

City Partner Reports

5/19/2022

Office of Mayor Garcetti (Vishesh Anand):

Can you please direct people to tinyurl.com/westarea22 during my turn on the agenda? I'll be using this website to update stakeholders on important updates from the City as well as any exciting events and engagement opportunities in the West Area.

Please feel free to have folks email me directly if they have any questions.

Best regards,



Vishesh Anand

West Area Representative

Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs

vishesh.anand@lacity.org

tinyurl.com/westarea22



[VIEW AAPI LA Events](#)

Office of State Assemblymember Bryan:

Up in Sacramento, the Assemblymember has passed all of [his bills](#) through their policy committees, and now they are going through Appropriations. Bills will have until the end of this week to get through Appropriations and head to the floor, where they can be voted on by the entire Assembly. If they pass, they will head to the Senate.

District highlights: the Assemblymember was honored at the Upton Sinclair Dinner, the annual Liberty Hill Foundation event, held this year at the Skirball Center. Recently, he spoke to a group of interns and employees at iFoster, an organization which connects foster youth to services and job training. He spoke to iFoster about his bill, AB 1861, the

foster youth employment tax credit. Last week, our office co-hosted Westwood Connect Day to connect the unhoused in the neighborhood to services, and the Assemblymember spoke at the LA Climate Equity panel discussing his bill, AB 2419, the Justice 40 Act. This past weekend, we had a booth at the Palms Neighborhood Community Block Party and attended the Bans Off Our Bodies rally. On Monday (today), our office attended the ribbon cutting of the new PATH Montclair Villas, which has almost filled up its affordable units with tenants from the coordinated entry system. If you have an event you'd like to invite the Assemblymember to, please fill out the request form [here](#) and let me know you've submitted it so I can flag it. Thank you and have a good rest of the month!

Michelle Persoff

Field Representative

Assemblymember Isaac Bryan, District 54

Michelle.persoff@asm.ca.gov

(310) 641- 5410

Office of County Supervisor Kuehl:

Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program

As if we needed any more evidence, reports of a leaked Supreme Court draft opinion that would overturn Roe v Wade have made it even more clear that access to abortion services across this country will soon be greatly eroded. This is an incredibly dark time for women's rights, and, while we grieve the shameful circumstances that have led us to this point, we must also turn swiftly and decisively to action.

This week, the Board passed a motion Supervisor Kuehl co-authored with Supervisor Holly Mitchell to support SB 1245 (Kamlager), a bill that would establish a reproductive healthcare pilot project in this County to safeguard patient access to abortions, regardless of residency, as we will likely see a surge in demand from women who live in neighboring states as those states expand their abortion bans.

As our departments and program partners continue to hone our best ideas, we need bills like SB 1254 and the financial support it would offer to prepare for a post-Roe world and provide a safe haven for women who need to access to safe, legal abortion services.

Implementing the Recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission

The Board passed a motion this week on a 3-2 vote, opposed by Supervisor Kuehl, implementing the numerous recommendations of the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness.

All members of the Board agree that we want to help get our homeless neighbors into homes. However, Supervisor Kuehl couldn't support this motion for a number of reasons. The bulk of the

recommendations amount to little more than moving positions around, transferring and reducing outreach efforts now being done by experienced groups, establishing more layers of responsibility and wasting more time. Sort of like rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic and believing it will keep the ship from sinking.

The solution to homelessness is homes, permanent homes, with the support to help people stay housed. Supervisor Kuehl looks forward to a larger commitment to affordable housing and continuing outreach by those who do it best.

Implementing a New Homelessness Initiative Framework to End Homelessness in LA County

On the other hand, in order to address the ever-changing homelessness crisis, Supervisor Kuehl strongly supported a motion by Supervisor Janice Hahn and Kathryn Barger to implement a new framework based on the reassessment of the Homeless Initiative's strategies to end homelessness.

The motion includes thoughtful, practical, and concrete guidance on how to prevent people from falling into homelessness and rehouse people quickly. It builds on the most successful aspects of LA County's current work while streamlining our set of strategies to create a more efficient system overall. The new framework focuses on three key partners – Rehousing Systems, Mainstream County Government Systems, and Partnerships with Cities. For each partner, five categories of action are defined: Coordinate, Prevent, Connect, House, and Stabilize.

Supporting Incarcerated Youth

Supervisor Kuehl is pleased that the Board passed her motion, co-authored by Supervisor Solis, to support AB 2417, which sets forth and incorporates the Incarcerated Youth Bill of Rights.

We have a better chance of keeping youth from continuing to cycle in and out of jail into their adulthood if we model good behavior by treating them in a fair way that allows them to achieve rehabilitation, which benefits society as a whole.

Examples of rights included in AB 2417 include:

- Right to live in a safe, healthy, and clean environment conducive to treatment and rehabilitation
- Right to contact attorneys, access ombudspersons and other advocates regarding conditions of confinement or violation of rights
- Right to receive a quality education, including postsecondary academic and career technical education
- Right to contact with family, siblings, children, and other individuals that have a positive influence and provide social connection
- Right to receive adequate and healthy nutrition and hygiene
- Right to receive information about their rights as parents

These rights can and should be the minimum standard in our LA County facilities, so, in addition, we won't wait to find out if AB 2417 passes. In LA County, the Bill of Rights will immediately be posted and explained to youth at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall and one camp chosen by the Probation Department.

Santa Susana Field Lab Clean Up

For more than two decades, elected officials and community leaders concerned about the impact on the health of hundreds of thousands of County residents have advocated for a full cleanup of the highly contaminated toxic chemical and radioactive waste site located at the former Santa Susana Field Lab near the western edge of the San Fernando Valley. In 2007 and 2010, legally binding agreements were signed requiring full cleanup by 2017, but cleanup has been delayed by repeated attempts to delay and weaken the cleanup standards at the site. Five years after the required soil cleanup was scheduled to have been completed, it hasn't even begun.

At this week's Board meeting, we said loudly and unequivocally: enough is enough. The Board took the unprecedented step of directing LA County Counsel to work with other affected jurisdictions and nonprofits to explore potential legal action to ensure that the 2007 and 2010 agreements are carried out, and a full cleanup is completed as soon as possible.

[Additional Resources](#)

[StayHousedLA.org](#) -

Stay Housed LA is a partnership between the County of Los Angeles and local community and legal services providers. The site provides Los Angeles County residents with information and resources to keep people in their homes. At the Stay Housed LA website, you can find out more about your rights by participating in a virtual tenant workshop, get the legal assistance you need, and sign up for updates to stay keyed into LA County's evolving housing climate.

[VaccinateLACounty.com](#) -

Vaccinate LA County is your one stop shop for vaccine information. You can find a site nearby, learn about the vaccines, data, and find information on mobile and homebound vaccinations. Please reach out if you have specific questions - our office is here to help.

[ReopeningLACounty.com](#) -

For best practices for businesses, information regarding COVID-19, the current Health Officer Order, and more –

ReopeningLACounty.com has information to help you stay healthy, safe and informed.

Rachel Sherrell (*She/Her/Hers*)

Field Deputy, West/Metro LA Field Office

O: 310.231.1170

C: 323.719.2812

[Web](#)/[Facebook](#)/[Twitter](#)

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Freddy Cupen-Ames):

Below is the EmpowerLA report that I will be sending to SORO NC Board Members, if you would like to add this as a supplemental in the website, you are more than welcome to do so:

CONFLICT OF INTEREST ANNOUNCEMENT

Any Board Member who may have a conflict of interest and has not consulted with the Office of the City Attorney should move to have the matter tabled until the next meeting so that the Board Member has an opportunity to consult with the City Attorney's Office. If the Board declines to table the matter, the Board Member may want to consider recusal prior to the matter being discussed. If choosing to recuse, the Board Member should state for the record, all reasons for the recusal and that they will be leaving the meeting during the discussion and voting. Because recusal may not always be sufficient, tabling of the matter at issue is always preferred to allow time for the Board Member to consult with the City Attorney's Office.

Dear Neighborhood Council Leaders,

On April 7th, Mayor Eric Garcetti and City Council President Nury Martinez announced that City Hall will reopen to the public on Wednesday, May 4th.

Along with the reopening of City Hall, City Council will also resume in-person meetings. Proof of vaccination or proof of a negative test within the last 72 hours will be required to enter the building and indoor masking will continue to be required.

City Council Committees, Commission meetings, and other Brown Act meetings managed by City departments will remain virtual as departments fine-tune hybrid options. Special events and group tours will remain unavailable at City Hall until further notice.

Neighborhood Council Elections 2023: it starts now

To assist you with the 2023 elections outreach planning, I will be scheduling individualized one-on-one outreach sessions with your outreach chairs and committee. During these meetings, we will review election outreach efforts from 2019 and 2021; talk about the NC Awareness and Engagement Survey results for your neighborhood; and see how we can help you plan for a successful 2023 elections. These sessions will be scheduled between March and June of 2022. Please take board action to assemble your outreach committee and prepare recommendations to the Department.

Access to CORE institute training recording and Material

If you missed the opportunity to attend the on-boarding trainings, the Political and Legislative

Workshop Hosting Candidate Forums Presentation or the Community Impact Statement (CIS) Town Hall, don't hesitate to have a look at our webpage dedicated to Workshops and Trainings: <https://empowerla.org/workshops-trainings/>. And if you attended, don't hesitate to revisit it!

Digital Communications Policy

Commission reconsiders and passes Digital Communications Policy for NCs

Policy takes effect October 2022 after six-month training period.

On April 5, 2022, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners voted first to reconsider and then to adopt the Digital Communications Policy for Neighborhood Councils.

Six months after the effective date, at the first Commission meeting in **April 2023**, the Department will then submit a report to the Commission on its experiences and observations implementing the policy in the NC System. At that time, based on the findings presented, the Commission may decide to further refine the policy before it officially takes effect.

The final version of the policy as adopted will be available soon in the Google Drive folder containing all documents pertaining to this policy, at <http://tiny.cc/DigitalCommsPolicy>.

Camera's During Zoom Meetings

The Department receives a number of inquiries from board members and stakeholders asking if NC board members are required to have their camera turned on during meetings. The answer is: No, board members are not required to turn on their camera during a meeting. However, board members should consider having their camera on because:

- It improves engagement in the meeting and can decrease the urge to multi-task or zone out.
- It helps board members connect with each other and their stakeholders. Virtual "face-to-face" interaction can never replace an in-person connection, but in a virtual meeting environment it can help put a face to the name on screen.

Neighborhood councils who would like to adopt a standing rule that requires board members to turn on their video, may do so by adding the item to the next board agenda for discussion and action.

Neighborhood Council Core Institute Update

The next two sessions of the NC Core Institutes will be held in May. On **Tuesday, May 31, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**, we will be hosting a workshop on the Brown Act. Our second workshop will be on **Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.** in collaboration with Susan Leahy of Robert's Rules Made Simple on How to Chair a Meeting with Confidence (date TBD). Registration information will be sent in a future newsletter.

Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods Updates

- **Save the Date:** The 2022 [Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods](#), the largest annual gathering of Neighborhood Councils, is taking place on **Saturday, September 24, 2022**, via Zoom. The theme of this year's event is **"The Future of LA: Celebrating our City"**
- The workshop application is now open. Submit a workshop proposal by **June 15th** at www.tinyurl.com/CoN22workshop

NC Funding Training

March and April Training Dates:

- 1) NC Financial Officer Funding Training:
 - Thursday, May 5th, 2022, 2pm - 3:30pm
 - Thursday, May 19th, 2022, 6pm - 7:30pm
- 2) NC Funding Fiscal Year Administrative Packet/Annual Budget Form Workshop
 - Thursday, May 5th, 2022, 2pm - 3:30pm
 - Thursday, May 19th, 2022, 6pm - 7:30pm

Please RSVP at our website [HERE](#)

The NC Funding Program training sessions are open to all Board members as well as stakeholders. These are the required training for board members serving as Financial Officers (Treasurer, 2nd Signer, Bank Cardholder, Alternate Signer). Other Board members may also complete the training online on Cornerstone. Feel free to reach out to me if you have trouble logging in Cornerstone.

The Admin Packet Is Ready

The Administrative Packet for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 is now available. The Admin Packet allows your Board to plan and create its annual budget, assign its Financial Officers, and confirm any administrative/operational services, i.e. storage space, website support, for the upcoming Fiscal Year.

Please visit our website ([click here](#)) to download the Packet. You'll find it in the Documents and Forms - Funding Request Documents section.

To gain access to your annual funds by the start of the Fiscal Year, July 1st, plan on submitting your Admin Packet by July 1st.

NCs that have not submitted an annual budget and Administrative Packet to the NC Funding Program will be limited to \$333.00/month for Office/Operational expenditures only.

Fiscal Dates

For the purposes of accounting and reconciliation, the following fiscal dates must be followed:

- May 20 - Final date to request an event approval for the current fiscal year using current fiscal year funds;
- June 1 - Final date to submit a check payment request using current fiscal year funds
- June 20 - Final day for any bank card transactions using current fiscal year funds.
