

Government Affairs Committee

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



**Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council**

Government Affairs

Minutes

Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 6:30 pm.

VIRTUAL - ZOOM



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

Website:
www.ShermanOaksNC.org

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.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. Lindsay Imber, Chair, called the meeting to order at **6:30pm.**
- b. Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger, Secretary, called the roll.
 - i. **Present:** Katchen, Imber, Segarra-Bohlinger (**3**)
 - ii. **Absent:** Materna (**1**)

2. Administrative Motions

- a. *A motion to approve the Minutes of the May 2025 Government Affairs Committee Meeting.*
MOVED: Katchen **SECOND:** Imber
YES: Katchen, Imber, Segarra-Bohlinger
NO: (0) ABSTAIN: (0) ABSENT: Materna (1)
item 2a approved unanimously

3. Comments by Elected or Appointed Officials, City Agencies, and Staff - none

4. Public Comment - remarks from the public on non-agenda items

5. Chairs Report

Imber not seeking board presidency for new term
remaining on board, chair of gov't affairs
will assist new leadership on Ziff Flyer (news letter)
still acting president until July's board meeting

6. Committee Business and Discussion, Potential Motions

a. City Council Motion to Suspend Brown Act Due to Emergency.

DRAFT MOTION:

CF 25-0647-S1

POSITION: AGAINST

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) strongly opposes Council File 25-0647-S1

In the Council File, the City Council invokes Government Code Section 54956.5(b)(1) that says, “in the case of an emergency situation involving matters upon which prompt action is necessary due to the disruption or threatened disruption of public facilities, a legislative body may hold an emergency meeting without complying with either the 24-hour notice requirement or the 24-hour posting requirement of Section 54956 or both of the notice and posting requirements.”

The motion then states that the purpose of invoking said code is “in order to enable the Council to have emergency meetings without complying with the Brown Act.”

Section 54956.5(b)(1) is part of the emergency provisions of the Brown Act. While it is the prerogative of the City Council to invoke this provision; it is not within the City Council’s scope of authority to grant itself impetus for non-compliance with the Brown Act, including its generous emergency provisions.

SONC requests that the City Council vote to reconsider this motion to remove language indicating planned non-compliance related to the Brown Act; and requests a report from the office of Council District 4 (Raman) to provide SONC and our stakeholders reasonable justification as to the Council Member’s vote on this item.

Motion to Amend:

Change position to AGAINST UNLESS AMENDED

add language:

*[first paragraph, after “strongly opposes Council File”
before “In the Council File”]*

While we support the expediting of holding meetings to address emergencies arising from federal agencies acting unlawfully in Los Angeles, and threatening the safety and wellbeing of immigrant communities, we oppose the use of emergency provisions as an excuse to disregard the Brown Act.

MOVED: Imber **SECOND:** Segarra-Bohlinger

YES: Imber, Segarra-Bohlinger (2)

NO: Katchen (1)

ABSTAIN: (0)

ABSENT: Materna (1)

Motion to amend item 6a carries 2-1-0-1

Motion as Amended

MOVED: Segarra-Bohlinger

SECOND: Imber

YES: Imber, Segarra-Bohliger (2)

NO: (0)

ABSTAIN: Katchen (1)

ABSENT: Materna (1)

item 6a carries 2-0-1-1

b. Rental Housing Market Price Gouging Complaints After Area Wildfires.

DRAFT MOTION:

CF 25-0006-S77

POSITION: FOR IF AMENDED

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports Council File 25-006-S77 which seeks to increase transparency regarding price gouging on home rentals in the wake of the devastating fires that took place in and around Los Angeles in January 2025. We ask that the motion be amended to request reports from the Chief Legislative Analyst and Chief Administrative Officer relating to “bad actors” who have been reported as engaging in illegal price gouging, but have not been cited or fined, who also contributed significant resources to the political campaign of City Attorney Feldstein Soto.

Motion to Amend; Motion as amended reads:

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports Council File 25-006-S77 which seeks to increase transparency regarding price gouging on home rentals in the wake of the devastating fires that took place in and around Los Angeles in January 2025.

Based on reporting made by The Rent Brigade, a coalition of researchers and community advocates, there seems to be evidence that some entities and/or individuals engaging in price gouging may have made campaign contributions to City Attorney Feldstein Soto, and members of the City Council. This might create a conflict of interest relating to potential enforcement of price gouging laws.

We ask that the motion be amended to request collaboration from the Chief Legislative Analyst, and the Los Angeles Housing Department relating to this matter; and that appropriate recusals take place; and third party independent investigations of price gouging offenders recommended where necessary.

MOTION TO AMEND:

MOVED: Segarra-Bohlinger

SECOND: Imber

YES: Imber, Segarra-Bohlinger (2)

NO: Katchen (1)

ABSTAIN: (0)

ABSENT: Materna (1)

Motion to amend item 6b carries 2-1-0-1

MOVED: Segarra-Bohlinger **SECOND:** Imber
YES: Imber, Segarra-Bohlinger
NO: Katchen (1) **ABSTAIN:** (0) **ABSENT:** Materna
item 6b carries 2-1-0-1

c. SONC Election Results (preliminary)

Discussion of election participation rate,
 complications with a fully vote-by-mail election process,
 potential changes (or not) to bylaws regarding
 voting eligibility, voting structure
 (e.g., proof of eligibility vs self-attestation, ballot-by-area
 or all-area balloting, etc.)
Acknowledging of preliminary election results
Note of tie in Area 5 Residential seat
Discussion of process of qualifying to receive ballot / vote
Question of whether standing rules & bylaws should be amended,
 allow for a voting structure that would increase access and participation

7. Closing Announcements-

Segarra-Bohlinger - mentioning of remaining on committee, outgoing from board seat
 Acknowledging the late Candy Williams,
 who nominated Stacey for Secretary
Katchen - Acknowledging Stacey for work as Secretary, participation
 Lindsay's service as president
Imber - note of continuing to act as Chair of Gov't Affairs,
 labor and time obligations of Board Presidency
 Mentioning of Ron Ziff's outgoing remarks after tenure
 Stacey's service as Secretary
 "Always see the same people" at SONC events, movie nights, etc.

8. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:47pm

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stacey", written in dark ink.