MINUTES

WRAC Meeting of the Board of Directors

September 28, 2026 – 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 approximately 6:32 p.m. WRAC Secretary/Treasurer Tyler Laferriere called the roll; 8 councils were present and quorum was certified. Connor Webb (NWNC) and Steve Sann (WCC) joined during Chair Updates, bringing the total to 10 councils before the officer elections. Carolyn LoBuglio (BCC) joined during Government Reports and Kay Hartman (PNC) during Committee Reports, bringing the total to 12 councils for all subsequent votes.

   Board Members Present

   BABCNC Bel Air-Beverly Crest NC: Robin Greenberg, Chair

   BCC Brentwood CC: Carolyn LoBuglio (joined during meeting)

   DRNC Del Rey NC: Quenton Richards (alternate)

   NCWP NC of Westchester-Playa: Theresa Torrance

   NWNC North Westwood NC: Connor Webb (joined during meeting)

   PNC Palms NC: Kay Hartman (joined during meeting)

   PPCC Pacific Palisades CC: Chris Spitz, Vice-Chair

   SORONC South Robertson NC: Jason Plummer

   WCC Westwood CC: Steve Sann (joined during meeting)

   WLASNC West LA-Sawtelle NC: Jay Handal (by phone)

   WNC Westside NC: Terri Tippit

   WWNC Westwood NC: Connie Boukidis

   Nonvoting Alternates Present:

   Vic Pacheco (WLASNC), Barbara Broide (WNC), Marcy Agmon (WWNC)

Also Present:

- WRAC Secretary/Treasurer Tyler Laferriere

Note: No government representatives were present. No representatives were present for MVCC or VNC.

b. Chair Updates –

(1) **Next WRAC Meeting.** The next WRAC meeting will be held on October 19, 2026. The tentative guest speaker is Maxwell Bracey, Community Engagement Lead for LA28, the organizing committee for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

(2) **Officer Elections.** Per WRAC Bylaws Art. VII.1, elections for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer for 2026–28 two-year terms were held (last election 9/16/24). Secretary/Treasurer Laferriere conducted the elections with 10 councils present.

> **Chair:** Member Handal (WLASNC) nominated Robin Greenberg; Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC) seconded. Greenberg accepted; no other nominations were made. Greenberg thanked the board and Vice-Chair Spitz. Robin Greenberg was **elected** Chair by 10-0-0.
>
> **Vice-Chair:** Member Handal nominated Chris Spitz; Member Sann (WCC) seconded. Spitz accepted; no other nominations were made. Upon Handal's motion to elect by acclamation, with no objections, Chris Spitz was **elected** Vice-Chair by acclamation.
>
> **Secretary/Treasurer:** Member Handal nominated Nico Ruderman; Vice-Chair Spitz and Member Sann seconded. Ruderman was absent (attending his son's back-to-school night), but Spitz and Sann both reported that he is willing to serve and accepts the nomination. Spitz also reported that, since the August meeting, Ruderman has returned to the Venice NC board and remains VNC's WRAC representative. Upon Handal's motion to elect by acclamation, with no nays, Nico Ruderman was **elected** Secretary/Treasurer in absentia.

Laferriere noted that the new terms take effect at the October 19 meeting. Member Sann and Vice-Chair Spitz thanked outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Laferriere for his service; Laferriere said he will remain available to members.

2. Government Reports/Speakers

Chair Greenberg called for the Mayor's Office (Jennifer Hull), Council District 5 (Cairo Rodriguez), Council District 11 (Michael Amster), and all additional government representatives listed on the agenda. No government representatives were present, and no reports were given.

3. Board Member Updates – Limited to 5 minutes total

No board member updates were offered.

4. Committee Reports – Limited to 5 minutes total

a. WRAC Transportation & Mobility Committee (MTC) – past mtg 9/16/26; next mtg 10/21/26

MTC Chair Selena Inouye was not present, and no formal report was given. The MTC's recommended motion was taken up under Item 7c.

In the absence of a CD 11 representative, Member Sann (WCC) asked the Brentwood representatives about a community event held the prior weekend on the San Vicente Boulevard median. Carolyn LoBuglio (BCC) explained that it was organized by Carolyn Jordan and members of the Brentwood

Homeowners Association in conjunction with CD 11, not by BCC, and was a sponsored give-back event for the community. Vice-Chair Spitz added that attendees reported it was a wonderful event.

b. WRAC Homelessness Committee (HOC) – past mtg 9/16/26; next mtg 10/27/26

HOC Chair Handal (WLASNC) reported that the September 16 meeting was productive. He urged members to read the RAND report on its 2026 homeless count, which covered three areas and produced figures he described as radically different from LAHSA's count for the same areas. He noted that LAHSA has regained HUD funding and is again bidding on the count, the County is also bidding, and the City may bid as well. He has invited Councilmember Park, who is holding a virtual town hall on homelessness around October 22, to speak at the HOC's October 27 meeting about the City's direction; Michael Amster will confirm her availability. The HOC's recommended motion was taken up under Item 7b.

Vice-Chair Spitz requested board approval for the HOC to send a letter to RAND requesting information about whether RAND would be willing to continue or bid on its homeless count program. Handal clarified that the letter is a request for information, not a position letter. Marcy Agmon (WWNC alternate) explained that RAND's count had been funded by one of its board members, who has since redirected that funding, and expressed hope that the letter would encourage RAND to reconsider. Spitz explained that because committees may not use WRAC letterhead on their own, the letter will be issued on WRAC letterhead, likely signed by Chair Greenberg and Handal, and will be a request for information without stating a position. With no objections, the request was **approved** by unanimous consent.

5. Public Comment: There was none from non-member attendees on items NOT on the agenda.

6. Approval of Minutes

a. The August 17, 2026, meeting minutes were **approved** by 12-0-0, with no opposition or abstentions, as moved by Member Handal (WLASNC) and seconded by Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC). No discussion.

7. New Business

a. Motion to Add New Standing Rule No. 10 to WRAC Bylaws (Chris Spitz & Steve Sann)

Proposed Standing Rule 10: "Motions proposed by WRAC Committees may be made at WRAC meetings by such Committees whether or not the Committee's membership includes any voting WRAC board members (Voting Member/s). A second by a Voting Member is required if fewer than two Voting Members are members of the Committee proposing the motion. WRAC Committee motions shall not require a second if the Committee membership consists of at least two Voting Members."

Vice-Chair Spitz read the rule into the record and explained that under Robert's Rules, motions must be made by voting board members. The MTC, which does important work, has few or no voting members (Member Sann is an alternate), so a voting member has had to be found to make each of its motions; the former Land Use Committee had the same problem. The rule allows committees to make motions directly, with a second from a voting member required only if the committee has fewer than two voting members. The HOC has at least two voting members, so its motions would not need a second. Member Sann added that many committee participants, such as WCC's traffic expert Debbie Nussbaum, are knowledgeable but are not voting board members, and he called the rule a minor housekeeping change.

Member Broide (WNC alternate) asked whether allowing alternates to make or second motions had been considered. Spitz replied that because WRAC follows Robert's Rules, board members are required to make motions, and the proposed rule was viewed as the appropriate compromise. Sann agreed and suggested trying the rule and revisiting it in a year if needed. Spitz noted that if adopted, the rule would apply to Items 7b and 7c.

The motion was moved and seconded by its sponsors, Vice-Chair Spitz and Member Sann (both voting members). Member Plummer (SORONC) indicated he would vote against it, so Secretary Laferriere conducted a roll-call vote. Yes: BABCNC, BCC, DRNC, NCWP, PNC (cast in the Zoom chat), PPCC, WCC, WLASNC, WNC, WWNC. No: SORONC. Abstain: NWNC.

Motion **carried** by 10-1-1.

b. Motion for Approval of Letter to Mayoral & City Attorney Candidates (WRAC HOC; Jay Handal & Chris Spitz)

Request for WRAC Board approval of a letter informing the Mayoral and City Attorney candidates of WRAC's positions on homelessness and requesting that, if elected, they support and work with WRAC on homelessness matters consistent with those positions. Requested action: the Board approves the letter to be sent directly to the candidates, without further approval by Member Councils, as consistent with existing WRAC positions on homelessness. Proposed letter: https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/WRAC-Letter-Candidates-2026.pdf

Vice-Chair Spitz noted that under the newly adopted Standing Rule 10, the motion is made by the HOC, which has at least two voting members, so no second is needed. HOC Chair Handal explained that the letter compiles positions WRAC has already taken, drawn from prior meetings, minutes, and motions, and is advisory: it tells the candidates where WRAC stands and asks where they stand.

Kay Hartman (PNC) stated she would abstain because Palms NC does not agree with all of WRAC's homelessness positions. With no opposition and one abstention, the motion initially carried 10-0-1. Connor Webb (NWNC) then asked to be recorded as abstaining for similar reasons, noting that NWNC has taken positions contrary to some of WRAC's. Carolyn LoBuglio (BCC) also abstained. Secretary Laferriere revised the tally accordingly.

Motion **carried** by 9-0-3 (abstentions: BCC, NWNC, PNC).

Member Sann thanked Vice-Chair Spitz, with Handal's support, for compiling WRAC's homelessness positions dating back to 2016 into a single document. He noted that the letter shows WRAC's decade-long engagement on the issue to the incoming City Attorney and the next Mayor, whoever wins.

c. Motion to Reject Efforts to Weaken the Los Angeles Planning Commission's Citywide Sign Ordinance Version B+ in Light of the Reopening of Council File 11-1705: Citywide Sign Regulations / Revision (WRAC MTC)

Proposed motion text: "In light of the reopening of Council File 11-1705, the _____ CC/NC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils: 1) rejects efforts to weaken the previous version of the Citywide Sign Ordinance passed by the Los Angeles Planning Commission on October 22, 2015; and: 2) advocates for the City Council to revisit and adopt Version B+ of the Citywide Sign Ordinance as requested in the report from the Los Angeles City Planning Commission dated May 25, 2021."

The motion was made by the MTC under Standing Rule 10. Because the MTC has fewer than two voting members, a second was required; it was seconded by Member Sann (WCC).

At Kay Hartman's request, Member Broide (WNC alternate) provided background. CF 11-1705 dates to 2011, when the Planning Department recommended strengthening the 2002 sign ordinance. After public hearings, the City Planning Commission (CPC) recommended "Version B+," which would limit new billboards to designated sign districts and require larger takedowns of existing billboards in exchange for new digital billboards. The PLUM Committee, under then-Councilmembers José Huizar and Mitch Englander (both later imprisoned on unrelated corruption charges), spent eight years weakening those recommendations in favor of the sign industry. The Council ultimately adopted PLUM's version, which the CPC opposed by renewing its call for Version B+. The council file later expired, but Councilmember Blumenfield has recently moved to reopen it. Broide cautioned that during budget shortfalls the City is often lobbied to allow more billboards for revenue. She also noted related concerns: a forthcoming RFP for a digital advertising kiosk program (300–500 sidewalk kiosks) that would compete with ad revenue funding the City's STAP transit shelter program, and a proposal to raise revenue from temporary construction wall signs. More than 80 community impact statements opposed the PLUM version. When Hartman said she was confused by the multiple issues, Broide clarified that the motion addresses only the Citywide Sign Ordinance and encouraged councils to review their prior positions.

Member Plummer (SORONC) noted that SORONC would route such a matter through its land use committee. Broide responded that it is both a land use and a transportation issue, citing studies showing that digital billboards distract drivers and endanger pedestrians and cyclists.

Member Sann spoke in strong support. He described the outdoor advertising industry as one of the City's best-funded lobbies, recounted repeated litigation the City lost over inconsistent sign regulation, and cited past abuses, including the sign district for The Reef building downtown and a pending effort to create a single-building sign district at the Original Pantry.

Amendment: Vice-Chair Spitz noted that WRAC already supports Version B+, per its 2020 letter (linked on the agenda), which lists BABCNC, DRNC, WCC, WWNC, WNC, BCC, SORONC, PNC, MVCC, and PPCC (modified version) as having adopted that position. She moved to add a third paragraph stating that WRAC's position is in support of Version B+, citing the 2020 letter by date with a link. The amendment was seconded by Kay Hartman (PNC) and **carried** by 12-0-0.

Substitute Motion: Member Handal stated that because WRAC already took this position in 2020, it should simply resend its original position letter rather than circulate a new motion to Member Councils for another 90 days. He also cautioned that if councils that previously supported Version B+ now rejected it, WRAC could lose the ability to send its original letter at all. Handal moved that WRAC resend its 2020 Version B+ position letter to CF 11-1705 with a brief introductory cover letter; Carolyn LoBuglio (BCC) seconded. Member Sann supported this approach as quicker and more respectful of councils' time, suggesting the officers draft a short cover letter explaining how the matter arose. Spitz offered to work with Sann and Broide on the introduction and noted that, if the matter were sent to councils, a concise one-page summary would be needed in place of Broide's six-page background document. Broide suggested attaching councils' prior community impact statements; members agreed to keep the letter simple. Broide also noted that media outlets that once covered sign enforcement (LA Weekly, KCET's SoCal Connected) no longer do, so public education will be important.

Substitute motion **carried** by 12-0-0. WRAC will resend its 2020 letter supporting Version B+ with an introductory cover letter, without further action by Member Councils.

8. **Old Business** – None (no motions pending).

9. **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:26 p.m.

Before adjournment, Vice-Chair Spitz, on behalf of the officers, again thanked outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Laferriere, a former Chair of the Mar Vista Community Council, for his service. Laferriere confirmed he will help incoming Secretary/Treasurer Ruderman with Zoom and the website before the October 19 meeting.

Member Sann noted that the November election will bring a new City Attorney and a new State Senator for the 24th District, and possibly a new Mayor. He suggested holding future in-person breakfast meetings at Belmont, which has offered to continue as a community partner, to meet the newly elected officials over the next six to nine months. Spitz suggested discussing dates at the October meeting and noted that the January and February meeting dates may need to be shifted for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Presidents' Day holidays.

Member Plummer (SORONC) asked about an illegal sign Member Broide had mentioned in South Robertson. Broide identified temporary construction wall signs surrounding an operating business, Beverly Hills Auto Repair, at Venice and Robertson Boulevards, which she said are not a permitted use of such signs. She noted that the Office of Community Beautification has declined to release its list of legally permitted signs, and that such signs may discourage owners from leasing or developing their properties. Member Handal noted that the entire corner near the former Earl Scheib building is similarly wrapped, and he commented on the City's lack of enforcement generally. He closed by urging everyone to vote.

Next meeting to be held on **October 19, 2026**.