

Government Affairs Committee

Lindsay Imber, Chair
Howard Katchen
Tom Materna
Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger



Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 5721
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

Website:
www.ShermanOaksNC.org

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

Government Affairs Committee Special Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 6:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Webinar ID: **811 6894 3092**

Cut and Paste: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81168943092>

Telephone: 1-669-900-6833, enter **811 6894 3092** #

Public Comments: Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered, and prior to voting. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during this General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future meeting. Public comment is limited to one minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Committee.

Making Public Comments During This Virtual Meeting: When prompted by the Presiding Officer, press "Raise Hand" (if on Zoom) or *9 (if on a telephone) to indicate a desire to address the committee. If you are on Zoom, you will see a timer graphic indicating your time remaining to speak. If you are on a telephone, you will be told when 10 seconds remain in your allotted time. Public comment for this meeting will be heard during each eligible agenda item.

SB 411 Updates: If a Neighborhood Council has a quorum of board members in a physical location, board members who wish to join the meeting via teleconferencing must adhere to AB 2449 rules and regulations. If a Neighborhood Council does not have a quorum of board members in a physical location, they must adhere to SB 411 rules and regulations.

In the event of a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the eligible legislative body's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the eligible legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to § 54960.1.

*(See the final page of this agenda for relevant text of Section 54953.8)**

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, composed of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.

1. **Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call**
 - Welcome and Call to Order by the Chair.
 - Roll Call and the Establishment of Quorum.
2. **Administrative Motions**
 - a. **Motion to approve Gov't Affairs Meeting minutes for Prior Meetings**
3. **Comments by Elected or Appointed Officials, City Agencies, and Staff**
4. **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items Within Committee Jurisdiction**
5. **Chair's Report**
6. **Committee Business and Discussion, Potential Motions**

- a. **Update: Budget Proposal to Restore Neighborhood Council Funding.**

Discussion relative to the Mayor's proposed budget for Los Angeles' upcoming fiscal year, [SONC's submitted CIS](#) to [CF 25-0600](#) & motion for [CF 25-0600-S7](#) Budget Motion / Neighborhood Council Fund / Restore.

Draft Motion: The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports [CF 25-0600-S7](#), which seeks to restore Neighborhood Council (NC) budgets to FY 24-25 levels, and in doing so amends a proposed cut in funding. NCs provide valuable representation, community engagement, support to charitable organizations, and other benefits to stakeholders as volunteer boards. NCs are a valuable service as the City's most local form of government and, in many cases, an important connection for constituents to the City. Due to relatively low cost and high return, restoring NC funding is fiscally wise and SONC accordingly applauds CMs Park and Padilla for bringing forth this motion.

- b. **Update: Proposed Addition to Quorum / Public Comment Motion .**

Discussion and motion relative to Quorum / Public Comment.

Draft Addition: Delineate the time granted to designated Neighborhood Council Board Members for presenting a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to City Council as separate from the time granted to the public for comment on agenda and non agenda items. Comment period for Neighborhood Council designees shall be held before public comment period. Each designee shall be granted at least 5 minutes for CIS presentation. Public comment period shall commence after all Neighborhood Council designees have been heard.

Motion Previously Adopted As Amended with Draft Addition: The purpose of the Los Angeles City Council is to assist, convey and execute the best interests of any stakeholder and the public at large. Current standards and operating procedures regarding public comment period at City Council meetings convey a sense of contempt and indignance toward the very people Councilmembers swear an oath to serve.

It is imperative that City Council take immediate action to ensure adequate time, resources, and diligence are applied in admitting public comment during Council, Committee, and all other types of meetings and hearings within the city's jurisdiction.

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) emphatically recommends that The Los Angeles City Council implement the following rules and guidelines:

1. Delineate the time granted to designated Neighborhood Council Board Members for presenting a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to City Council as separate from the time granted to the public for comment on agenda and non agenda items. Comment period for Neighborhood Council designees shall be held before public comment period. Each designee shall be granted at least 5 minutes for CIS presentation. Public comment period shall commence after all Neighborhood Council designees have been heard.
2. Amend Council Rule *Chapter II. section 7 regarding time allocated to hearing public comment; increase the minimum amount of time allocated to hearing public comment on agenda and non agenda items to a cumulative total of 150 minutes (2.5 hours), or until the speaker list is exhausted, whichever occurs first.
3. Amend Council Rule *Chapter II. section 7 regarding agenda item comment; striking the language "unless the opportunity for public comment on the item previously was provided by a Council Committee and the item has not changed substantially since that Committee's consideration of the item." All agenda items shall be considered eligible for public comment during the allocated agenda item comment period (up to 3 minutes total per speaker) in regularly scheduled City Council Meetings, regardless of whether public comment was heard during committee, public hearing, etc. Council shall not vote on any items until the public comment period has concluded.
4. Reinstate and maintain remote/telephonic public comment options for all public meetings and hearings. During the public comment period, Council shall alternate between in-person and remote speakers to ensure equity and accessibility among members of the public wishing to speak.
5. Limit time spent during regularly scheduled meetings on demonstrations and/or presentations that aren't directly related to action items in said meeting (e.g. presentation of awards, staff and member recognition, holiday acknowledgements, etc.) to a cumulative total of fifteen minutes in a single meeting; excluding adjourning motions.
6. Confirm Council Rules in **Chapter IV sections 25-29 regarding quorum; affirm that they apply to all portions of Council Meetings including and especially public comment on agenda and non-agenda items. Request that the Council President enforce quorum at all times, including and especially during public comment period(s).

7. Delineate the Council Chamber perimeter as to quorum and to be present.
8. Establish rules of decorum that require a standard of attention due to speakers during public comment period: Require City Council members present to be in or near their designated seats, and bar them from engaging in conversation with each other, staff members, and/or guests while members of the public are addressing City Council.

Lastly to request the Chief Legislative Analyst, with assistance from the Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and in consultation with the City Attorney, to report on a draft and annual costs associated with amending the Rules of the Los Angeles City Council, Charter or other law as stated above within 60 days.

7. Closing Announcements

8. Adjournment

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

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, assisted 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 by contacting Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org

NOTICE TO PAID REPRESENTATIVES

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: www.ShermanOaksNC.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 email: stacey.segarrabohlinger@gmail.com.

PUBLIC AGENDA POSTING – Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Sherman Oaks Public Library, 14245 Moorpark St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.
- www.ShermanOaksNC.org
- Via e-mail subscription with L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS -- For information on the NC's process for action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website, www.ShermanOaksNC.org.

*SB411 / SECTION 54953.8 DISCLAIMER FOR VIRTUAL MEETINGS

(C) The eligible legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comments in real time.

(D) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the eligible legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

- (E) (i) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.
- (ii) An eligible legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.
- (iii) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.