

Executive Officers

Howard Katchen,
President 3-R
Lindsay Imber,
1st VP 7-R
Liebt 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
Kesavan Korand, 4-R
Vacant, 5-B
Vacant 5-CI
Vacant 5-R
Harold Shapiro 6-B
Tom Materna, 6-CI
Martin Hernandez 7-B
Martin Stahl 7-R
Jeffrey Kalban, 7-CI
Devon Jasiukonis,
Youth Representative
Alternate



**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, February 9, 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 January 12, 2026.

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

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. President's Report.

-New schedule regular meeting agenda posting through DONE to ENS.

Board Member requisite trainings and participation in SONC committee

Ad Hoc Committees status: Planning Board Retreat and By Laws

Student Committee status

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

SONC Board Meeting Speaker: March 9th City Attorney Hydee Feldstein-Soto

7. Green & Sustainability Committee - Drew Johnstone, Chair. Meets as Called by the Chair

a. Motion – Support CF 24-0602 Synthetic Grass / Artificial Turf / Polyflouoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) / Forever Chemicals / Health and Environmental Risks / Drought-Friendly Landscaping

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council supports the staff recommendations in CF 24-0602 and supports a ban on artificial turf in both public and private spaces due to the significant environmental and public health impacts associated with artificial turf installations in Los Angeles.

Since California's SB 676 was signed into law in October 2023—authorizing local agencies to prohibit the use of artificial turf—cities across the state have begun evaluating and, in some cases, advancing bans on its use. Artificial turf was originally promoted as a water-conservation solution by replacing natural grass in residential landscapes and athletic fields. However, evidence has demonstrated that artificial turf has failed to deliver these promised benefits and instead has created serious unintended consequences.

Artificial turf exacerbates the urban heat island effect, significantly increasing surface temperatures; eliminates water permeability, worsening stormwater runoff and flooding risks; and releases toxic pollutants, including PFAS and other harmful chemicals, into drinking water and surrounding ecosystems. It also contributes to the spread of microplastics into lakes, rivers, and oceans.

Additionally, studies show that athletes who play on artificial turf face a higher risk of injuries, and widespread turf installation contributes to the loss of urban habitat at a time when the planet is experiencing an unprecedented biodiversity crisis.

Finally, artificial turf is a petroleum-based product, incompatible with climate goals that require reducing reliance on fossil fuels. It is not recyclable, ultimately contributing to landfill waste and long-term environmental harm. Prohibiting the

installation of artificial turf and encourages sustainable, climate-resilient alternatives that protect public health, water quality, and urban ecosystems.

- b. **Motion** – Support CF [25-0002-S89](#) United States Department of the Interior / Oil and Gas Exploration and Expansion / Leasing and Drilling / California Coastline and Atlantic Coastline

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council supports CF 25-0002-S89 which establishes the City of Los Angeles' position opposing any federal action to expand or permit new oil and gas exploration, leasing, or drilling in federal waters off the California and Atlantic coastlines, and includes this position in the City's 2025–2026 Federal Legislative Program.

8. **Traffic Transportation motions & Committee Report - Stacey Segarra-Bohliger, Chair. Meets on the 1st Wednesday of the Month**

Motion: Parked Vehicle Idling / Community Reporting System

Whereas in February, 2022 the Los Angeles City Council unanimously voted in favor of [Council File 19-0604](#) relating to parked vehicle idling regulations; and Whereas in May, 2022 the Los Angeles City Council unanimously voted in favor of [Council File 22-0369](#) relating to establishing a community reporting system for idling commercial vehicles, similar to an established, successful program in New York City; and Whereas the aforementioned Council Files expired in 2024; and

Whereas parked vehicle idling remains an ongoing issue contributing to air and noise pollution, as well as unnecessary glare from headlights endangering oncoming pedestrians and vehicles;

Therefore, the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) requests the office of Council District 4 to report to SONC on what, if any, action was taken subsequent to the passage of the aforementioned council files.

If no action has been taken, or if action taken has not resulted in prohibition of parked vehicle idling and/or establishment of a community reporting system, we request that the office of Council District 4 create a motion for consideration by the Los Angeles City Council to ban parked vehicle idling (in excess of 60 seconds), and establish a community reporting system, potentially integrated into existing 311 systems, allowing members of the public to report idling commercial vehicles.

9. **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 December 31, 2025. ([SONC website meeting supporting documents](#))
- b. **NPG Application** - Shero Comics via Creative Visions
A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) amended in committee to amount of \$2,000.00 to Shero Comics via Creative Visions

in support of SheroCon 2026, a free community event taking place at Westfield Fashion Square I celebration of Women's History Month. SheroCon is designed as a family-friendly convention that highlights women and girls in comics, gaming, and creative technology. [Shero Comics \(Creative Visions\) NPG Application \(SONC website meeting supporting documents\)](#)

c. [Green & Sustainability Committee Funding Request](#)

A motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$300.00 for the purchase of Planting & Community Give-Back Supplies in support of the Green & Sustainability Committee's fabrication of SONC swag for distribution at SONC events. [Green & Sustainability Committee Funding Request – Proposed Budget \(SONC website meeting supporting documents\)](#)

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

a. [Motion: Support CF 26-0046. Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project / San Fernando Valley / Westside / Los Angeles International Airport \(LAX\) / Modified Alternative 5 / Proposed Phasing Plan.](#)

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports CF 26-0046, hereby supporting the selection of 'Modified Alternative 5' as the Locally Preferred Alternative by the Metro Board of Directors, as originally proposed by SONC in 2025, then-named Alternative 6R.

b. [Motion: From the floor, requires a second Support CF 26-0002-S1. 2025-2026 State Legislative Program / Assembly Bill 153 / Peace Officers / Independent Contractor / United States Department of Homeland Security \(DHS\)](#)

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports CF 26-0002-S1 in favor of Assembly Bill 153 to prohibit peace officers in the state of California from being employed by, serving as independent contractors for, or otherwise volunteering or working with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). SONC continues to condemn state terrorism perpetuated by Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE), which far exceeds its scope as an agency of DHS. In order to fulfill their oath to protect and to serve local communities, officers in the state of California must be prohibited from participating in ICE's national malfeasance.

11. **For Information Only – Ad Hoc By Laws Committee Suggestions – Submit Comments to Ad Hoc Committee Chair, Lindsay Imber**

1. Absences (Bylaw V.7)

In the event a Board member fails to attend four meetings during a calendar year the Board member will be subject to removal for the remainder of their term. "Absence" is hereby defined to be a failure of a Board member to be in attendance by the time of the vote on the first order of business, unless excused by the President with

concurrence of the Board members. “Absence” also occurs by an unexcused departure from the meeting prior to its conclusion. An absence will be excused when granted by the Presiding Officer with concurrence of the Board. An excuse may be requested in advance, or as a matter of personal privilege during a meeting. Late arrival, although constituting an “Absence”, will not deprive a board member from acting on all matters coming before the Board subsequent to that arrival. Excused absence is defined as: 1) Board or committee member is ill, taking care of an ill family member, or death of a family member 2) religious holiday 3) declared emergency. All excused absence requests are to be submitted to the SONC President for determination and approval by board concurrence.

2. Changing Community Interest & Business Seats to At-Large (Bylaw V.1.c, Bylaw X.2, Attachment B) Bylaw V.1.c: Unlike RSBMs, BSBMs & CISMBs are elected at large from within the entirety of SONC’s geographic boundaries such that three BSBM and CISBM seats are elected every four years and the remaining four BSBM and CISBM seats are elected every four years in staggered fashion. Bylaw V.4: Three BSBM and three CISBM seats will be elected in the same election as RSBM seats in Areas #1, 3, 5, and 7, while the remaining four BSBM and four CISBM seats will be elected in the same election as RSBM Areas #2, 4, and 6.

Bylaw X.2: Stakeholders shall select one of the seven (7) geographic areas, based on stakeholder status, as stated in Article V, in which they will cast their vote for a RSBM to represent that geographic area, as well as three or four BSBM & three or four CISBMs (depending on election year) for at-large representation. Stakeholders may register for one particular geographic area for each election. They may not vote for candidates in any other geographic area during the election, with the exception of the at-large BSBM and CISBM seats.

3. Alternate Seats for Committees (Standing Rule C.4.d)

Committee Chairs, with concurrence from the President and approval of the Executive Committee, may appoint a SONC stakeholder(s) to serve as an alternate member of their committee.

4. General Public Comment (New Standing Rule)

To the extent practicable, the General Public Comment period shall be placed toward the start of the agenda and shall precede Comments by Elected Officials, Staff, etc. The Outreach Committee shall be charged with establishing a form on the SONC website through which to receive electronic public comment prior to each meeting of the full council. Where cumulative public comment for a particular item is no more than 10 speakers per item, public comment time offered to each speaker shall be at least one minute in length.

5. Limit Presentations (New Standing Rule)

As a guideline when crafting agendas for each regular monthly meeting of the full council, guest speakers or presentations should be limited to one per meeting. This provision shall not be applicable to board member presentations relating to motions appearing on the agenda.

6. Vice and Co-Chairs for Committees (Standing Rule C.4.c)

Committees are encouraged to have appointments for no fewer than: One Chair and One Vice Chair; or Two Co-Chairs.

12. **Motion:** From the floor, requires a second

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council supports the Charter Reform recommendations approved by the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) as well as those approved by the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates.

The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition presented a set of Charter Reform recommendations to the Charter Reform Commission. You can find the full list of recommendations ([SONC website meeting supporting documents](#)) and the recommended Charter changes [SONC website meeting supporting documents](#). The list of reforms below are highlights from the recommendations.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL REFORMS

- Neighborhood Council right to speak
 - Neighborhood Councils shall have the right to speak, in person and telephonically, before all public meetings of the City, be in a separate queue from public comment, and shall be given five minutes to speak
 - NCs shall have the right to speak whenever an item appears on an agenda, even in cases where that item has already been heard by a committee
 - Neighborhood Councils, regardless of the City's position, may deliver to any governmental agency a statement passed in a Brown Acted public meeting at which there is quorum. The City may create and require language to indicate the NC is speaking for itself and not the City.
 - Neighborhood Councils shall monitor the delivery of City services in their respective areas and the City at-large. City services shall include all departments defined in the Charter and created by ordinance, joint power commissions, and offices of elected officials.
- City Departments, Commissions, and Offices that issue permits, approvals, or regulatory decisions following a public hearing (including but not limited to the City Planning Department, Department of Cannabis Regulation, and any successor or related offices) and ministerial construction projects that bypass City Planning and go directly to the Department of Building and Safety shall give NCs a minimum of 30 calendar days to weigh in.
 - The Department of City Planning shall ensure that all documents related to a case before the Department, including ministerial projects that bypass the Department of City Planning and go directly to the Department of Building and Safety are made public and posted to the online case file.
- During budget challenges, the percentage of Neighborhood Councils budget reductions shall not be greater than that of the office of the Mayor. When the Mayor's office budget is restored after the budget challenge, the Neighborhood Councils budgets are similarly restored.
- The City Attorney shall give advice or opinion in writing when requested by a Neighborhood Council President or Chair
- Increased the number of commissioners from seven to nine with the two additional commissioners being at-large and appointed by Neighborhood Councils

- At the same time as departments, Neighborhood Councils shall submit their budget request for the following year. The two at-large BONC commissioners shall be a single point-of-contact and shall organize the requests into a single request for the Mayor's consideration.

CITY-WIDE REFORMS

- The Ethics Commission shall have the ability to send items directly to the ballot when the City Council does not advance a recommendation or heavily amends a recommendation
- Five-year capital infrastructure plan that is updated bi-annually.
- Transparent and Ethical Council Votes. City Council members shall
 - Actively vote yes, no, or abstain on each motion on the agenda
 - Be visible to the public for the vote to count
 - File a Form 51 when recusing from a vote
 - Only be permitted to vote at City Council and Committee meetings if their required training is current.
- Update to codify mandatory telephonic public comment. Working people cannot go downtown to get on a queue where they hope to get one minute to speak.

13. **Motion:** From the floor, requires a second

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports the No Kings Protests scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2026.

SONC encourages our community:

- 1) to be informed and knowledgeable about the actions being taken by our federal government that threaten our constitutional rights, the rule of law, and our democracy.
- 2) to call and write their elected representatives asking them to take action to protect our rights and defend our democracy.
- 3) to be active, engaged, and participate in the No Kings Protests on March 28th.
- 4) to protest respectfully, peacefully, and non-violently.

Furthermore, SONC requests that the Los Angeles City Council and City agencies and departments support and promote the peaceful No Kings Protests in our City.

14. **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

c. Budget Advocates - Howard Katchen, Budget Advocate & SONC Representative.

15. Board Member Announcements Closing announcements from Board Members.

16. 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: stacey.segarrabohlinger.sonc@gmail.com.

Public Posting of Agendas Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows: • Sherman Oaks Public Library, 14245 Moorpark St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423. • www.ShermanOaksNC.org • You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>.

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.

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.](#)