

**Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council**

Executive Officers

Howard Katchen,
President 3-R
Vacant
1st VP
Lielt Endashaw
2nd VP 1-R
Jeffrey Hartsough,
Treasurer 2-CI
El-Bethel Debela,
Secretary, Youth Representative

Board Members

Levon Baronian, 1-B
Christy Adair, 1-CI
Vacant, 2-B
Kira Durbin 2-R
Vacant, 3-B
Hunter Laplante, 3-CI
Ryan Ahari, 4-B
David Silverman, 4-CI
Vacant, 4-R
Vacant, 5-B
Vacant 5 C-I
Vacant 5-R
Harold Shapiro 6-B
Lindsay Imber 6-R
Tom Materna, 6-CI
Martin Hernandez 7-B
Jeffrey Kalban, 7-CI
Martin Stahl 7-R
Devon Jasiukonis,
Youth Representative
Alternate

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



CALIFORNIA



**Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council**



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 5721
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413
Website:
www.ShermanOaksNC.org

**SONC Board Meeting Agenda:
Monday, January 12, 2026 6:30 pm**

In-Person Meeting

Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center
5056 Van Nuys Blvd

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 Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items within SONC Jurisdiction period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, issues raised by the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to one minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

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.

Agenda Note: All items containing motions, at the time of agenda posting, are listed in **blue, bold text**.

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

- a. Welcome and Call to Order.**
- b. Pledge of Allegiance**
- c. Roll Call and the Establishment of Quorum.**

2. Administrative and Board Initiated Motions – Action Items

- a. A motion to approve the SONC Board meeting minutes of the December 8, 2025 and December 23, 2025.**

3. Motion to Approve Consent Calendar Items – President's appointments

- Green & Sustainability Committee appointment – Hana Weinstein and Martin Stahl
- Board Seat appointment – Kesavan Korand, Area 4 Residential Representative

4. Comments by LAPD SLOs, Public Agencies, Officials, Staff, and Council District Office

Public Comment for Public Agencies, etc.

Pursuant to Brown Act, there will be no discussion/back-and-forth while in session.

5. Scheduled Recess - The Council will stand in Recess.

6. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items within SONC Jurisdiction

7. Presentation – LA28 Olympics – Michael Menjivar, Director of Community Relations

8. Presentation – Los Angeles Charter Reform Initiative – Carla Fuentes, Charter Reform Commissioner

9. President's Report.

- a. SONC Board action SB 411 and SB 707 virtual meetings

- b. Martin Hernandez resigned as First Vice President

- c. **Vacant SONC Board Seats:** Area 2 Business, Area 3 Business, Area 5 Business, Area 5 Community Interest and Area 5 Residential.

- d. **Ad Hoc Committees status:** Planning Board Retreat and By Laws

- e. **Student Committee status**

- f. **SONC Board Meeting Speakers:** February 9th Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein-Soto

10. Election of 1st Vice President Term 2026 – 2027. Call for nominations from Board Members

11. Finance Motions & Committee Report Finance Committee - Jeffrey Hartsough, Chair. Meets on the 4th Wednesday of the Month

- a. **Motion:** Approve the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's (SONC) [Monthly Expenditure Report \(MER\) for the period ending November 30, 2025.](#)

12. Government Affairs Motions & Committee Report - Lindsay Imber, Chair. Meets on the 4th Tuesday of the Month

- a. **Motion – Support: CF 25-1514** Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council (VNY CAC) / Compiled Bylaws / Appointments

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports CF 25-1514 that City Council is in charge of its Van Nuys Airport Citizen's Advisory Council (VNY CAC) appointees, as written in the CAC founding documents. SONC opposes efforts by Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC) or Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) to unilaterally reduce or eliminate Councilmembers' ability to

appoint pre-existing seats, in conformance with the original intent of the structure of what CAC's original vision was, as created by Councilmember Ferraro at its initial phase of creation.

b. Motion from the floor, requires a second.

Support:

[CF 25-0639](#). Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE) Raids / Workplace / Worker Detentions / Inhumane Immigration Tactics / Use-of-Force Incidents / Los Angeles Police Department Response.

[CF 25-0694](#). Civil Rights Protection / Unconstitutional Searches, Seizures, and Detentions / Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

[CF 25-0695](#). Department Protocols / Federal Immigration Activity / Constitutional Rights Violations / Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports CF 25-0639 and condemns Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operations in Sherman Oaks and Los Angeles that violate due process, constitutional protections, and the safety of individuals in our community. These operations have caused fear and trauma among residents, particularly immigrant communities, regardless of citizenship status. Such actions raise serious concerns about violations of constitutional protections, including the Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable searches and seizures and the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments guaranteeing due process of law.

SONC is particularly concerned with use-of-force incidents in connection with ICE operations and associated protests, and joins other Neighborhood Councils in urging our city officials, including CD Councilmember Nithya Raman, Mayor Karen Bass, City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto and Police Chief Jim McDonnell to investigate and oppose any ICE activities that undermine civil liberties, and to provide support and legal resources for affected residents.

13. Green & Sustainability Committee Motions & Committee Report - Drew Johnstone, Co-Chair & Elizabeth Meshes Meets as Called by the Co-Chairs

a. Motion – The Green & Sustainability Committee recommends that when SONC purchases branded merchandise for public giveaways at community events—such as Movies in the Park, the Spring Tree Giveaway, and the Sherman Oaks Street Fair—these items should be made of biodegradable or recycled materials whenever possible, and be free of toxic or hazardous substances to people or the environment. All items should include clear labels indicating whether they are made of recycled content, whether they are considered safe, and free of any potential hazards.

b. Motion – Support [CF 25-0962](#) ShadeLA / Shade Expansion / Heat Action and Resilience Plan and the Sustainability Plan.

The planting of additional shade trees and the implementation of shade structures by the City of Los Angeles is an essential and impactful undertaking for several key reasons: 1) Temperature Regulation: Shade trees reduce ambient temperatures by blocking direct sunlight and releasing moisture through transpiration, creating cooler and more comfortable environments across neighborhoods. 2) Energy Savings: Well-placed shade trees help lower cooling costs for homes and businesses by reducing heat absorption, decreasing reliance on air conditioning, and ultimately reducing utility expenses. 3) Wildlife Habitat:

Trees play a vital role in supporting local biodiversity by providing shelter, nesting sites, and food sources for birds, insects, and other wildlife. 4) Air Quality Improvement: Trees absorb carbon dioxide and airborne pollutants while releasing oxygen, contributing to cleaner, healthier air for residents. 5) Soil Conservation: Strong root systems stabilize soil, reduce erosion, and enhance groundwater retention, improving the health of local ecosystems. 6) Aesthetic and Community Value: Shade trees add beauty, structure, and character to streetscapes and public spaces, enriching the visual appeal and overall livability of our neighborhoods. 7) Climate and Community Resilience: Investing in shade trees and shade infrastructure strengthens the City's ability to adapt to rising temperatures, supports long-term sustainability goals, and creates safer, more resilient communities.

14. Traffic & Transportation Committee Motions & Committee Report - Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger, Chair. Meets on the 1st Wednesday of the Month

a. *Motion - Whereas, in 2020 the Los Angeles City Council approved a motion ([Council File: 20-1267](#)) submitted by Council Member Paul Krekorian and seconded by Council Member Mitch O'Farrell to have the City Council "INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Analyst, in concert with the Los Angeles Police Department and the Office of the City Attorney to report on possible ways to more effectively limit the use of modified mufflers, especially in noise-sensitive areas."*

And whereas, a muffler noise problem still exists and the regulations for modified mufflers are not currently being heavily enforced in many areas of Los Angeles and this situation jeopardizes the public safety and quality-of-life that modified mufflers pose for our communities and users of the right-of-way.

And whereas, the original approved motion asked for the regulations for modified mufflers to be more heavily enforced, and asked the City Council to assess and consider whether local laws were sufficiently strong enough to address both public safety and quality of life issues that modified mufflers pose in L.A.'s neighborhoods. And whereas, there is no record within the LA City File system (CFS) indicating that further action was actually taken by any city agency after the original motion was approved.

It is now formally requested that:

The above-mentioned agencies authorize and undertake a project to test out and evaluate the implementation of several varieties of "Noise Cameras," and to begin the deployment of an unknown number of these devices at strategically sited locations along public streets, especially in areas that are experiencing an abundance of vehicle noise pollution from modified mufflers illegally installed on vehicles. These noise cameras should only be deployed in a manner so that they are not used for any other purposes other than capturing the license plate numbers on any vehicles that are found to be exceeding safe decibel levels. The cameras should not be deployed in any manner that would violate an individual's rights to privacy. The agencies mentioned are to provide a full status report covering this issue, the enforcement of the current statutes that apply, and the methods that have been undertaken in an attempt to reduce the noise pollution, to the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) and its community stakeholders.

15. Committee Reports with No Motion [2 Minutes for Each Report]

- a. Human Services Committee, Sarah Adamski & Pamela Haris, Co-Chairs. Meets on the 1st Monday of the Month**
- b. Outreach Committee - David Silverman, Chair. Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the Month**
- c. Planning & Land Use (PLUM) & Vision Committees - Jeff Kalban, Chair. PLUM Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the Month Vision Meets on the 1st Thursday of the Month**
- d. Public Safety Motions & Committee - Christy Adair & Susan Collins, Co-Chairs. Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month**
- f. Budget Advocates - Howard Katchen, SONC Representative.**

16. Board Member Announcements Closing announcements from Board Members.

17. Adjournment

Motions are introduced either by the Committee from which they were adopted, in which case the motion requires no second (denoted by “from committee”); or by an individual board member (“from floor”), in which case the motion requires a second. Items initiated via Consent Calendar are considered and voted on as one motion; members may request to take an item out of Calendar to consider said item individually.

The Americans With Disabilities Act As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, 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 the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@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 the SONC Secretary: elbethel.debela.sonc@gmail.com.

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Reconsideration and Grievance Process For information on the NC’s process for board 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 Board meetings and our website www.ShermanOaksNC.org.

[Meeting supporting documents are available at ShermanOaksNC.org.](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org)