

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



**Palms Neighborhood Council  
Representative Assembly**

Eryn Piper Block, President  
Randell Erving, Vice President  
Helen Tocco, Secretary  
David Bocarsly, Treasurer  
Brendan Patterson, Community Org. Rep.  
Kay Hartman, Residential Rep. A  
Danya White, Residential Rep. B  
Scott Chase, Residential Rep. C  
Jessalyn Waldron, Residential Rep. D  
Kristen Chiarello, Residential Rep. E  
Eliot Hochberg, Business Rep. 1  
Josh Nadel, Business Rep. 2  
VACANT, Youth Representative

10008 National Blvd. #210  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Email: [info@palmsnc.la](mailto:info@palmsnc.la)  
[www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la)  
[@palmsnc](https://www.facebook.com/PalmsNC)

**PALMS NEIGHBORHOOD  
COUNCIL**

**Representative Assembly General Meeting Agenda  
Wednesday, January 6th 2021 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Zoom Meeting Online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88135781814>  
or by telephone, Dial +1 669 900 6833 to join the meeting  
Then enter this Webinar ID: 881 3578 1814 and press #**

The toll free call-in numbers are: (833) 548-0276, (833) 548-0282, (877) 858-5257, and (888) 475-4499

**Press \*9 to raise hand for public comment**

*The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.*

**VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Palms Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically.*

*Every person wishing to address the Neighborhood Council must dial +1 669 900 6833 and enter 881 3578 1814 and then press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting*

**I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

- a. Call to Order (Block)
- b. Roll Call (Tocco)

**II. COMMUNITY & GOVERNMENT REPORTS**

- a. Office of Councilmember Paul Koretz – Elizabeth Garcia [Elizabeth.garcia@lacity.org](mailto:Elizabeth.garcia@lacity.org)
- b. Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti – Kevin Taylor [kevin.taylor@lacity.org](mailto:kevin.taylor@lacity.org)
- c. LA Police Department – Juan Ceja
- d. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment – Freddy Cupen-Ames [freddy.cupen-ames@lacity.org](mailto:freddy.cupen-ames@lacity.org)
- e. Office of State Senator Holly Mitchell – Lily Sofiani [lily.sofiani@sen.ca.gov](mailto:lily.sofiani@sen.ca.gov)
- f. Office of State Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager– Kasey Kokenda [kasey.kokenda@asm.ca.gov](mailto:kasey.kokenda@asm.ca.gov)

- g. Other Government Departments and Community Organizations
  - i. Budget Advocates Report (3 minutes)
  - ii. Motor Avenue Improvement Association (3 minutes)
  - iii. Updates from Councilmember Koretz' Transportation Team

### III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. **Palms NC Election Important Dates:**
  - i. Candidate Filing : **Feb 6-March 23, 2021**
  - ii. Mail-in Ballot Requests : **April 9 – June 1, 2021**
  - iii. Ballots Sent Out: **May 10, 2021**
  - iv. Election Date: **June 8, 2021**

### IV. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS & MULTIPLE AGENDA ITEM PUBLIC COMMENT (10 minutes)

### V. CONSENT AGENDA (2 minutes)

- a. **MOTION:** To approve minutes from 12/2/2020 General Assembly meeting. [[Click here](#) for minutes]
- b. **MOTION:** To appoint Hannah Murphy as member of the H&PS Committee
- c. **MOTION:** To appoint Jeremiah Crane as Elections Point Person for the June NC Election
- d. **MOTION:** To appoint Tina Chinakarn as Co-chair of the Elections Committee
- e. **MOTION:** To appoint Josh Nadel to the list of individuals submitting CIS motions for the Palms NC. [*see supplementals for application*]
- f. **MOTION:** To recognize the invaluable contributions that Father Vincent Shamo has made to the Palms Community, and to offer our sincerest condolences to his family and the community of St. Mary's-in-Palms Episcopal Church [*see supplementals for our written condolences*]

### VI. BOARD REPORTS & COMMUNITY RECOGNITION (10 minutes – 1 minute each)

- a. **President's Report** (Block – [eryn.block@palmsnc.la](mailto:eryn.block@palmsnc.la))
  - i. **FUNDING MOTION:** To approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for \$5000 for the LA Regional Food Bank (LARFB) [*see supplementals for full application*]
  - ii. **MOTION:** To authorize the Palms NC to submit a CIS in opposition to the proposed spending of the \$150 million taken from the LAPD fund - [CF 20-0600-S83](#) – and to submit a complementary letter to the Mayor's office in support of his veto of the proposed spending plan. [*see supplementals for CIS*]
- b. **Treasurer's Report** (Bocarsly – [david.bocarsly@palmsnc.la](mailto:david.bocarsly@palmsnc.la))
  - i. **MOTION:** To approve the November Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) [*See supplemental materials for summary – full report available [here](#)*]
- c. **Vice-President's Report** (Erving – [randell.erving@palmsnc.la](mailto:randell.erving@palmsnc.la))
- d. **Secretary's Report** (Tocco – [helen.tocco@palmsnc.la](mailto:helen.tocco@palmsnc.la))
- e. **Community-Based Organization Rep** (Patterson – [brendan.patterson@palmsnc.la](mailto:brendan.patterson@palmsnc.la))
- f. **Residential Rep. A** (Hartman – [kay.hartman@palmsnc.la](mailto:kay.hartman@palmsnc.la))
- g. **Residential Rep. B** (White – [danya.white@palmsnc.la](mailto:danya.white@palmsnc.la))
- h. **Residential Rep. C** (Chase – [scott.chase@palmsnc.la](mailto:scott.chase@palmsnc.la))
- i. **Residential Rep. D** (Waldron – [jessalyn.waldron@palmsnc.la](mailto:jessalyn.waldron@palmsnc.la))
- j. **Residential Rep. E** (Chiarello – [kristen.chiarello@palmsnc.la](mailto:kristen.chiarello@palmsnc.la))

- k. **Business Rep. 1** (Hochberg – [eliot.hochberg@palmsnc.la](mailto:eliot.hochberg@palmsnc.la))
- l. **Business Rep. 2** (Nadel – [josh.nadel@palmsnc.la](mailto:josh.nadel@palmsnc.la))
- m. **Youth Rep** (Penland – [jordan.penland@palmsnc.la](mailto:jordan.penland@palmsnc.la))

## VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS & COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

- a. **Transportation & Infrastructure**
- b. **Business and Beautification**
- c. **Racial and Social Justice**
- d. **Communications & Outreach**
- e. **Green**
  - i. **FUNDING MOTION:** To authorize the Palms NC to spend up to \$520 to make "Happy Art Kits" for neighborhood children.
- f. **Homelessness & Public Safety**
- g. **Planning & Land Use**
  - i. **MOTION:** To approve the proposed development project at 10011 Washington Blvd. with the following conditions. We have a construction impact mitigation plan, we can have feedback on pedestrian level lighting design, the project provides a bus shelter and paints the utility box. [[Click here](#) for the case file. [Click here](#) for the presentation.]
  - ii. **MOTION:** To approve the proposed development project at 10401 Washington Blvd. with the following conditions. The project provides plans for the landscape architecture, provides a bus shelter, and presents a plan for pedestrian level lighting. [[Click here](#) for the case file. [Click here](#) for the presentation.]
- h. **Executive**
- i. **Venice Blvd Improvement**
- j. **Elections Ad Hoc Committee**

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **MOTION:** The Palms NC supports the position that Neighborhood Councils are not prohibited from communicating with non-City of Los Angeles government representatives and/or staff not with entities other than those within the City, regarding issues impacting their neighborhoods; and that Neighborhood Councils are free to discuss any issues of local concern.
- b. **MOTION:** To authorize the Palms NC to submit a CIS in approval to the expansion of the APRU program from 4 to 11 & investigation of including mental health and social workers into the 911 system - [CF 20-0769-S1](#)
- c. **MOTION:** To authorize the Palms NC to submit a CIS in approval to the request of a report for LAPD regarding their usage of the COMPSTAT system and what updates could be done to it- [CF 20-0776](#)
- d. **MOTION:** To authorize the Palms NC to submit a CIS in approval to the request for the city Council and Mayor to fill out a pre-approved federal grant application for funds to deal with the LAPD backlog of DNA testing - [CF 20-1590](#)
- e. **MOTION:** To authorize the Palms NC to submit a CIS in approval to the request of a report due within 30 days from the LAPD investigating how racial profiling complaints are handled - [CF 20-1599](#)
- f. **MOTION:** To authorize the Palms NC to submit a CIS in approval to BONC regarding changing the bylaws process as currently implemented by DONE for NCs
- g. **MOTION:** To authorize the Palms NC to submit a CIS in approval to the City Council, the Department of Public Works and the Department of Street Lighting regarding starting

an investigation into using the Superbloom project to raise City funds

IX. **NOTICE:** Next GA Meeting will be Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00PM

X. **Adjournment** (End time is approximately 9:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter)

---

Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the President. Public comment will be taken for each motion as well as for any item in the consent agenda prior to Board action. The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Assembly on any item of the agenda prior to the Assembly taking 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 is within the Assembly's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 1 to 2 minutes per speaker, at the discretion of or unless waived by the Assembly. In the interest of addressing all items on the agenda, time limits for individual comments and discussion may be set at the discretion of the President. All items on the consent agenda will be determined by a single Committee vote and without Committee discussion. Committee members may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually at any time prior to that vote.

Per Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Policy #2014-01, agendas are posted for public review at: 1) Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave.; 2) Palms Neighborhood Council website, [www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la).

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 Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave, at our website: [www.palmsla.org](http://www.palmsla.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

Palms NC Board and Committee members abide by a code of civility (<http://empowerla.org/code-of-conduct/>). Any person who interferes with the conduct of a Neighborhood Council meeting by willfully interrupting and/or disrupting the meeting is subject to removal. A peace officer may be requested to assist with the removal should any person fail to comply with an order of removal by the Neighborhood Council. Any person who resists removal by a peace officer is subject to arrest and prosecution pursuant to California Penal Code Section 403.

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, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 DIAS DE TRABAJO (72 HORAS) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

Whereas, a Community Impact Statement is an official statement adopted by a Neighborhood Council on issues pending before the City Council, its committees, or City commissions,

Whereas, up to five board members can be authorized through a board resolution to write and submit Community Impact Statements through the City Clerk's online web system at <http://cityclerk.lacity.org/cis>.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Palms Neighborhood Council authorizes the following board member(s) to SUBMIT Community Impact Statements which have been passed by a vote of the full board:

Name	Email address	Phone No.
Eryn Piper Block	<a href="mailto:Eryn.block@palmnc.la">Eryn.block@palmnc.la</a>	541-521-1262
Brendan Patterson	<a href="mailto:Brendan.Patterson@palmsnc.la">Brendan.Patterson@palmsnc.la</a>	310-905-7299
Helen Tocco	<a href="mailto:Helen.Tocco@palmsnc.la">Helen.Tocco@palmsnc.la</a>	301-351-9057
Josh Nadel	<a href="mailto:Josh.Nadel@palmsnc.la">Josh.Nadel@palmsnc.la</a>	310-418-7603
Kay Hartman	<a href="mailto:Kay.hartman@palmsnc.la">Kay.hartman@palmsnc.la</a>	310-633-4322

Be it further resolved, in cases where an issue is moving quickly through the legislative process and a promptly issued statement is beneficial, the aforementioned board members are authorized to also WRITE and SUBMIT Community Impact Statements which express positions previously voted upon by the full board.

**Remembering Father Vincent Shamo. May he rest in peace.**

The Palms community has lost an invaluable leader this year. Father Vincent Shamo was the Rector of St. Mary in Palms Episcopal Church, a founding member of the Palms Emergency Preparedness Coalition, and a generous, compassionate leader of this community.

Father Vincent Shamo was originally from Ghana in West Africa. He spent several years as a monk in the Order of the Holy Cross before he was called to parish ministry. Prior to his arrival at St. Mary In Palms in 2005, Father Shamo served at St. James in Koreatown, St. Clements in Berkeley, and St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church. He also was part of the Episcopal campus ministry at U.C. Irvine.

Father Shamo will be dearly missed. He was the first to step up when anything was needed in the Palms community. He had a warm smile and a welcoming presence, making this neighborhood a community and a home for all of us. Those of us on the Palms Neighborhood Council who spent time with Father Shamo were incredibly fortunate to be in his presence.

The Palms Neighborhood Council sends our deepest condolences to the family, friends and church community of Father Shamo. We strive to follow in his footsteps of service and dedication to the Palms community and are deeply thankful for his community contributions, partnership and friendship.

January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Honorable Members of the City Council  
c/o City Clerk  
200 North Spring Street, Room 395  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CF 20-0600-S83 Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget/ Los Angeles Police Department / Reinvest Funds for Impacted Communities

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council,

The Palms Neighborhood Council supports Mayor Garcetti's veto of the City Council's proposal for the reallocation of \$150 million from LAPD. The proposed plan from the City Council rightly focused the funding on communities most impacted by injustice and structural racism, but, as the Mayor stated, this moment calls for transformative action, not business as usual. The city should allocate these funds toward revolutionary initiatives that begin to honor the convictions and dreams of the racial justice movement that swept our city and our nation this summer.

The Mayor has outlined his recommendations for these funds. We have included comments defining the conditions under which we support these recommendations.

*Promoting community engagement through pilot programs related to justice and equity with local organizations.*

We hope that the organizations chosen for these pilot programs are led by impacted populations – especially Black and Brown folks in areas that have been impacted by police brutality. These organizations shall be treated as equal partners or leaders in any initiatives, not just superficial partnerships where the city continues to hold most of the power.

*Protecting jobs for the most vulnerable City employees, especially those from Targeted Local Hire, who are mostly people of color.*

We agree with this recommendation.

*Taking strong action to restore peace in neighborhoods that are weathering increases in violence, by accelerating and expanding intervention and prevention work.*

The best way to decrease violence is to decrease (or better yet, eradicate) poverty. The city has long allowed structural racism to dictate which parts of the city flourish while others are left to suffer. Part of this “strong action” should include an honest and transparent reckoning of how the city of Los Angeles has reinforced and enabled racial inequity and poverty.

*Fund a 24-hour, unarmed crisis response program to dispatch mental health workers to non-violent 911 calls.*

**The system shall be distinct from law enforcement:** As the City develops a new system to respond to non-violent calls for service, it is imperative that this system explicitly supplants the original police system of response. The system cannot be housed within or associated with the LAPD; it should rely exclusively on professionals outside of law enforcement including healthcare providers and social workers.

**The system shall be developed through a community-based participatory process:** Echoing the motto “nothing about us without us,” the new person-centered system must involve the input of community stakeholders including individual residents, community-based organizations, and local organizers such as the People’s Budget LA coalition. Specifically, the City must engage in continuous dialogue with Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color to ensure our new system of public safety is advancing racial justice and meeting the needs of all Angelenos.

To truly meet this moment, the city will have to do a lot more than properly allocate these funds, which are merely a drop in the bucket compared to what will be necessary to build a more just LA that is safe and healthy for all its residents. However, using these funds properly is an important step in the right direction—it represents a statement of our City’s values and serves as a model for future funding decisions. We strongly urge the City Council to propose a new funding plan in alignment with the above recommendations.

Sincerely,

Eryn Piper Block  
President, Palms Neighborhood Council

CC: Mayor Eric Garcetti



# Monthly Expenditure Report



Reporting Month: November 2020 Budget Fiscal Year: 2020-2021

NC Name: Palms Neighborhood Council

Monthly Cash Reconciliation					
Beginning Balance	Total Spent	Remaining Balance	Outstanding	Commitments	Net Available
\$41932.36	\$503.17	\$41429.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41429.19

Monthly Cash Flow Analysis					
Budget Category	Adopted Budget	Total Spent this Month	Unspent Budget Balance	Outstanding	Net Available
Office	\$30000.00	\$493.17	\$26179.64	\$0.00	\$26179.64
Outreach		\$10.00		\$0.00	
Elections		\$0.00		\$0.00	
Community Improvement Project	\$4000.00	\$0.00	\$3000.00	\$0.00	\$3000.00
Neighborhood Purpose Grants	\$8000.00	\$0.00	\$-1000.00	\$0.00	\$-1000.00
Funding Requests Under Review: \$0.00		Encumbrances: \$0.00		Previous Expenditures: \$13317.19	

Expenditures						
#	Vendor	Date	Description	Budget Category	Sub-category	Total
1	GOOGLE GSUITE_palmsla	11/01/2020	Email Account - **To come from encumbered funds designated for Google LLC**	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$147.47
2	MAILCHIMP MISC	11/03/2020	Mailchimp monthly fee - **to come from encumbered funds designated for Mailchimp ? The Rocket Science Group, LLC**	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$30.99
3	FACEBK AZ6LUX6MM2	11/05/2020	General Facebook Ad	General Operations Expenditure	Outreach	\$10.00
4	WWW.1AND1.COM	11/07/2020	Website Hosting Support - **To come from encumbered funds dedicated for 1&1 IONOS, Inc.**	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$8.71
5	PSS NATIONAL BLVD.,LLC	11/15/2020	Storage Unit - **To come from encumbered funds directed to Price Self Storage National Blvd, LLC**	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$261.00
6	HOO HOOTSUITE INC	11/16/2020	To approve funding for the Palms NC HootSuite Professional account at no more than \$50/month	General Operations Expenditure	Office	\$45.00
<b>Subtotal:</b>						<b>\$503.17</b>

Outstanding Expenditures						
#	Vendor	Date	Description	Budget Category	Sub-category	Total
	<b>Subtotal: Outstanding</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>

January 6, 2021

Los Angeles City Council  
Ad Hoc Committee on Police Reform  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N Spring St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Council File: 20-0769-S1

Dear Council Members,

The Palms Neighborhood Council (Palms NC), at a Brown act publicly noticed meeting dated January 6, 2021, moved to approve the following Community Impact Statement

Council File 20-0769-S1

(<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0769-S1>) asks for the LAFD & CAO to present a plan to expand the Advanced Provider Response Units (APRU) from 4 to 11 in order to cover more of the City to deal with non-violent & non-emergency that LAPD would normally deal with. It also asks for a report on resources needed to integrate mental health and social work professionals into APRUs to respond to a greater volume of usage.

Eugene, Oregon has a program called CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets) that this initiative is being based upon. The Chief Legislative Analyst put out a report on 9/18/20 ([https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-0769\\_rpt\\_CLA\\_09-18-2020.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-0769_rpt_CLA_09-18-2020.pdf)) detailing the history and success of this program. The program has been in place for 20+ years. They deal with non-violent & non-emergency 911 calls. They use 2% of the Eugene PD budget but handle 17% of the calls for Eugene PD. If those numbers were duplicated for LAPD, that net 15% savings on the \$1.86 billion LAPD budget would result in a \$279 million savings.

The Palms NC supports this council file asking for a presentation about the feasibility of a CAHOOTS type program for Los Angeles. It provides more appropriate care at a more reasonable cost.

January 6, 2021

Los Angeles City Council  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N Spring St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Council File: 20-0776

Dear Council Members,

The Palms Neighborhood Council (Palms NC), at a Brown act publicly noticed meeting dated January 6, 2021, moved to approve the following Community Impact Statement

Council File 20-0776

(<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0776>)

asks for LAPD to report on their internal policies for warrants to conduct searches and policies that could be enacted to encourage seeking warrants, even when legal workarounds exist.

Seeking warrants should always be the standard that the LAPD uses when doing their work. It is especially important when conducting searches because that the fairest process for all parties involved. Dangerous situations can easily arise from conducting searches and without the proper legal requirements being met, the City then becomes liable for massive damages. This is both a moral and fiscally important matter and should be treated with the highest level of priority for implementation.

The Palms NC supports this council file asking for LAPD to report on their internal policies for warrants to conduct searches and policies that could be enacted to encourage seeking warrants, even when legal workarounds exist.

January 6, 2021

Los Angeles City Council  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N Spring St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Council File: 20-1590

Dear Council Members,

The Palms Neighborhood Council (Palms NC), at a Brown act publicly noticed meeting dated January 6, 2021, moved to approve the following Community Impact Statement

Council File 20-1590

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1590>

asks for the City Council and the Mayor to legally retroactively apply for a federal grant that LAPD has been pre-approved for to help deal with their backlog in DNA testing and to enhance their capacity for DNA testing going forward.

Many people of color are needlessly in jail for crimes they never committed but have not yet had a chance for exonerating DNA tests to prove their innocence. Helping to deal with the backlog will facilitate this process. In regards to these funds, the priority should be for DNA testing for inmates asking for DNA testing in regards to exoneration of their charges.

The Palms NC supports this council file of the telling the City Council & Mayor to do whatever is needed to get these federal funds for LAPD

January 6, 2021

Los Angeles City Council  
Public Safety Committee  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N Spring St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Council File: 20-1599

Dear Council Members,

The Palms Neighborhood Council (Palms NC), at a Brown act publicly noticed meeting dated January 6, 2021, moved to approve the following Community Impact Statement

Council File 20-1599

(<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1599>) asks for LAPD to produce a report on its standards for investigating racial profiling complaints. It ask for relevant data within 30 days. It asks for the implementation of the Office of the Inspector General's 10/22/20 report's recommendations. ([https://a27e0481-a3d0-44b8-8142-1376cfbb6e32.filesusr.com/ugd/b2dd23\\_d3e88738022547acb55f3ad9dd7a1dcb.pdf](https://a27e0481-a3d0-44b8-8142-1376cfbb6e32.filesusr.com/ugd/b2dd23_d3e88738022547acb55f3ad9dd7a1dcb.pdf))

The OIG's report says the following items should be implemented:

- 1) Limit pretextual stops
- 2) Consider the effects of crime fighting strategies on community trust and legitimacy
- 3) Eliminate racial disparities in "Stop Practices"
- 4) Focus "Stop Practices" on violations directly related to public safety
- 5) Revise measures of productivity
- 6) Policy on Stops and Post-Stop activities
- 7) Consensual Searches
- 8) Policy on Completion of Field Interview Cards
- 9) Information to be collected on FI Cards
- 10) Digitize & Streamline FIs
- 11) FI retention period
- 12) Improve data collection practices
- 13) Identify data improvements
- 14) Timely data entry
- 15) Publish Stop data
- 16) Analyze Stop data on an ongoing basis
- 17) Take accountability measures

These are all reasonable suggestions, and the Palms NC believes the LAPD should put a report out on their compliance with these matters

January 6, 2021

Board of Neighborhood Commissioners  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N Spring St #2005  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: DONE Bylaws Review Process

Dear Commissioners,

The Palms Neighborhood Council (Palms NC), at a Brown act publicly noticed meeting dated January 6, 2021, moved to approve the following Community Impact Statement

We at Palms NC understand that a universal process should dictate how Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) processes bylaw changes by Neighborhood Councils. It also makes sense that there is a standardized template to use for some consistency. However, every Neighborhood Council (NC) should be allowed to design any set of bylaws that conforms to all applicable federal, state, county and city laws.

The current bylaws review process generally consists of DONE deleting any changes a NC made in their bylaws with no explanation. This does not make sense and is not fair.

Our solution is

- 1) BONC establishes a sub-committee whose purpose is to design a better system for creating and editing NC Bylaws.
- 2) BONC establishes a body to adjudicate issues between DONE and a NC that is editing their bylaws in a legal fashion, as defined by the above sub-committee

This sub-committee from Solution #1 should be filled with at least 4 DONE staffers, including one in senior leadership, and concerned NC Board members and stakeholders. This process should result in an improves Bylaws template, a list of items that can and cannot be altered in bylaws, a list of best practices for editing bylaws and rules for a neutral body of NC stakeholders that adjudicate any issues between a NC's proposed changes to allowable bylaw items.

We at Palms NC are willing to offer some time to help on both sub-committees.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

January 6, 2021

LA City Council  
Department of Public Works  
Department of Street Lighting

Re: Superbloom lighting project

Dear City Council Members,

The Palms Neighborhood Council (Palms NC), at a Brown act publicly noticed meeting dated January 6, 2021, moved to approve the following Community Impact Statement

In November 2019, the City of LA sponsored an event called "L.A. Lights The Way", where a street lighting proposal called "Superbloom" emerged victorious. The Superbloom streetlight is a series of modular candy cane shaped pipes connected at their base to the City's electrical grid. These streetlights will not only be able to provide light, but the modular pipes can also provide seating, shade, LED information strips, EV Car charging capability and much more. The City plans on replacing all 230,000 of its streetlights with Superbloom lights.

The EV Car charging aspect should be leveraged by the City to immediately raise funds. The City should create a new class of assets in these EV car chargers and sell off 50% of the future revenue rights for 50 years to qualified buyers. The cost of ownership shall be the full cost of installing a Superbloom streetlight, including relevant overhead costs, plus \$50,000. This would raise approximately \$11.5 billion dollars or an amount equal to the current deficit the City is in plus the equivalent of one full year of City revenues. These funds could be raised within a few months.

This proposal would save the City from financial ruin, help towards the State goal of 1,000,000 EV chargers by 2030 and make the City be the green energy leader of the world.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.



CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

Palms Neighborhood Council  
Business & Beautification  
Committee

Eliot Hochberg, Chair  
[eliot.hochberg@palmsnc.la](mailto:eliot.hochberg@palmsnc.la)  
Natasia Gascon, Member



10008 National Blvd. #210  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

## PALMS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

[www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la)  
[@palmsnc](https://facebook.com/PalmsLA)

---

**Joint Board and Business & Beautification Virtual Committee Report**  
**Wednesday, December 16, 2020 – 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.**  
**Zoom Meeting Online**

*The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.*

**Committee Meeting Date:** December 16, 2020

**Committee Members:** Chair: Eliot Hochberg, Member: Natasia Gascon

**Committee Members Present:** Eliot Hochberg and Natasia Gascon

**Committee Members Absent:** None

**Call to Order:** 7:05 **Adjournment:** 9:02

---

### Committee Updates

Discussed Gascon's continued progress on Mural Manual, idea for a Palms International Food District designation, and encouraging developers to preserve Palms history when tearing down old buildings.

### Proposed Motions for General Assembly Adoption

A. **None**

---

### Summary of Agenda Item Discussion and Committee Updates

- I. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** (5 min)
  - a. Call to Order (Hochberg)
    - i. Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM
  - b. Roll Call (Hochberg)
    - i. Gascon is Present

- ii. Hochberg is Present
  - c. Review of code of conduct (Hochberg)
  - d. Agenda preview (Hochberg)
- II. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT/ FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (10 min)
  - a. Maeva (my-eva) – an artist living in Palms, briefly presented a concept for a large-scale, site-specific art project that has elements of performance art and public murals. Hochberg and Gascon liked the idea and encouraged Maeva to e-mail a full presentation to the board for possible inclusion in future agendas.
- III. **REPORTS** (10 Minutes each)
  - a. Gascon
    - i. Discussed comments made to developers at the PLUM committee meeting. She encouraged them to use the Percent for Arts funds to create public art for their buildings, and to look at the history of the buildings they are tearing down for inspiration.
  - b. Hochberg
    - i. Briefly touch illegal dumping concerns from the Outreach/Comms. committee meeting.
    - ii. Artist list for Palms
    - iii. Discussed creating a general e-mail address for the B&B committee.
- IV. **DISCUSSION: UTILITY BOX PROGRAM** (5 min)
  - a. Goopy box is near completion!
    - i. Islas’ box on Venice/Overland Completed.
    - ii. Kim’s box on Motor/Palms is in process.
    - iii. Rose/ Overland box has not started.
    - iv. No budget remains for more utility boxes.
    - v. Gascon discussed from the PLUM committee about developer’s rights to utility boxes and their designs, or their rights to change the artworks. Hochberg clarified that private developers can’t install artwork for utility boxes since they are under LADOT, but they are welcome to voice their opinions on artwork selection in future B&B meetings. (note: any stakeholder can go through the request process with LADOT.)
  - b. News from CD5?
    - i. DCA has allocated funds for CD5 for public events. Since none are happening now, they might reallocate those funds for other uses – possibly more utility boxes?
- V. **DISCUSSION: MURALS** (20 min)
  - a. Mural Manual status
    - i. Gascon is still working on it. Gascon and Hochberg discussed at length on how the Palms NC would help facilitate the ‘Neighborhood Involvement’ requirement to the official DCA mural applications.
  - b. Mural Artist List
    - i. Gascon mentioned that she had been working on adding independent artists to the Art of Palms website, but it has been difficult since she can only add them if they had incorporated their artist business within Palms. Requesting the private addresses of artists has not been successful. Gascon asked for clarification if the Mural Artist list is intended to be a list of Mural Artists living/working in Palms, or a list of Mural Artists we could call on to create murals within the Palms borders. Hochberg said we can have both lists.
    - ii. Hochberg suggested that a post card to hand out to galleries/museums in Palms to request if artist want to be added to the Artist List.
  - c. General mural discussion
    - i. Discussed the legalities and limitations of murals in Palms. Hochberg suggested that other committees get involved in certain instances – such as if

the mural is large enough to be seen by a large portion of the Palms population, or if it has elements that would need input (Green committee for Living Walls, PLUM for removable structures, etc.)

- VI. **DISCUSSION: UPDATES TO PALMS FOOD MAP SURVEY PROJECT (5 min)**
  - a. No updates. Request from the city regarding alfresco funding needs to be allocated.
- VII. **DISCUSSION: PALMS INTERNATIONAL FOOD DISTRICT (10 min)**
  - a. Hochberg suggested that we could have it as an agenda to add 3 or 4 points to add to the PLUM developers list to encourage developers to rehouse old restaurants into their new developments.
  - b. Maeva asks if a development of an international food district allows for funding of events hosted, like DineLA. Hochberg clarified that the NC does not directly fund private events, but could possibly establish a relationship with private companies - encouraging them to use the moniker “Palms International Food District” to promote the area, similar to how the Culver City Arts District came to be.
- VIII. **DISCUSSION: ENCOURAGING DEVELOPERS TO PRESERVE PALMS HISTORY (20 min)**
  - a. Gascon discussed ways to encourage developers to research, read and understand Palms history to encourage them to incorporate those elements into their properties to create unique designs.
  - b. Hochberg suggested this can also be added to the PLUM developers list.
- IX. **PALMS GATEWAY LIGHTING PROJECT (10 min)**
  - a. Still moving forward. No other new developments from the DCA.
- X. **MANAGEMENT COMPANY WELCOME PROJECT (2 min)**
  - a. No other new developments
- XI. **WOODBINE PARK KIOSK REPAIR AND UPGRADE PROJECT (5 min)**
  - a. No other new developments
- XII. **COMMUNITY SCHOOL PARKS (2 min)**
  - a. No other new developments
- XIII. **BUSINESS FLYER (2 min)**
  - a. No other new developments
- XIV. **CLOSING GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT(5 minutes, time permitting)**
  - a. Maeva will email her concept to the board, and the B&B board will take it from there. If the board finds if appropriate for the community, we will add it to a future agenda to discuss. If not, the board will give Maeva direction.
- XV. **Adjournment**
  - a. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

## **Confirmation of Next Meeting Date: 1-20-21 Time: 7pm Location: Zoom**

Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the President. Public comment will be taken for each motion as well as for any item in the consent agenda prior to Board action. The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Assembly on any item of the agenda prior to the Assembly taking 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 is within the Assembly’s subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 1 to 2 minutes per speaker, at the discretion or unless waived by the Assembly. In the interest of addressing all items on the agenda, time limits for individual comments and discussion may be set at the discretion of the President. All items on the consent agenda will be determined by a single Committee vote and without Committee discussion. Committee members may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually at any time prior to that vote.

Per Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Policy #2014-01, agendas are posted for public review at: 1) Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave.; 2) Palms Neighborhood Council website, [www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la) .

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 Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave, at our website: [www.palmsla.org](http://www.palmsla.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

Palms NC Board and Committee members abide by a code of civility (<http://empowerla.org/code-of-conduct/>). Any person who interferes with the conduct of a Neighborhood Council meeting by willfully interrupting and/or disrupting the meeting is subject to removal. A peace officer may be requested to assist with the removal should any person fail to comply with an order of removal by the Neighborhood Council. Any person who resists removal by a peace officer is subject to arrest and prosecution pursuant to California Penal Code Section 403.

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, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 DIAS DE TRABAJO (72 HORAS) ANTES DEL

EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)



CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

10008 National Blvd. #210  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

**Palms Neighborhood  
Council  
Green Committee**

Jessalyn Waldron, Co-Chair  
Helen Tocco, Co-Chair  
Kristen Chiarello, Member



[www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la)  
[@palmsnc](https://www.facebook.com/PalmsNC)  
[Facebook.com/PalmsNC](https://www.facebook.com/PalmsNC)

PALMS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
**Joint Board and Green Committee Meeting Report**  
**Thursday, December 17, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Committee Meeting Date:** Thursday, November 5th, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

**Committee Members:** Co-Chair Helen Tocco, Co-Chair Jessalyn Waldron, Member Kristen Chiarello

**Committee Members Present:** Helen, Jessalyn, Kristen

**Committee Members Absent:** None

**Call to Order:** 6:07pm **Adjournment:** 7:38pm

---

**Proposed Motions for General Assembly Adoption**

**Motion:** To authorize the Palms NC to spend up to \$150 in social media "boosts" to both promote water safety education and share results from the neighborhood survey

**Committee Reasoning:** Water education has been the focus in the Citizen Science work the committee wants to utilize to keep the community engaged in sustainability. The outreach effort produced over 80 surveys in which Palms residents shared their opinions and knowledge of drinking water. The Palm NC Green Committee along with the help of local expert Peter Roquomore want to share this data with the community, along with more knowledge on local drinking water. This will reduce the purchases and consumption of plastic water bottles that are an issue in the larger climate crisis issue. Moreover, it will hopefully help inform people on how to address drinking water issues so they they feel safe enough to drink tap water and stay healthy and hydrated. This motion was not voted on because funding is available allocated for social media via previous votes by the Board in General Assembly meetings.

**Committee Vote Count:** No vote taken, no vote needed. Funding is to be used.

---

**Motion:** To authorize the Palm NC to spend up to \$520 to create community beautification art kids for kids, including up to \$50 for printing

**Committee Reasoning:** This project was done a few months ago (towards the beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic) and was well received from local children. The goals of this project include encouraging children to use their imagination and be creative to have some fun amid an otherwise tough pandemic, inspire children to want to use art to uplift their own neighbors and neighborhood, and provide something fun for families that are struggling right now.

**Committee Vote Count:** 3 in Favor, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions; Passed unanimously

---

### **Summary of Agenda Item Discussion and Committee Updates**

**Announcements:** Seeking Green Committee members, please email co-chairs if interested

**Introductions:** State your name and favorite sustainable gift or idea

**General Public Comment:** None

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VI-a:** RE a comment from a concerned citizen about installation of a powerline on Overland Ave.

In general, public comment Cyndi asked if other neighbors have commented on the power line to be installed. Helen asked if the construction notification signs were still posted and suggested we ask other NC's if they have info on how to approach installation of such a power line. Jessalyn thinks we need to learn more about this issue in general, and research how to approach this- possibly work with PLUM. Helen and Kristen agree, and Kristen has experience organizing neighbors for a similar project in her hometown.

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VI-b:** RE potential collaboration with Venice Ad Hoc Committee on installing benches w/charging stations on Venice Blvd.

Public comment from Cyndi suggests too many benches might be a problem, and that sidewalk space on Venice Blvd. is sparse as it is in some areas, so where would they go? Helen wants more details, such as are these for bus stops. And she wants to know more about the vision of the Venice Ad Hoc Committee. Jessalyn will get more details and figure out how GC can plug in to support.

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VI-c:** RE Citizen Science Program

Helen gives shout out to Kristen for fantastic work on the Outreach Committee in sharing the clean-up information from BFFP Brand Audit. It highlights plastic pollution worldwide and calls out the biggest corporate polluters.

Water education campaign is still in progress, and we will now begin an educational social media campaign.

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VI-d:** RE Post Office Planters

Helen provides an update that Lee Wallach from MAIA has been working on planting flowers or plants there for a while already. The Post Office staff told him that the process to plant in those boxes is too difficult because of paperwork and a long to-do list within the bureaucracy themselves. Lee has plants ready to put in there, and Helen suggests when it is safe that we can call the Palms NC volunteers help plant them- but not as a Palms NC effort, just to support MAIA.

#### **Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VI-e: RE Project Coordination w/Girl Scouts**

Public Comment: Josh likes the idea of community gardening and suggests a vertical garden or building small herb gardens that hang out of planters made out of recycled materials. Cyndi wants to know if the Girl Scouts have to have a location within Palms.

Jessalyn attended their last meeting and presented a few projects to the troop to gauge interest. They are very inspired and interested in a community garden. The obstacle there is finding public space to be approved by the City. Cyndi asked if we have a map of public space available to know where available areas are? Josh says that most City land would not be for use of something like this, but that the spending from the Palms NC does not have to be within the boundaries of Palms but it must benefit residents of Palms, such as the girl scouts. Helen thinks finding space will be a challenge, but suggests we try to look at Palms Middle School for a project. Cyndi asked if the girls could harvest from gardens to feed folks.

Jessalyn wants to find more youth groups to work with both within the GC and Palms NC.

Helen commented that the girls did help with the Toy Drive and she would like to have them get involved in the pending recycled art project. She may attend their meeting next month.

#### **Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VI-f: Water Trust Education**

Kristen says Peter has sent a few generic graphics. We hope to see more graphics with updates of our local research projects, but we can send out some general information until then.

#### **Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VI-g: Holiday Are Recycled Project**

Helen says we shouldn't call it "holiday" because it will be after the holidays when we do it. Helen gave context of what the past project was. Before we distributed them at the First Luther Church in tote bags, but this time we need to find a distribution location (probably the farmers market) and plan to have kiddos bring their own bags to fill with supplies. Helen was going to brainstorm new projects.

Jessalyn thinks we should do the same art projects as last time. The kids loved them, it was successful, and we see current activity on Palms social media groups that there is a revived interest in doing painted hope rocks for kids to discover on walks around the neighborhood. Helen wants to make it winter-like with possibly snowflakes and Jessalyn wonders if we could make snowflakes out of the stained-glass project done last time. Kristen says we should use the rest of the supplies from last time, including tissue paper for stained glass. Helen will go take inventory at the storage unit to see what is there and see what we need. Helen will be collecting boxes for the "thank you essential workers" signs.

#### **Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VII: CIS presentation by Josh Nadel**

Josh: Everyone is aware of the Super Bloom project to put up new streetlights. The City has a long famous history with streetlights. This concept is cool because it is modular pipes, that has electricity coming out from the ground that could provide energy as well as public chargers, Wi-Fi, EV car chargers, LED, info strips, or whatever you want. Right now, there are 60,000 EV chargers, there is a goal to have 1.5 million by 2025 and 3 million by 2030. He proposes the City to sell economic rights of

what comes out of the Super Bloom so they could control pricing- which the City would naturally do. This would raise 10 billion dollars that it would cost to install the project. We need a public works liaison appointed to be able to get this project in motion. This would help in a variety of ways, including getting the City out of debt.

Kay: The Venice Ad Hoc Committee is working on super bloom, maybe it makes more sense to not have one more than one committee to work at cross purposes with another committee, should we combine it?

Josh: He had a chance to lead the team for budget advocates with dept. Of lighting, and he was working on this last year with them. He talked to Megan Hackney; he says the project is different than what the Venice Ad Hoc Committee is talking about. This is a method to pay for them being installed.

Kalani: Wants clarification, is Josh trying to build consensus before bringing it to GA. It is her opinion that Palms would like to be the first neighborhood to do this. Is that what Josh is trying to do?

Helen understands that this is a different proposal, she thinks what Josh is asking us to do is send a letter in support of a brand-new program that would implement the 50% split of cost of revenue of chargers. He said, yes, that is right that is what the CD5 office told him is the best procedure. They told him to get the board to approve this.

Jessalyn asks who would be the private companies to partner with the City? And wants to know where the extra solar energy will be stored? Are there batteries available for this storage so that the energy may be sold to make a profit? Or do the batteries need to be created? She also agrees with Kay the Venice Ad Hoc committee should be involved in this project as they already have been.

Josh: They don't have the funding to put these in, this is a long run project that they have- if this is going to be long term, they have to pick places- where are they going to do that. He wants people to privately fund them, then those people get to keep others half- he wants to speed them up. Private people want an investment in energy. It's a way of looking at the problem to get this many chargers. It's an investment to make the City money.

Helen suggests we make a list of questions for Josh to have him answer and come back to discuss, so that we can set Josh up for success to take this to the GA Board meetings.

Kay: clarifying why this shouldn't belong to Venice Ad HOC: the thing that the Venice Committee is trying to do is be the first in the City to get these things. They haven't even made a prototype yet, he is talking about it being "outside the domain" of Venice Committee, he is saying if you put the chargers in the lights then the project could be rolled out in full versus just having Palms do it first.

Kalani: appreciates Josh's enthusiasm, she cautions that the City is at a disadvantage in partnerships with private entities. We can see how the City is being screwed by giveaways by developers, but no money for oversight of affordable housing. No one knows who gets affordable housing, so that into consideration.

Jessalyn will send Josh questions.

Helen thinks it's a big concept and a big bite, but she likes the concept.

### **Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VIII: Moving meeting time for H&PS**

The committee is agreeable to move the meeting to Tuesday instead of Thursday so the H&PS may have the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. Helen will talk to Pam and finalize details.



CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



**Palms Neighborhood  
Council Election Ad Hoc  
Committee**

Jeremiah Crane, Chair  
Tina Chinakarn, Member

10008 National Blvd. #210  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

**PALMS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

[www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la)  
[facebook.com/PalmsLA](https://facebook.com/PalmsLA)  
[@palmsnc](https://twitter.com/palmsnc)

**Elections Ad Hoc Committee Report  
Wednesday, December 16, 2020, 5:30 p.m.  
Zoom Meeting**

*The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.*

**Committee Meeting Date:** December 16, 2020

**Committee Members:** Chair: Jeremiah Crane, Members: Tina Chinakarn

**Committee Members Present:** Chair: Jeremiah Crane, Members: Tina Chinakarn

**Committee Members Absent:** None

**Call to Order:** 5:34 p.m. **Adjournment:** 6:58 p.m.

---

**Summary of Agenda Item Discussion and Committee Updates**

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item IV.a. Announcements/Dates**

- a. Candidate Filings: **Feb 6, 2021 – March 23, 2021**
- b. Mail-in Ballot Requests: **April 9, 2021 – June 1, 2021**
  - Only mail-in ballot/no in-person voting this year
  - Important to do outreach to make voters aware of change and deadlines
  - There are no provisional ballots; only a drop box
  - Request mail-in ballots online
- c. Ballots Sent Out: **May 10, 2021**
- d. Election Day: **June 8, 2021**
  - Mail-in ballot to be postmarked by June 8th
  - **Action:** Eryn will list these important dates on General Assembly Meeting agendas

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item V.a. Committee Business/Discussion:**  
Review 2019 Palms NC Election Timeline [See Supplemental materials]

- Supplemental materials saved in Palms NC's 2021 Elections Ad Hoc Committee > [Supplemental Materials folder](#)

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item V.b.** Discussion: Review available NC-wide election materials and documents on City Clerk Website:  
<https://clerk.lacity.org/elections/neighborhood-council-election>

**a. NC Election Guide:**

[https://clerk.lacity.org/sites/g/files/wph606/f/2021\\_NC\\_Election\\_Handbook\\_11.12\\_with\\_attachments.pdf](https://clerk.lacity.org/sites/g/files/wph606/f/2021_NC_Election_Handbook_11.12_with_attachments.pdf)

i. DONE Website: <https://empowerla.org/Elections/>

- DONE Website has link to Elections Timeline spreadsheet
- Palms NC is Region 11 (different timeline for each region)
- There is a challenge period if someone does not think a candidate is qualified
- Palms NC is not a documentation council for voting; we are a stakeholder certification (declaration) council. Want to support all to vote; residents do not have to be a citizen to vote.
- 14-15 year olds can only vote for the youth seat. LA City bylaws were updated: election age is 16 years old to vote for neighborhood council
- **Action:** For Palms NC website to include important links to request for Vote-By-Mail, Candidate Filing, etc. (Connect with Helen and Elliot to update; Jeremiah already connected with Eliot to update website)
- General email: [elections@palmsnc.ca](mailto:elections@palmsnc.ca) (for Jeremiah and Tina)

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item V.c.** Committee Business/Discussion and Possible Action: Discussion of budget for call for candidates advertising approach, designs, and avenues (i.e. Facebook ads, flyering, lawn signs, post cards, etc.).

b. Current Yard Sign Inventory: [See [Supplemental Materials](#)]

- We don't have Vote lawn sign in Spanish. Design should be better
- Just need to adhere sticker on bottom right of sign with correct date (couple of hundred stickers needed)
- Can order more election lawn signs with \$3,000 budget approved by Board

i. Candidate Posters (35 various types & 11 in Spanish)

- 13 Give a Crap signs
- 10 Nos your change
- 11 Heart Palms
- 3 Just Run Already signs

ii. Election Day Posters (108)

- Vote signs – more challenging to replace info with stickers (need larger one)

- Have 4 designs that are already approved (on Canva)
    - Do we want new designs? Takes a long time to get approved (by March/April)
    - May want to make a new poster on how to request for a ballot
  - When printing new signs, do one side in English and one side in Spanish
    - We had 200 signs last year. So print about 70 more signs (**Action**)
  - Josh can translate signs into Spanish (colloquial)
  - Outreach Committee currently has 50 lawn signs out with locations documented (Randell)
    - Challenging to find good locations (connect with Outreach Reps)
    - Had election lawn sign distribution and collection party last time; this year to have all pick-up signs from Jeremiah's place/drop off-bin; switch out signs
  - Used Westside Print Center last time – not open this year. Kinko's?
    - **Action:** Jeremiah will look into vendor to purchase stickers locally (also include QR code, tinyurl)
  - **Action:** Work on design for mail-in ballot and mail-in voting lawn signs by Jan elections ad hoc meeting; can do print of candidate filing (50 sets)
  - Order stickers (make sure to order same amount of each sign taking into consideration number of old signs we have)
  - Cost estimate: Outreach Committee recently purchased 50 18X24 Eng/Sp lawn signs: \$12/sign: \$650 for 50 signs
  - **Action:** Josh can train us how to use Canva to tweak design
- d. Social media campaign for elections (Facebook ads, NextDoor, Twitter, Instagram ads)
- Budget for social media covered by Outreach Committee (so elections committee does not need to request a budget for this)
  - Start campaign on social media in new year for Feb 6<sup>th</sup> candidate filing opening and drive traffic to website
  - The more candidates you get the more voting turnout you get
  - Utilize Hootsuite app to schedule: Twitter, Facebook, IG; Hootsuite apps to schedule posts
    - TickTock? 17 or 56 sec videos; challenge video
    - **Action:** Outreach Committee can post for us or give us password to post
  - Costs \$1,000 for a video: include all three parts of campaign or do components – to do education
  - 800 out of 40,000 Palms residents voted last year
  - Business card (inexpensive) or quarter cards to give to restaurants to post; or encourage them to include in their takeout bags.
  - Posting flyers in apartment lobbies? Palms NC members can post it in their lobby
  - Mailings are very expensive

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item V.e.** Committee Business/Discussion and Possible Action: Set date(s) and draft budget for voluntary, PNC-run, candidacy and electioneering training for some date after 4/9/21 (when the certified candidate list is released)

- Nick Greif can do candidacy and electioneering training
- Date: Within two weeks after 4/9/21 when candidate lists are published (will know before 4/9 as names are posted and approved live but there may be challenges).
- Need not be after a GA meeting.
- Motion not needed for this training because there is no budget (do not need pizza).
- Outreach event during election filing period (Feb)
- Electioneering training can be done on April 14<sup>th</sup>

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item V.f.** Committee Business/Discussion and Possible Action: Set date(s) and draft budget for PNC-sponsored candidate forums after the candidacy and electioneering training (i.e., in May)

- Initially thought more than one candidate forum needed to be done (cannot do one for all positions)
  - Exec positions one day and area reps another day; split may depend on number of people running for each position
  - Desire 26 candidates (at least two candidates to run for each position)
- However, we can do Zoom breakout rooms for Area Reps so just one forum (not two) can be done in April.
  - Can call-ins jump from breakout room to breakout room? Yes.
  - For us to do a mock practice run (and practice run with candidates?)
- Can record candidate forum on Zoom
- Moderator (Jeremiah); each candidate to speak 15-min; all answer same question
- Public can ask question. Up vote for each question; each person can vote for one question
- To conduct candidate forums during Mail-In Ballot request time, 4/9-5/10 (doubles as advertising for this too). During week of April 26<sup>th</sup>: Tues, Wed or Thurs.
- Can do another forum on May 26-28 before June 8<sup>th</sup> election due date - need to have Board approve? Do additional forum for Executive Board or for positions with many candidates?
- To reiterate the difference between NC election and presidential, etc. election. Don't have to be a citizen; can just work in Palms (not live here). Develop video and FAQs.
- Have other neighborhood councils developed educational videos?

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item VI.** Recap action items and next steps

- Order stickers
- Reorder signs
- Social media campaign to launch in Jan
- Start designing posters for mail-in ballot and update ones we have

- 108 signs > need stickers
- Video development
- Can we customize mail-in ballot (add url). Jerimiah will look into this (ask clerk).
- Electioneering training: Week of April 12 (13, 14, 15)
- Candidate Forum: Week of 4/26 (Tues-Thurs) and one in 5/26-5/28
- Next meeting: Brainstorm how to reach out for youth rep candidates (talk with high school principals). Target 8<sup>th</sup> graders (need to be 14 years old by election).

**Confirmation of Next Meeting Date: January 13, 2021, Time: 5:30PM, Location: Zoom**

Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the President. Public comment will be taken for each motion as well as for any item in the consent agenda prior to Board action. The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Assembly on any item of the agenda prior to the Assembly taking 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 is within the Assembly's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 1 to 2 minutes per speaker, at the discretion or unless waived by the Assembly. In the interest of addressing all items on the agenda, time limits for individual comments and discussion may be set at the discretion of the President. All items on the consent agenda will be determined by a single Committee vote and without Committee discussion. Committee members may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually at any time prior to that vote.

Per Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Policy #2014-01, agendas are posted for public review at: 1) Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave.; 2) Palms Neighborhood Council website, [www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la).

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 Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave, at our website: [www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

Palms NC Board and Committee members abide by a code of civility (<http://empowerla.org/code-of-conduct/>). Any person who interferes with the conduct of a Neighborhood Council meeting by willfully interrupting and/or disrupting the meeting is subject to removal. A peace officer may be requested to assist with the removal should any person fail to comply with an order of removal by the Neighborhood Council. Any person who resists removal by a peace officer is subject to arrest and prosecution pursuant to California Penal Code Section 403.

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, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 DIAS DE TRABAJO (72 HORAS) ANTES DEL

EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



10008 National Blvd. #210  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

[www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la)  
[facebook.com/PalmsLA](https://www.facebook.com/PalmsLA)  
[@palmsnc](https://www.instagram.com/palmsnc)

**Palms Neighborhood Council  
Outreach Committee**

Randell Erving, Chair  
Josh Nadel, Vice-Chair  
Eliot Hochberg, Member  
Brendan Patterson, Member  
Danya White, Member  
Kristen Chiarello, Member

**PALMS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**General Assembly and Communications & Outreach Committee Report  
Tuesday, December 15, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.  
Virtual Zoom Meeting, Los Angeles, CA 90034**

*The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.*

**Committee Meeting Date:** December 15, 2020

**Committee Members:** Chair: Randell Erving, Vice-Chair: Josh Nadel, Members: Eliot Hochberg, Brendan Patterson, Danya White, Kristen Chiarello; Other Palms NC Board Members: Eryn Block, Helen Tocco, David Bocarsly, Jessalyn Waldron, Scott Chase, Kay Hartman

**Committee Members Present:** Vice Chair: Josh Nadel, Members: Eliot Hochberg, Danya White, Kristen Chiarello, Eryn Block, Helen Tocco, Kay Hartman (Quorum of 7 was achieved with 7)

**Committee Members Absent:** Chair: Randell Erving, Brendan Patterson, David Bocarsly, Jessalyn Waldron, Scott Chase

**Call to Order:** 7:08 p.m. **Adjournment:** 8:18 p.m.

---

**Proposed Motions for General Assembly Adoption**

**Motion:**

Approve the CIS regarding the Digital Media Policy (Eliot & Kay 2<sup>nd</sup>) 7-0

**Summary of Agenda Item Discussion and Committee Updates**

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item II – General Public Comment:**

- Natassia spoke about Illegal Dumping

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item III (A) – Committee Business – The Palms NC position on EmpowerLA’s Proposed Digital Media Policy**

- Kay, Josh, Eliot, Helen, Kristen, Danya & Eryn spoke

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item III (B) – Committee Business – Drafting & approving a Community Impact Statement: Department of Neighborhood Empowerment’s draft of a proposed Digital Policy – Comments & Proposed Changes to the Existing Document**

- Kay, Josh, Eliot, Danya, Helen all spoke on drafting a letter (attached)

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item III (C) – Committee Business – Drafting & approving a Community Impact Statement: Department of Neighborhood Empowerment’s draft of a proposed Digital Policy – Additional Policies:**

Tabled

**Summary of Discussion for Agenda Item III (D) – Committee Business – Drafting & Approving a Letter to B.O.N.C and/or Empower L.A. regarding the proposed digital media policy:**

- There was a discussion about Eryn sending the attached letter to BONC & EmpowerLA and Eryn committed to that action

**Committee Updates:** see above

**New Business – Agenda for next meeting:**

N/A

**Adjournment:** 8:18 pm

**Confirmation of Next Meeting Date:** December 15, 2020 **Time** 7:00 p.m. **Location** Zoom

Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the President. Public comment will be taken for each motion as well as for any item in the consent agenda prior to Board action. The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Assembly on any item of the agenda prior to the Assembly taking 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 is within the Assembly's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 1 to 2 minutes per speaker, at the discretion or unless waived by the Assembly. In the interest of addressing all items on the agenda, time limits for individual comments and discussion may be set at the discretion of the President. All items on the consent agenda will be determined by a single Committee vote and without Committee discussion. Committee members may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually at any time prior to that vote.

Per Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Policy #2014-01, agendas are posted for public review at: 1) Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave.; 2) Palms Neighborhood Council website, [www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la).

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 Woodbine Park Kiosk, 3409 S. Vinton Ave, at our website: [www.palmsnc.la](http://www.palmsnc.la) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

Palms NC Board and Committee members abide by a code of civility (<http://empowerla.org/code-of-conduct/>). Any person who interferes with the conduct of a Neighborhood Council meeting by willfully interrupting and/or disrupting the meeting is subject to removal. A peace officer may be requested to assist with the removal should any person fail to comply with an order of removal by the Neighborhood Council. Any person who resists removal by a peace officer is subject to arrest and prosecution pursuant to California Penal Code Section 403.

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, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Secretary at [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 DIAS DE TRABAJO (72 HORAS) ANTES DEL

EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL [secretary@palmsnc.la](mailto:secretary@palmsnc.la)



December 15, 2020

Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Los Angeles City Hall  
200 N Spring St #2005  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Comments on the Digital Media Policy

Dear Commissioners:

We at the Palms Neighborhood Council appreciate the effort to set some parameters around proper use of social media. Best practices for administration of websites and social media accounts as well as special responsibilities of City entities are not always obvious, so the Palms NC appreciates guidance.

The Palms Neighborhood Council has an active social media presence. Our social media account is used for “promotion of neighborhood council membership and attendance at meetings and promotion of approved and authorized neighborhood council events,” and much more. We use it for community engagement with our #PalmsPride, education such as how to safely vote during a pandemic, and amplifying the voices of our elected officials. We have separate email lists for different committees for targeted communications. To communicate with our stakeholder volunteers, we use a Facebook group. One use that doesn’t meet the definition a “proper use” of social media quoted earlier in this paragraph from Sections 1 and 8.1 in the draft Policy is to engage the community on changes they want to see in the new Community Plan. Engagement is key. We want to engage by being engaging.

In general, we find two major issues with this policy. It is informed by too narrow a view of the Neighborhood Councils' chartered purpose and it is too cumbersome to implement, taking valuable time and bandwidth away from the ability to implement Councils' chartered purpose. Neighborhood Councils are run by volunteers and are meant to operate with a degree of autonomy so we would like to register an objection to the presentation of this policy as a whole. We believe that behavioral issues should be addressed in the Code of Conduct and Brown Act issues should be addressed via training. These things shouldn't be the focus of a Digital Media Policy. Additionally, if a digital media policy is approved, we recommend a yearly review of said policy, including Neighborhood Councils in the process.

We find this document to be vague in some parts and overly specific in others. Our areas of concern include the following:

### **Limited View of NC Purpose**

The policy states that “Proper use for a neighborhood council's website, social media, or newsletters/reports is the promotion of neighborhood council membership and attendance at meetings and promotion of approved and authorized neighborhood council events.”

The actual chartered purpose of Neighborhood Councils is, “to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs” and further to “monitor the delivery of City services.” In our view, any communication that advances these goals or contributes to fulfillment of these purposes is proper use of digital media or any other type of media.

### **Overreach**

Enforcement of these policies are delegated to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the City Clerk who may, at what appears to be their discretion, suspend Neighborhood Councils' digital

media accounts. The mechanism of this suspension would necessarily involve control of the accounts that the Department will have due to the requirement of handing over passwords and usernames for all accounts to them. This step is said to be “primarily for security purposes” and to “assist neighborhood councils in regaining access to their accounts,” but this would also be the only way a suspension could be implemented. We do not believe DONE and the City Clerk should be able to suspend Neighborhood Councils' digital media accounts at their discretion or have access to neighborhood council account information. We believe that Neighborhood Councils can maintain account security without relinquishing NC autonomy.

The policy dictates that no Neighborhood Council may include endorsement of private entities, including non-profit organizations. We disagree with this policy. Instead, we believe this should be consistent with the existing endorsement policies for other City entities.

### **Extra Administrative and Board Work**

The Palms NC finds many parts of this policy to involve extra, unnecessary work, which is particularly problematic since the Neighborhood Council is made up of volunteers and administration already takes enough volunteer and meeting time.

While posting of timely and accurate information is always optimal, this policy needlessly legislates that there be a “timely and accurate content review process” conducted by the Neighborhood Council. Codifying this is unnecessary and seems to serve as preparation for yet another extensive paperwork process that must be taken on by the volunteers that make up the Neighborhood Council and that would also then waste valuable meeting time.

Finally, the requirement that “all Digital Communications shall originate from the neighborhood council, acting through its board” seems to imply that the Board would need to approve all social media posts and newsletter and website content. If this were the case, the NC would need to decide whether to substantially detract from board effectiveness or from outreach efforts. Further, the prohibition against committees having digital media accounts is unnecessary. Such accounts might well advance the Neighborhood Council's chartered purpose.

### **Policies That Are Contrary to a Good Outreach Strategy**

We disagree with Section 6.4 regarding multiple NC accounts. Social media is a domain that requires agility. We believe that NCs should be able to decide for themselves how many accounts will best serve their outreach purposes.

The compulsion to link back to the NC website and its agendas is also contrary to good strategy. Brevity is very important in certain social media communications. While these links are often an obvious and integral part of the communication, they are not always, and trying to fit them in every time would destroy the communications. City Council members aren't compelled to link back to council agendas and meetings. Why should Neighborhood Councils be?

The requirement that "All neighborhood council Digital Communication must ... display neighborhood council contact information" likewise is absurd. A Tiktok video is normally less than 30 seconds. A tweet is a small number of characters. Digital media communications come from accounts and it's the account itself that is the contact information. If somebody wants to contact the Council, any web search will lead to the ability to do so. To burden all communications with this responsibility is unnecessary.

### **Conclusion**

The Palms NC would support the requirement that we have a digital media policy. This would be an integral part of our standing rules. Procedures and policies, however, should be informed by applicable law and dictated by each Council. **We ask that Neighborhood Councils are an integral part in the development of a policy that works for all of us.**

WHERE AS the proposed Digital Media Policy is a direct overreach in power and scope of limiting the ability of Neighborhood Councils to effectively communicate with their constituency

BE IT RESOLVED the Palms NC rejects the proposed Digital Media Policy.

Best regards,

Palms Neighborhood Council

CC:

Raquel Beltran, DONE General Manager