



CITY OF
LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

SPECIAL JOINT BOARD AND HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

This meeting of the West Hills Neighborhood Council Homelessness Committee will be conducted online via Zoom Webinar and telephonically. All are invited to attend and participate.

- **To attend online** via Zoom Webinar: Click or paste the following link into your browser:
<https://zoom.us/j/99821274207>
- **To call in by phone**, dial (669) 900-6833, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: **998 2127 4207**, then press #.

Comments on matters not on the agenda will be heard during the Public Comment period. Those who wish to speak on an agenda item will be heard when the item is considered

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| 1. Call to Order | 1 Minute |
| 2. Establish a quorum | 1 Minute |
| 3. Review and approval of minutes from June 15, 2020 meeting | 3 Minutes |
| 4. Comments from the Co-Chairs | 3 Minutes |
| 5. Report from Homeless Liaison, Marie | 3 Minutes |
| 6. Public Comment | 3 Minutes |
| 7. Debrief on WVNAH Virtual Town Hall- Olivia | 10 Minutes |
| 8. Discussion and possible action on updated Emergency/Bridge Housing letter to CD 12, Olivia | 10 Minutes |
| 9. Discussion and possible action on linking services to high profile, high emergency Utilizer – Thomas | 5 Minutes |
| 10. Update on positive local events, people and solutions related to homelessness, Aida | 2 Minutes |
| 11. Update, discussion and possible action on Supportive Housing, Bridge Housing and alternative housing options, West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness, Olivia, Tom, Aida | 2 Minutes |
| 12. Call for future agenda items | 1 Minute |
| 13. Adjourn - Next meeting is Monday August 17, 2020 at 6:00 pm on Zoom Virtual Mtg | 1 Minute |

Public Input: The public is requested to fill out a Speaker Card to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, an issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future committee meeting. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the committee.

Public Posting Of Agendas: WHNC agendas are posted for public review at Shadow Ranch Park, 22633 Vanowen St., West Hills, CA 91307 or at our website, www.westhillsnc.org. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to the City of Los Angeles Early Notification System at www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index.

The Americans With Disabilities Act: As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the WHNC's executive director via email at Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org If you are hearing impaired please call 711.

Public Access of Records: In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at the meeting where such writing was considered or by contacting the WHNC's executive director via email at Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org Requests can be made for a copy of a record related to an item on the agenda.

Reconsideration and Grievance Process: For information on the WHNC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the WHNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website, www.WestHillsNC.org.

Servicios De Traduccion: Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 15, 2020

Telephonic and Web Meeting

Revised June 18, 2020

Those in attendance: Aida Abkarians, Thomas Booth, Olivia Naturman, Brad Vanderhoof, Dan Brin, Cinnamoo, Kian Gholibeik, Corinne Ho, Marie Javdani, Saif Mogri, Steve Schutzhah, Joan Trent, Joseph Vargas, 818 ***983.

Committee Co-chair Olivia Naturman called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. A quorum was established. The minutes from the February meeting were approved with a correction to the spelling Smilaick.

Numbers refer to agenda items.

4. Chair Comments: Olivia said she is glad meetings have resumed. Aida reported the NPGs for emergency relief were approved.
5. Homeless Liaison: Marie said the homeless liaisons have not met and do not have a meeting scheduled.
6. Public Comment: Steve Shutzah, a local business owner, spoke about a construction site at 7621 Canoga Avenue. He feels the efforts to minimize disruption to neighboring businesses are inadequate. This will be added to the July agenda. Corinne announced an Ad Hoc Covid19 Recovery meeting will be held Sunday at 1:00 PM.
7. Discussion and possible action on approving Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021: Olivia presented a budget request for the 2021 Homeless Count.
Aida moved to approve. Joan seconded.
The motion passed unanimously.
8. Report on 2020 Homeless Count Results: Marie gave a report on the results released by LAHSA.
LA County had a 12.7% increase in individuals experiencing homelessness.
LA City had a 14% increase in individuals experiencing homelessness.
LA needs housing.
African Americans make up 8% of the general population and 34% of the homeless population.
An average wage of \$41.96/hour is needed to afford housing.
9. Discussion and possible action on updated emergency bridge housing to CD 12: Thomas showed a copy of the proposed letter.
10. Discussion and possible action on linking services to high profile, high emergency: The speaker planned for the meeting was not available. This will be rescheduled.
11. Update on positive local events, people and solutions related to homelessness: Thomas presented the WHAVNA project list.
12. Update, discussion and possible action on supportive housing, bridge housing, and alternative housing options: Item tabled to July.
13. Call for future agenda items: None.

Committee Co-chair Olivia adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

The next meeting of this committee is on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 6:00 PM. Webinar and telephonic.

Dear Council Member Lee:

The recently released 2020 LAHSA Homeless Count Report reveals a 19% increase in homelessness in LA County - SPA 2 since 2019¹, exacerbated by COVID-19 and the current economic recession. Though Council District 12 has begun to fulfill its 222 bed pledge, it is behind all other council districts' pace. With only eighty beds in the Canoga Park housing facility in Council District 3, and with emergency housing slated to close in a few months, a more robust and urgent plan to build permanent housing units is required in the West Valley. The continued growth of those living unhoused is putting our entire community at risk.

The current housing crisis demands innovative short-term and long-term solutions. In the immediate future, we respectfully propose an extension and expansion to the temporary shelters and a navigation center to provide relief for our unhoused neighbors who require shelter with proper social distance. Due to the high cost and time of building these shelters, bold leadership is needed in support for innovative, expedient, and affordable options such as Pallet Shelter housing on city or county-owned land. For the longer term, we request the creation of further bridge housing in CD 12, similar to plans in Council Districts 2, 3, and 7.

A person experiencing homelessness and living without shelter is in immediate danger. The mortality rate of people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles is more than double that of the general population.² Each day there is an average of three deaths of unhoused people in Los Angeles. The number of deaths annually of unhoused doubled from 2013 to 2018, with more dying from COVID-19 in the past four months. Additionally, black people are four times as likely to experience homelessness³ and an increased death due to racial inequalities in housing and the health-care system. Providing shelter immediately will reduce costs of the current high utilization of emergency services being provided, decrease public safety risks and, most importantly, give safe harbor for those in need of housing.

We appreciate your leadership and pledge our commitment of support in reaching these humanitarian goals of equity and ending homelessness for the benefit of our entire community. Please act now to address this ongoing crisis and suffering by directing the creation of further interim and permanent supportive housing in Council District 12.

¹ "2020 Homeless County SPA 2 Data Summary." *2020 HOMELESS COUNTY SPA 2 DATA SUMMARY*, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, 6 July 2020, www.lahsa.org/documents?id=4571-2020-homeless-county-spa-2-data-summary.

² Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Center for Health Impact Evaluation, Recent Trends In Mortality Rates and Causes of Death Among People Experiencing Homelessness in Los Angeles County, October 2019 http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/chie/reports/HomelessMortality_CHIEBrief_Final.pdf

³ "2020 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Presentation." *2020 GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT RESULTS*, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, 6 July 2020, www.lahsa.org/documents?id=4558-2020-greater-los-angeles-homeless-count-presentation.