

**Sherman Oaks  
Neighborhood Council**

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



CALIFORNIA



**Executive Officers**

Howard Katchen,  
President 3-R  
Lindsay Imber,  
1st VP 7-R  
Liel 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  
Vacant 3-CI  
Ryan Ahari, 4-B  
David Silverman, 4-CI  
Kesavan Korand, 4-R  
Vacant, 5-B  
Vacant 5 C-I  
Sybil Azur 5-R  
Harold Shapiro 6-B  
Tom Materna, 6-CI  
Lance Khazei 7-B  
Martin Stahl 7-R  
Jeffrey Kalban, 7-CI  
Devon Jasiukonis,  
Youth Representative  
Alternate



**Sherman Oaks  
Neighborhood Council**

**SONC Board Meeting Agenda:  
Monday, June 8, 2026, 6:30 pm**

**In-Person Meeting**

Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center  
5056 Van Nuys Blvd

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

Website:  
[www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org)

**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 April 13, 2026 and May 11, 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. Presentations of Certificates of Recognition to SONC Youth Representative and Alternate Youth Representative**

**6. Sally Sacon - Director of Strategic Marketing and Communications – Update Neighborly Commitment**

**7. Scheduled Recess - *The Council will stand in Recess.***

**8. Presentation Guest Speaker – Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass**

**9. President's Report**

**- Public Records Act Request (PRA) May 12, 2026 Status**

**-City Clerk is funded and plans to hold hybrid, in person and by mail, neighborhood council elections**

**-Ad Hoc Committees status:** Board Retreat – proposed date Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**-Ad Hoc Committees status:** By Laws changes status BONC hearing.

**-Student Committee status**

**-2026 – 2027 SONC Youth Representative and Alternate Youth Representative Selection Committee Decision –Devon Jasiukonis will serve as Youth Representative and Ian Nachenberg will serve as Alternate Youth Representative**

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

**-SONC Secretary position open after June 30<sup>th</sup> – Need a Board Member to fill the position**

**-Sherman Oaks Encino Chamber – Plan celebration(s) 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Sherman Oaks in 2027.**

**- Joy P. Atkinson Neighborhood Council Awards (formerly Empower LA Awards) – Nominations due by June 30th**

**-Register For Budget Day ([budgetadvocates.com](http://budgetadvocates.com)) at City Hall Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**

**-Partner with CD 4 & MySafe LA Wildfire Disaster Preparedness Fair on Saturday, June 27th at the Autry Museum from 10AM-2PM. SONC tabling at the event?**

**-SONC Board Meeting Speaker: July 13<sup>th</sup> Councilmember Nithya Raman**

- 10. President's committee appointment:**  
**Motion** to approve appointment of Kira Durbin, Public Safety Committee
- 11. 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**

**Motion from committee**

**SUPPORT FOR LA RIVERWAY SEGMENT 7 & COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS:  
ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CYCLE 8**

**The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council writes in strong-support of the application from the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering to the Statewide Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 8, to design and construct the LARiverWay Segment 7 & Community Connections project. The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council is an LA City elected board that represents the Sherman Oaks community.**

**The LARiverWay Segment 7 & Community Connections project will deliver significant active transportation infrastructure in the East San Fernando Valley that will improve local and regional safety and connectivity. The project includes more than a mile of Class I multi-use path along the Los Angeles River, nearly two miles of Class IV protected bikeway on Hazeltine Avenue, and numerous community mobility improvements such as three roundabouts, three new signalized intersections, dozens of ADA-compliant curb ramps, and multiple signal modifications. These measures coalesce to create a complete and safe corridor between the neighborhoods, major transit options, and the growing regional LARiverWay bikeway. The project's direct connection to Disadvantaged Communities will provide residents there with the safer, better, and more numerous mobility options they deserve.**

**This project is important to our Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council and the community because we have been working with the Bureau of Engineering for 10 years on this project and look forward to working closely with them on future design decisions for Section 7 and the Community Connections.**

**This investment is well supported and clearly needed. The scope of the project was informed directly by community input over many years of development. Engagement in 2025 and 2026 involving hundreds of stakeholders led to the confirmation of the LARiverWay project scope and selection of the protected Hazeltine Ave. bikeway corridor. Residents consistently express strong support for protected facilities that this project provides to help them feel safe and confident while rolling and walking. Many injuries and deaths will be prevented by funding and building this project.**

**The safety, mobility, and sustainability benefits that this project will bring to our community are numerous and substantial. We respectfully urge the California Transportation Commission to award full funding to the LARiverWay Segment 7 & Community Connections project. Thank you very much for your consideration.**

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

**Motions from Committee**

- a. **CF 26-0489-S6**. Ranked Choice Voting. Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) / Approval Voting (AV) / Voting Reforms / City Elections / Charter Reform.

**Position: FOR.** The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports the adoption of Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) in the City of Los Angeles. By providing voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference such that if a voter's first choice doesn't have a chance to win, that voter's voice can still be heard and counted for their next choice, RCV supports more representative outcomes while giving a voice to candidates and voters who might otherwise not have a chance to be heard in a first past the post voting system. RCV frees voters from political games and calculus of considering how others will vote and allows voters to freely vote by preferential order, rather than all-or-nothing methodology associated with the current first past the post voting system. RCV is used in 49 American jurisdictions, including Oakland, San Francisco, and Redondo Beach. RCV should be adopted by the City of Los Angeles as well.

- b. **CF 25-0002-S100**. Secretary Robert F Kennedy, Jr / Gender-Affirming Healthcare Services / Healthcare for Minors / 2025-2026 Legislative Program.

**Position: FOR.** The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) supports City Council's resolution seeking to oppose federal rules that attempt to deprive young people from receiving medical care that is deemed essential by leading medical and public health organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association, and World Health Organization. SONC opposes the federal government's attempt to discriminate against minority communities, including the transgender community, by engaging in the genocidal act of denying medically necessary and life-saving gender-affirming care and obstructing deeply personal medical decisions that should be between patients, parents, and medical professionals.

**13. By Laws Ad Hoc Committee – Recommended Additions and Changes to SONC Standing Rules and Procedures**

- a. **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.**
- b. **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.**

- c. **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.
- d. **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.
- e. **Outreach Committee appointments for: (Standing Rule) Newsletter Editor, Website Admin, Social Media, Photographer** Standing Rule C.1.d: The Outreach Committee shall appoint from its membership an editor for the monthly newsletter, administrator for the SONC website, manager for SONC social media, and photographer/videographer or archivist to work in concert with the social media manager. The same person may serve in more than one role.

**14. Motion from the floor – requires a second**

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) strongly opposes [AB 2624](#), also referred to as the “Stop Nick Shirley Act”.

While SONC agrees with the principle of protecting immigration support service providers, we have concerns about the chilling effect this legislation may have on investigative journalism, particularly investigations that target taxpayer-funded entities.

We share concerns expressed by [Assemblymember DeMaio of District 75](#), namely that this legislation may “silence citizen journalists and shield taxpayer-funded organizations from public scrutiny.” We further echo the sentiments expressed by DeMaio regarding “language that would allow individuals affiliated with certain organizations to demand the removal of video recordings — even if taken in public — and even impose costly financial penalties against those who publish the videos online.”

SONC is deeply concerned that this bill could be used to block investigative reporting and intimidate journalists, watchdog groups, and members of the public documenting wrongdoing. While SONC supports protecting immigration support service providers, we believe this goal can be achieved without compromising freedom of the press, which is a constitutional right, and essential to democracy.

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

**Motion from Finance Committee**

**SONC Fiscal Year Admin Packet for FY 2026-2027**

A motion to approve the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's (SONC) NC Fiscal Year Administrative Packet for FY 2026-2027.

[SONC Admin Packet for FY 2026-2027](#)

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

**b. Green & Sustainability Committee – Elizabeth Meshes, Co-Chair. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month**

**c. Human Services Committee, Sarah Adamski & Pamela Haris, Co-Chairs. Meets on the 1st Monday of the Month**

**d. Outreach Committee - David Silverman, Chair. Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the Month**

**e. Public Safety Committee - Christy Adair & Susan Collins, Co-Chairs. Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month**

**f. Traffic Transportation Committee Report - Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger, Chair. Meets on the 1st Wednesday of the Month**

**g. Budget Advocates - Howard Katchen, Budget Advocate & SONC Representative.**

**17. Board Member Announcements Closing announcements from Board Members.**

**18. 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:ElBethel.Debela.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](http://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](https://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto: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](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org).

[Meeting supporting documents are available at ShermanOaksNC.org.](#)