartments and it really felt like he truly believed that, you cannot have a safe and stable community with multifamily housing, which, he thinks is a pretty reprehensible thing to say he wants to be sure that in the future, he can clarify that, because it's really not the type of housing that creates stable communities or safe communities. It's who lives in that housing, e.g., young families that live in a place for a long time, whether that be multifamily or single-family, create a stable community where everyone knows each other. Member Webb stated that he wanted to point that out and really express my disappointment in that statement. Sherwin wanted to assure him he does not look down on people who live in apartments; most of his staff lives in apartments and he cares and loves us very much but Sherwin will relay that message to him, absolutely and would also like to point out despite the Assemblymember voting against the bill, they did analysis of the bill, and we couldn't find bus lines. Sherwin stated that he knows that there's been some confusion on how bus lines might affect zoning in the district. There were no bus lines that would affect zoning in our district, just the purple line and the red line, and he believes the expo line.

Member Broide clarified that it is rapid bus lines with travel of 15 minutes or less during peak hours, which are all over the place, and she can give him a map. Vice-Chair Spitz also noted that whether they are there now is somewhat relevant, but the future may hold something different. Sherwin noted that he completely understood. Vice-Chair Spitz noted that's a concern of her council (PPCC) that she wanted to point out.

**Amanda (Mandy) Laflen, Metro & Westside Field Deputy for 3<sup>rd</sup> District County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath -**

Mandy related to Robin Greenberg that she actually got a text from Italy, because Robert and his husband Mark are her best friends and they texted her and said, do you know Robin Greenberg? We just ran into her in an elevator in Sicily and provided more details of the conversation.

Mandy wanted us to mark our calendars to attend their upcoming Emergency Preparedness event on November the 16<sup>th</sup> at the Skirball. She noted that Chair Greenberg was there last year with the Neighborhood Council, and if anybody wants to table, everybody's welcome to do so. When she has a flyer, she'll share it with us, but wanted to put it on our radar.

She noted that at our last meeting we had an item to encourage the city to do an after-action fire report. She cannot speak for the city but can speak for the county, and they have two after-action fire reports coming: Supervisor Horvath and Barger did two motions, one in January and one in March for after-action reports. The first is almost ready and focuses completely on alerts and evacuations. Once it comes out and is made public, she will let us know, because they want the community to give feedback on it so the board can direct the county departments where they need to make changes and apply better practices where possible. The second one focuses on everything else about the Palisades Fires and all that it touched, all the places that it touched in the county. That one will be coming out later.

As regards Zone Zero, Mandy noted that the supervisor did do a letter to the Board of Forestry, expressing concerns about constituent feedback and some other things she can share it if we haven't already seen it. She did that a few months ago and then the Board of Forestry Meeting on Zone Zero is on the 18th. They changed the location to the Pasadena Convention Center. She doesn't know if anyone was planning on going and they saw that, so there's a Zoom option, and it's at the Pasadena Convention Center. Last week they requested that the Board of Forestry have the same meeting but in or closer to the Palisades, so it was more inclusive of the residents that were affected by the Palisades fires.

Then, on the 405 project, their office has been looking at Labor Day lane closures, and found that there was a little bit of a discrepancy in what Caltrans told them, of how earlier in meetings, if the closures were 15 minutes or more, they were going to stop and reassess but in an email, they said 30 minutes or more; so she'll send an email to the representative and give a little bit of pushback on that, as they want to make sure that they're holding to the same promises that they gave everybody in these community meetings given previously from their office. She noted that they were on hiatus for 3 weeks and just now getting back into their meetings. Next month, either Zac or she will have more to share, but she was open to any questions, Questions were asked and answered, including that the EP event will be at the Skirball, she believes hours will be from 9AM to 1:00 PM.

### **3. Board Member Updates –**

#### **a. Chris Spitz (Vice-Chair) – SB 79 status and other updates.**

WRAC sent a letter to the Governor asking for his veto of SB79 and all the Westside area reps either voted no or NVR (no vote recorded), equivalent of a no vote. She understands it passed narrowly.

### **4. Committee Reports – Limited to 5 minutes total.**

- a. **WRAC Transportation & Mobility Committee (MTC)** – next mtg. 9/17/25
- b. **WRAC Homelessness Committee (HOC)** – next mtg (tentative) 9/30/25
- c. **WRAC Land Use & Planning Committee (LUPC)** – inactive; committee chair sought.

**5. Public Comment** – Michael Feinstein introduced himself as a former Santa Monica Mayor and City Council member, who was here to speak on charter reform that the city is looking at, to include council enlargement. He will be presenting on this topic on September 25th at the Charter Reform Commission, 4:00 PM, downtown LA. (He put the information on this event in the chat.) Michael noted that he will speak on “proportional ranked-choice voting,” which he noted would be to both enlarge the city council and elect from three-member council districts instead of single-seat districts. He included a link in the chat of a column he has written on why this is a good idea. He noted that the basic idea is that with three seats, you're getting more proportional representation in each district and include more people's voices, ultimately, on the council from each geographic area. He noted that we see from the fight between New York and California over districting how the consequences are of how you draw district lines and how that decides who gets power and who doesn't get power, and the Federation tape scandal we had from a few years ago with racist overtones was a fight over the zero-sum representation that LA's system provides, or doesn't provide more than this change for the Council. Member Sann (WCC) expressed concern about possible dangers of ranked choice voting.

## **6. Approval of Minutes**

- a. **Motion (Robin Greenberg)** – Approval of August 18, 2025 meeting minutes - The motion with one correction, to remove the two boldfaced sentences which were redundant passed by 10-0-1, with the abstention from Member LoBuglio, and 3 absences, as moved by Chair Greenberg and seconded by Member Broide.

## **7. New Business – None.**

## **8. Old Business**

**Passed motions** – letters sent since last WRAC Board meeting, in August-September 2025

- a. **25.07. Amend LAMC 56.15 – No Riding E-Bicycles on Sidewalks** – May 2025 (*passed August 2025*). **9** councils adopted: BABNC, BCC,\* DRNC,\* NCWP,\* PPCC,\* VNC,\* WLASNC, WNC, WWNC\* (*\*modified versions*). *Position letter:* <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/WRAC-Letter-Ban-E-Bikes.pdf>
- b. **25.09. Oppose RFP for IKE Sidewalk Kiosk Project** – May 2025 (*passed Sept. 2025*). **8** councils adopted: BCC, NCWP, PPCC,\* VNC, WLASNC, WCC, WNC, WWNC (*\*modified version*). *Position letter:* <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/WRAC-letter-RFP-IKE.pdf>
- c. **25.10. Request Mayor to Consent to City Controller's Audit of Inside Safe** – June 2025 (*passed August 2025*). **10** councils adopted: BABNC, BCC, DRNC, NWNC,\* PalmsNC,\* PPCC, SORONC,\* WLASNC, WNC, WWNC. (*\*modified versions*). *Position letter:* <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/WRAC-Letter-Inside-Safe.pdf>

**d. 25.11. Request Mayor and CAO to Disclose Sources of Funding for the Inside Safe Program** – June 2025 (*passed August 2025*). **10** councils adopted: BABCNC, BCC, DRNC, NWNC,\* PalmsNC,\* PPCC, SORONC,\* WLASNC, WNC, WWNC. *Position letter:* <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/WRAC-Letter-Inside-Safe.pdf>.

**e. 25.12. Support CF 20-1376-S5 (Park)** – June 2025 (*passed Sept. 2025*). **8** councils adopted: BABCNC, BCC, MVCC, PPCC, SORONC, WLASNC, WNC, WWNC. *Position letter:* <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/WRAC-letter-20-1376-S5-1.pdf>.

**f. 25.13. Oppose Legislation Mandating Housing Density Without Funding Mechanisms** June 2025 (*passed August 2025*). **8** councils adopted: BABCNC, BCC,\* PPCC,\* SORONC, WLASNC, WCC, WWNC, WNC (*\*modified versions*). *Position letter:* <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/WRAC-Letter-Housing-Density-Funding.pdf>

**g. 25.14. Support the Heavy Rail Underground Subway Mode of Transportation for the Metro Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project** – July 2025 (*passed August 2025*; DEIR comment deadline **Aug. 30, 2025**). **10** councils adopted: PPCC, DRNC, MVCC, NWNC, SORONC, VNC, WLASNC,\* WCC,\* WWNC,\* WNC\* (*\*modified versions*). *Position letter:* <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/WRAC-Comment-Letter-STCP-DEIR.pdf>

**Pending motion**

**h. 25.15. Support 25-0848 (Park); Request Expedited After-Action Reports** – August 2025 (*passage deadline November 2025*). **7** councils adopted: BCC, DRNC, NCWP,\* PalmsNC, PPCC,\* WLASNC, WWNC (*\*modified versions*).

- Member Torrance let us know that the NCWP has a modified version on their agenda.

**9. Adjourn –**

Prior to adjournment at 8:06 PM, Member Sann related that on Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup> Westwood Village will have a joyous celebration of the 100-year anniversary of the oldest barbershop in LA; it is the oldest and last remaining original Oakley's Barbershop. The owner will be rolling back prices to the first opening prices. There will be a barbershop quartet and other food and music and a wonderful celebration 11:00 8-5 haircuts.

Chair Greenberg asked, in the spirit of the tradition of the Jewish High Holidays, for forgiveness if she has hurt or harmed anyone, and wished those who celebrate happy holidays. She wants Chris especially to take care of herself.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM. Next meeting to be held on **October 20, 2025**.