

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



**DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
OFFICERS**

CLAUDIA OLIVEIRA  
PRESIDENT

JIM SARRATORI  
VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION

WENDY CELAYA  
VICE PRESIDENT OF  
COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH

DEBBY ZHOU  
SECRETARY

TONY HOOVER  
TREASURER

**DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**IN-PERSON MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

Tuesday, April 11th, 2023 – 6:30 PM

City Hall East - City Controller's Office Room 351

Contact: claudia.oliveira@dlanc.com for more information

• **Call to Order/Roll Call**

- Called to order at 7:25pm

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	H	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	H	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	H
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	H	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	H	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	H	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	H
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	H	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	H	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	H
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	H	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	H	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	H	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

• **General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

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 comments are limited to two minutes per speaker with a total time of ten minutes. (The chair, depending on the number of speakers and time considerations, may change these parameters.).

- **Declaration of Ex-Parte Communications**

**4. President’s Report**

**5. Speakers**

- a. City/County/State/Federal elected officials or representatives
- b. Liaisons Reports - Open positions: LLANC, Purposeful Aging, Data, DWP MOU, Budget Representative

**6. Board Seats (all items subject to discussion and possible action) - None**

**7. Minutes**

- a. Approval of 03/14/2023 Special Board of Directors meeting minutes
  - i. Motion by Tony to approve. Wendy seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Y	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Y	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	Y	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

ii. Motion passes (13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 10 Absent)

**8. Consent Calendar - None**

**9. Old Business - None**

**10. Treasurer’s Items: (All items subject to discussion and possible action)**

- a. Approve March 2023 MERS
  - i. Tony motioned to approve. Ana seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Y	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A

<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Y	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	Y	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

i. Motion passes (13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 10 Absent)

b. Extend our annual Zoom license to May 2024. Amount not to exceed \$500, monies to come from the Office budget.

i. Tony motioned. Debby seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Y	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Y	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	Y	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

ii. Motion passes (13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 10 Absent)

c. Approve an expenditure not to exceed \$2,000 for meeting spaces. Monies to come from the Office budget line item.

i. Tony motioned. Samir seconded.

ii. Debby motioned to amend the language to be a monthly \$2,000 to account of larger rooms for PLUC and AV just in case it is needed. Samir seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Y	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y

<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Y	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	Y	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

i. Motion passes (13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 10 Absent)

ii. Original Motion vote

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Y	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Y	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	Y	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

iii. Motion passes (13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 10 Absent)

d. Approve an expenditure not to exceed \$500 for meeting related expenses. Monies to come from the office.

i. Tony motioned. Christian seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Y	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Y	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	Y	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

i. Motion passes (13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 10 Absent)

## 5. New Business (all items subject to discussion and possible action)

a. PLUC - None

b. Livability

- i. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support of [CF 23-0167](#) - Bureau of Street Services / Urban Forestry Division / City Forest Officer / Sidewalk Repairs / Preserve Mature Street Trees

Livability Vote Count: Y(5), N(0), A (0), Absent (0)

- Debby motioned. Melynda seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Abs	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Abs	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Abs	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	N	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Abs	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	N	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

- Motion passes. (7 Yes, 2 No, 4 Abstain, 10 Absent)

- ii. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support of [CF 22-1465](#) - Peak Hour Travel Lanes / Non-Transit Priority Streets / Bike and Scooter Lanes / High-Injury Network

Livability Vote Count: Y(5), N(0), A (0), Absent (0)

- Debby motioned to approve items #2,3,4. Melynda seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Y	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Y	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	Y	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

- Motion passes (13 Yes, 0 No, 10 Absent)

- iii. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support if amended of [CF 23-0248](#) - Vacant Building Abatement (VBA) / Public Nuisance / Demolition / Building Inspections / Expedited Process

Livability Vote Count: Y(5), N(0), A (0), Absent (0)

- iv. Discussion and possible action to submit a [letter](#) in support of designating a JEDI Zone for the Broadway Theater District

Livability Vote Count: Y(5), N(0), A (0), Absent (0)

**c. Government Liaison**

- i. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support of Council File 23-0002-S42

(Y) 2 (N) 0 (A) 0 (Absent) 0

- Leonel motioned to pass items #1,2,3,4. Pablo seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	N	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Abs.	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Y	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	Y	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

- Motion passes (11 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abstain, 10 Absent)

- ii. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support of Council File 23-0335

(Y) 2 (N) 0 (A) 0 (Absent) 0

- iii. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support of Council File 23-0336

(Y) 2 (N) 0 (A) 0 (Absent) 0

- iv. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support of Council File 23-0321

(Y) 2 (N) 0 (A) 0 (Absent) 0

**d. Outreach**

- i. Update on the Wellness Day
- ii. Discussion and possible action to Sponsor Spring Street Park Movie Night in May date TBD.  
Y (3), N (0), A (0), Absent (0)

- Wendy motioned. Pablo seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Y	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A
<b>Wendy Celaya</b>	Y	<b>Damion Wagner</b>	Y	<b>Vacant Area Wide Homeless</b>	-

- Motion passes (13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 10 Absent)

**e. Rules & Selections - None**

**f. Other Items**

- i. Approve a Letter of Intent to form a partnership between Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI) and DLANC for the “Testing and Evaluation of Curb Management and Integrated Strategies to Catalyze Market Adoption of Electric Vehicles.”

- Jim motioned to approve the letter. Samir seconded.

<b>Patti Berman</b>	A	<b>Ryan Afari</b>	A	<b>Allen Gross</b>	A
<b>Claudia Oliveira</b>	Y	<b>Ana Carril-Grumberg</b>	Y	<b>Leonel Aguilar</b>	Y
<b>Tony Hoover</b>	Y	<b>Samir Bitar</b>	Y	<b>Cody Nowak</b>	A
<b>Wendell Blassingame</b>	A	<b>Melynda Choothesa</b>	Y	<b>Jim Sarratori</b>	Y
<b>Robert Martinez</b>	A	<b>Tyler Murphy</b>	Y	<b>Jehan Reagan</b>	A
<b>Scott Miller</b>	A	<b>Pablo Fontoura</b>	Y	<b>Debby Zhou</b>	Y
<b>Nathan Mahaffey</b>	A	<b>Christian Dittmer</b>	Y	<b>James Wilde</b>	A

Wendy Celaya	Y	Damion Wagner	Y	Vacant Area Wide Homeless	-
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- Motion passes (13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 10 Absent)

## 6. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

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 comments are limited to two minutes per speaker with a total time of ten minutes. (The chair, depending on the number of speakers and time considerations, may change these parameters.)

## 7. Board Members and Committee Announcements

## 8. Next Meeting May 9th, 2023

## 9. Adjourn

- Adjourned at 9:16pm.

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS:** *The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the [committee] on any agenda item before the committee 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 committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the committee 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 committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer.*

**CONSENT ITEMS:** *There will be no separate discussion of Consent items as they are considered routine and will be adopted by one motion. If a member of the Board, Committee, or a stakeholder requests discussion on a particular item, that item will be removed from Consent and considered separately. Such items will be moved to the end of the agenda.*

**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 §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics@lacity.org](mailto:ethics@lacity.org). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@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 members in advance of a meeting may be viewed on our website by clicking on the following link: [www.dlanc.com](http://www.dlanc.com), 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 the secretary, [debby.zhou@dlanc.com](mailto:debby.zhou@dlanc.com)*

**POSTING:** *In compliance with Government Code section 54954.2(a), Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review at the Department of Recreation & Parks - Pershing Square Office, 532 S. Olive, and at [www.dlanc.com](http://www.dlanc.com). You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at: <https://www.lacity.org/government/subscribe-agendasnotifications/neighborhood-councils>.*

**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS:** *For information on the DLANC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the DLANC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and on our website [www.dlanc.com](http://www.dlanc.com).*

**DISABILITY POLICY:** *The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. Upon request, the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive 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 prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at (213) 978-1551 or email [NCSupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCSupport@lacity.org).*

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE SECTION 403** (Amended by Stats, 1994, Ch. 923, Sec. 159. Effective January 1, 1995.) –



*Every person who, without authority of law willfully disturbs or breaks up any assembly or meeting that is not unlawful in its character, other than an assembly or meeting referred to in Section 302 of the Penal Code or Section 18340 of the Elections Code, is guilty of a misdemeanor.*

**SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN:** *Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contact [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).*