

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

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Lindsay Imber,
1st VP 7-R
Lielt Endashaw
2nd VP 1-R
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Christy Adair, 1-CI
Vacant, 2-B
Vacant 2-R
Vacant, 3-B
Vacant 3-CI
Vacant - 4-B
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Kesavan Korand, 4-R
Vacant, 5-B
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Vacant 5-R
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Youth Representative
Ian Nachenberg,
Alternate Youth
Representative

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



CALIFORNIA



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

**SONC Board Meeting Agenda:
Monday, September 14,
2026, 6:30pm**

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

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 August 10, 2026.

3. **General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items within SONC Jurisdiction**
Pursuant to Brown Act, there will be no discussion/back-and-forth while in session.

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

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

5. **Presentation CIRCLE Program – Nicholas Waldon (15 minutes)**

6. **Presentation Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) – homeless count results - Darick Blackshere (15 minutes)**

7. **President's Report**

-Immediate Need SONC Secretary

-Resignation Ryan Ahari – Area 4 Business Representative

- Board Retreat Saturday, August 15th

- Board Member Funding Training

- 2027 SONC hybrid election day Thursday, May 6, 2027 at Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Candidate filing begins Tuesday, December 22nd.

--SONC, SOHA, Chamber of Commerce Mayoral Debate

-Eight Vacant SONC Board Seats: Residential in Areas 2 & 5, At Large Business 4 seats and At Large Community Interest 2 seats.

--Sherman Oaks Encino Chamber – Plan celebration(s) 100th Anniversary of Sherman Oaks in 2027.

- SONC sponsored utility box artwork renovation

- Agendas and meeting minutes use Ariel 12 font

-SONC Board and Committee Chair Roster

8. **Floor motion – requires a second**

- a. A motion to reconsider August 10, 2026 SONC Board action on motion [CF 26-0906-S4](#) Boyle Heights / East Los Angeles / Cold Storage Warehouse / Fire /1400 South Los Palos Street / Los Angeles Fire Department /

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program

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

Motion from committee

- a. **SONC Monthly Expenditure Report period ending July 31, 2026**
A motion to approve the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's (SONC) Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the period ending July 31, 2026
[SONC Monthly Expenditure Report for period ending July 31, 2026](#)
10. **Planning & Land Use (PLUM) & Vision Committees Motions & Committee Report- Jeff Kalban, Chair. PLUM Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the Month Vision Meets on the 1st Thursday of the Month**

Floor Motion – requires a second

- a. **Missing Middle Ordinance Motion**

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council requests that, if the Los Angeles Missing Middle Ordinance provides additional density incentives beyond those required by California State law, such incentives should promote gentle density that encourages additional naturally affordable housing, improves quality of life, and supports the thoughtful development of neighborhoods, rather than facilitating the bulky, high-mass, and neighborhood-incompatible development currently proposed in the ordinance.

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council further requests that the Los Angeles City Planning Department revise the Missing Middle Ordinance to ensure that it is transparent, accessible, and understandable to the public. All proposed housing types, site planning concepts, development standards, and potential neighborhood impacts should be clearly illustrated through drawings that accurately depict proposed development to scale within a meaningful neighborhood context. These illustrations should show adjacent homes, homes across the street, and the relationship between proposed development and the surrounding community.

Any additional density incentives provided by the City beyond those required by State law should be based, at a minimum, on the following elements:

- 1.No more than three ADUs on any property;
2. A minimum of 25 percent deep-soil open space;
3. Minimum 15-foot front and rear yard setbacks; and
4. Objective design standards that ensure new development is thoughtfully designed and compatible with the scale, character, and context of the surrounding neighborhood;
5. No mobile, tiny homes. Our neighborhoods are not mobile home parks.

A Better Way to Achieve Missing Middle Housing

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Vision Committee has prepared drawings demonstrating that the goals of the Missing Middle Ordinance, including bungalow courts and townhomes, can be achieved while respecting existing zoning setbacks and providing meaningful open space.

These concepts demonstrate that Los Angeles can increase housing opportunities without sacrificing the qualities that make existing Neighborhoods livable. The City can encourage additional housing while maintaining adequate setbacks, open space, landscaping, and a compatible relationship between new development and neighboring homes.



The Missing Middle Ordinance should also ensure that California State housing incentives are implemented in a manner that supports Los Angeles' own stated objectives of gentle density, naturally affordable housing, neighborhood compatibility, quality of life, and meaningful community development.

Los Angeles has an opportunity to create a Missing Middle Ordinance that truly lives up to its name. That requires a transparent public process, clear and realistic illustrations, and incentives that encourage well-designed housing integrated into existing Neighborhoods, not incentives that simply produce greater bulk and mass with little regard for the surrounding community.

11. Floor Motion – requires a second

**Letter in Support of Reinstating Gender-Affirming Care for Transgender Youth at Children's Hospital LA
Addressed to:**

Mr. Paul S. Viviano
President and Chief Executive Officer
Office of the CEO
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
4650 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90027
CC:
LA City Council
LA City Mayor, Karen Bass
LA City Attorney, Hydee Feldstein-Soto

Dear Mr. Viviano, and appropriate Los Angeles and California Representatives:

Children's Hospital Los Angeles has earned an international reputation for excellence because it has consistently placed the health and well-being of children above all else. For generations, parents have turned to CHLA during the most difficult moments of their children's lives, trusting your physicians to provide compassionate, evidence-based medical care without prejudice or discrimination.

It is precisely because of that extraordinary legacy that the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council joins Silver Lake Neighborhood Council and Protect Trans Youth LA to ask you to reconsider one of the most consequential decisions in the hospital's history: the closure of the Center for Transyouth Health and Development and the discontinuation of gender-affirming care for transgender youth on July 22, 2025 after over 30 years in operation, terminating care for nearly 3,000 patients.

This decision did not occur because the medications suddenly became unsafe. It did not occur because physicians lost confidence in their medical judgment. It did not occur because transgender youth no longer needed care.

The need remains. The medical professionals remain. The science remains. What changed was the political climate. Healthcare decisions should be guided by physicians, patients, and families—not by political pressure or uncertainty about shifting federal priorities.

Recent events demonstrate why:

On May 18, 2026, the Colorado Supreme Court issued a landmark decision concluding there was sufficient evidence that Children's Hospital Colorado's suspension of gender-affirming care could constitute unlawful discrimination under Colorado law. The court recognized that puberty blockers and hormone therapies continue to be prescribed within pediatric medicine for numerous medical conditions affecting cisgender youth while being withheld from transgender patients seeking the very same medications as part of medically-indicated treatment. The decision underscored a fundamental principle: similarly situated patients should not be treated differently because of their gender identity.

That principle deserves careful consideration in California as well.

California has long been a national leader in protecting equal access to healthcare. The Unruh Civil Rights Act and Government Code section 11135 prohibit discrimination based on gender identity. Those laws reflect a simple but profound value—that every person deserves equal treatment under the law and equal dignity in our healthcare system.

Since February 20, 2025, members of Protect Trans Youth LA have gathered every Thursday outside Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. Families, healthcare advocates, transgender youth, faith leaders, and community members have stood together week after week, not in anger, but in hope.

...Hope that CHLA would once again become the hospital these families once trusted.

...Hope that the institution known for caring for children would again provide medically

necessary care to every child who needs it.

...Hope that compassion would ultimately prevail over fear.

For more than seventeen months, Protect Trans Youth LA’s message has remained unchanged:

Every child deserves access to medically appropriate healthcare.

Every family deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

No child should lose access to healthcare because of their gender identity.

Another important development has occurred. This month, the Department of Health and Human Services abandoned its proposed rule that would have threatened hospitals with the loss of Medicaid funding for providing gender-affirming care to minors. One of the principal uncertainties cited when CHLA suspended these services has now changed. This presents an opportunity to reassess the hospital’s decision in light of the current legal and regulatory landscape.

Reopening the Center for Transyouth Health and Development would not simply restore a medical program. It would restore hope to families across California. It would reaffirm CHLA’s longstanding commitment to evidence-based medicine, equal treatment, and compassionate pediatric care. It would send a powerful message that every child who walks through your doors deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council joins the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council and Protect Trans Youth LA to respectfully ask that Children’s Hospital Los Angeles:

- Restore gender-affirming care for transgender youth.**
- Reestablish the Center for Transyouth Health and Development.**
- Ensure that patients are not denied medically appropriate treatment because of their gender identity.**
- Meet with affected families, physicians, and community stakeholders to discuss a path forward built on compassion, science, and equity.**

History often remembers institutions not for the pressures they faced, but for the principles they chose to uphold.

CHLA has an opportunity to lead once again - not because it is easy, but because it is right.

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council joins Silver Lake Neighborhood Council and Protect Trans Youth LA to ask you to seize this moment and restore the care that so many California families continue to need.

Additionally, we are asking for support in this effort from LA City Council, LA City Mayor Karen Bass, LA City Attorney Heidi Feldstein-Soto, LA County District Attorney Nathan Hochman, and California Attorney General Rob Bonta.

Respectfully,

**Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council
Adapted from letter authored by Colin Campbell, and edited by Maebe A. Girl
Protect Trans Youth LA**

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

- a. Green & Sustainability Committee – Elizabeth Meshes, Chair. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month & Beautification Sub-Committee**
- b. Human Services Committee, Sarah Adamski & Pamela Haris, Co-Chairs. Meets on the 1st Monday of the Month**
- a. Outreach Committee - David Silverman, Chair. Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the Month**
- b. Student Committee – Devon Jasiukonis**
- c. Budget Advocates - Howard Katchen, Budget Advocate & SONC Representative.**

13. Board Member Announcements Closing announcements from Board Members.

14. 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 to SONC:hkatchen@shermanoaksnc.org

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