

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

**Sherman Oaks Neighborhood
Council Governing Board**



Drew Johnstone, Co-Chair

Elizabeth Meshes, Co-Chair

Amanda Martin

Harold Shapiro

Mihran Kalaydjian

Sarina Klemes

Hana Weinstein

Martin Stahl

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

Website: www.ShermanOaksNC.org

**SHERMAN OAKS
NEIGHBORHOOD
COUNCIL**

Green & Sustainability Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

6:30 P.M.

Zoom Meeting

Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone

Dial +1 669 444 9171 to Join the Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/w/87489661726> OR

Enter This Webinar ID: 874 8966 1726 and Press #

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE JANUARY 1, 2025 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 707 (PORTANTINO) AND LA CITY COUNCIL FILE 23-1114, THE SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL GREEN & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.

Every person wishing to address the Board must dial +1 669 444 9171, and then press # to join the meeting. When prompted by the presiding officer, to provide public input at the Neighborhood Council meeting the public will be requested to dial *9 or use the Raise Hand option, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an 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 are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment 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, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to _____ minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

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 Section 54960.1. **California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(3).**

The 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. **California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(4).**

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. **California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(5),**

A 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 paragraph (5), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(6)(A), on

A 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 paragraph (5), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(6)(B).

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

- a. Call to Order by Co-Chair
- b. Roll Call and the Establishment of Quorum.
 - i. Present: Harold Shapiro, Elizabeth Meshes, Drew Johnstone, Martin Stahl, Hana Weinstein, Mihran Kalaydjian
 - ii. Absent: Sarina Klemes
 - iii. Public: Charles Hanna (Forward Alliance Los Angeles)

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MOTIONS

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 10, 2025.
 - i. Modification of Hana Weinstein from Director to correct title
 1. Vote:
 - Drew Johnstone, Co-Chair
 - Elizabeth Meshes, Co-Chair
 - Amanda Martin
 - Harold Shapiro
 - Mihran Kalaydjian
 - Sarina Klemes
 - Hana Weinstein
 - Martin Stahl

III. CO-CHAIR'S REPORT

- a. **Elizabeth Meshes provided update on finance request**

- i. The Green & Sustainability Committee requests Finance Committee approval for funding not to exceed the amount of \$300 to cover the costs of the following items: Labelling materials (e.g., stencil, stamp, etc.) that will facilitate the placing of the SONC Green & Sustainability Committee brand and logo on planters/liners. The acquisition of planters/liners. The acquisition of potting soil. These supplies will be utilized to begin plantings of seedlings and cuttings and for provision of free plants by the Green & Sustainability Committee at any future SONC Events, including the

Movies in the Park, the Spring Tree Giveaway, the Sherman Oaks Street Fair and any SONC Committee or Council meetings.

b. Referred back to committee:

- c. Include a brief support position on the council file that can be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to the council file. You can view the council file and sample some of the CIS's submitted by other neighborhood councils.

- i. The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) is in favor of City council file **CF 24-0602**

Titled - Synthetic Grass / Artificial Turf / Polyflouroalkyl Substances (PFAS) / Forever Chemicals / Health and Environmental Risks / Drought-Friendly Landscaping

Motion: The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council supports the staff recommendations in CF 24-0602.

Furthermore, the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council 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.

For these reasons, the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council supports prohibiting the installation of artificial turf and encourages sustainable, climate-resilient alternatives that protect public health, water quality, and urban ecosystems.

- Moved by Harold Shapiro and seconded by Mihran Kalaydjian.
- Yes votes: Unanimous
- Requested to send to Sanitation, Office of the City Attorney, Office of CD4, and entire city council, Department of Recreation and Parks

IV. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

a. Charles Hannah from <https://forwardalliance.org/>

- i. Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan, published Summer 2024

- ii. Project 16;
- iii. Offered a site-visit for committee chairs/members

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Appointment recommendation
 - i. Barbara Lewis
 - 1. To be removed from agenda. Barbara Lewis was not present at the meeting.
- b. **CF 25-0002-S89**, United States Department of the Interior / Oil and Gas Exploration and Expansion / Leasing and Drilling / California Coastline and Atlantic Coastline (McOske - Nazarian - Park - Hutt) Introduced November 4, 2025 and referred to the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee.
 - i. The Resolution is requesting that the City of Los Angeles include in its 2025-2026 Federal Legislative Program OPPOSITION to any action by the United States Department of the Interior to open or expand oil and gas exploration, leasing, or drilling in federal waters off the California coastline, and the Atlantic coastline.
 - ii. Relevant resources:
 - 1. <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnum=ber=25-0002-S89>
 - iii. CIS:
 - 1. The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council SUPPORTS Council File 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. CF 25-0002-S89, United States Department of the Interior / Oil and Gas Exploration and Expansion / Leasing and Drilling / California Coastline and Atlantic Coastline (McOske - Nazarian - Park - Hutt) introduced November 4, 2025, and referred to the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee. The item was adopted on December 05, 2025 by the Los Angeles City Council, and the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council would like to signify its support.
 - Moved by Amanda Martin and seconded by Mihran Kalaydjian
 - Unanimous approval
- c. Recommendations for invited speakers for the SONC Board & Committee Meetings
- d. Garden (e.g., Cactus/Plant) Request for Stern & Ventura Intersection
- e. Studio City Neighborhood Council Sustainability & Beautification Committee
 - i. Relevant resources:
 - 1. <https://www.studiocitync.org/assets/documents/15/meeting69097220a4b78.pdf>
- f. Discussion on priorities

VI. ADJOURNMENT (End time is approximately 9:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter) until the next meeting on February 11, 2026.

THE AMERICAN 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 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 contact Elizabeth Meshes, Co-Chair, Elizabeth.Meshes.SONC@NeighborhoodCouncil.org.

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

- The Sherman Oaks Martine Pollard Branch Library; 14245 Moorpark St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
- <https://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>

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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 <https://www.shermanoaksnc.org/>