

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



**DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
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**DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN-PERSON MEETING MINUTES**

**City Hall East - Controller's room
200 N Main St, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tuesday, September 12th, 2023 – 6:30 PM
Contact: claudia.oliveira@dlanc.com for more information**

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Secretaria Debby Zhou por correo electrónico debby.zhou@dlanc.com para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

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 2 minutes per speaker unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call 6:43PM

Melynda Choothesa	P 7:18PM	Alisha Henderson	P	Hakeem Parke-Davis	P
Claudia Oliveira	P	Ana Carril-Grumberg	P	Leonel Aguilar	P
Jens Midthun	P	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross	P
Wendy Celaya	P	"Russian Rick" Young	P	Lori Aliksanian	A
Damion Wagner	P	Tyler Murphy	P	Garrett A South	P
Center City East Resident - Vacant		Samir Bitar	P - ALT	Debby Zhou	P
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	P	Lawrence Carroll	P 6:59 PM

Scott Miller	P	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	P
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19 PRESENT, 4 ABSENT

2. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

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3. 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

6. Board Seats (all items subject to discussion and possible action)

- a. Selection of Center City East Resident Director

7. Minutes

- a. Approval of 08/08/2023 Board of Director meeting minutes.

Luis motioned to approve, Damion seconded

Y (18), Abstain (0), N (0), Absent (5)

- b. Approval of 08/15/2023 Special Board of Directors/PLUC meeting minutes

TABELED, not posted/available for review

8. Consent Calendar - None

9. Old Business - None

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

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

- i. Approval of [July 2023 MERS](#)

Wendy motioned to approve, Damion seconded

Melynda Choothesa	Y	Alisha Henderson	Y	Hakeem Parke-Davis	Y
Claudia Oliveira	Y	Ana Carril-Grumberg	Y	Leonel Aguilar	Y
Jens Midthun	Y	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross	Y
Wendy Celaya	Y	“Russian Rick” Young	Y	Lori Aliksanian	A
Damion Wagner	Y	Tyler Murphy	Y	Garrett A South	Y

Center City East Resident - Vacant		Samir Bitar	Abstain	Debby Zhou	Y
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Y	Lawrence Carroll	Y
Scott Miller	Y	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	Y

Yes (18), Abstain (1), No (0)

- ii. Approve an expenditure of \$523.50 for DLANC business cards, payable to City of Los Angeles Publishing Services. Funds to come from the Office/Operational Expenditures budget line.

Lawrence motioned to approve, Ana seconded

Melynda Choothesa	Y	Alisha Henderson	Y	Hakeem Parke-Davis	Y
Claudia Oliveira	Y	Ana Carril-Grumberg	Y	Leonel Aguilar	Y
Jens Midthun	Y	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross	Y
Wendy Celaya	Y	“Russian Rick” Young	Y	Lori Aliksonian	A
Damion Wagner	Y	Tyler Murphy	Y	Garrett A South	Y
Center City East Resident - Vacant		Samir Bitar	Abstain	Debby Zhou	Y
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Y	Lawrence Carroll	Y
Scott Miller	Y	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	Y

Yes (18), Abstain (1), No (0)

b. **Rules & Selections** - None

c. **PLUC**

i. **Case number:** ZA-2023-4937-MCUP

Project Address: 726 Mateo, Los Angeles, CA 90014

Applicant: 718-726 Mateo LLC

Project Description:

The subject request proposes a MCUP for tenant area of 6,016 square feet which includes a 1,441 SF Café (Unit 1), 938 SF retail space (Unit 2), 946 SF retail space (Unit 3), 884 SF retail space, and 1,807 SF restaurant. There will also be 2,144 SF total of outdoor dining patio to serve all spaces.

Project Requests: Support the request for a Master conditional use permit.

Motion: Submit a letter of support for the Applicant’s request in Planning Case No. ZA-2023-4937-MCUP.

Support is conditioned on the following:

CONDITION 1: Applicant will maintain pedestrian access if the sidewalk is temporarily closed during construction.

CONDITION 2: Applicant will ensure any temporary walkways covered due to construction (e.g., scaffolding) are well-lit at all hours.

CONDITION 3: Storefronts of ground-floor retail retain transparency at all times to allow for eyes on the street and pedestrian safety.

CONDITION 4: Owner/Operator will come back and present to PLUC should owner/operator change.

CONDITION 5: Request that the applicant place safety and security lighting on all four elevations of the building.

Melynda motioned to approve, Allen seconded

Public comment: Developer rep is present, states lighting has already been implemented.

Board comment: Hakeem recommends adding a condition of having a designated driver program.

Hakeem motioned to approve the letter with amend the letter to add Condition 6: Suggest the applicant seek implementation of a designated driver program. Ana seconded.

Designated driver program - marketing materials or phone number for designated driver services

Public comment: Reeyan voices concern that this recommendation is not in City Planning’s jurisdiction.

vote on amendment

Melynda Choothesa	N	Alisha Henderson	Y	Hakeem Parke-Davis	Y
Claudia Oliveira	Y	Ana Carril-Grumberg	Y	Leonel Aguilar	Y
Jens Midthun	N	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross	Abstain
Wendy Celaya	Y	“Russian Rick” Young	Y	Lori Aliksanian	A
Damion Wagner	Abstain	Tyler Murphy	N	Garrett A South	Y
Center City East Resident - Vacant		Samir Bitar	Abstain	Debby Zhou	N
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Y	Lawrence Carroll	Abstain
Scott Miller	Abstain	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	N

Vote on letter motion

Melynda Choothesa	Y	Alisha Henderson	Y	Hakeem Parke-Davis	Y
Claudia Oliveira	Y	Ana Carril-Grumberg	Y	Leonel Aguilar	Y
Jens Midthun	Y	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross	Y
Wendy Celaya	Y	“Russian Rick” Young	Y	Lori Aliksanian	A
Damion Wagner	Y	Tyler Murphy	Y	Garrett A South	Y
Center City East Resident - Vacant		Samir Bitar	Abstain	Debby Zhou	Y
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Y	Lawrence Carroll	Abstain
Scott Miller	Y	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	Y

d. **Livability**

- i. Discussion and possible action to submit a letter to the LADOT requesting a red curb be painted on 5th Street between Broadway and Hill Street.

[Sending item back to committee](#)

e. **Government Liaison**

- i. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support if amended on *Council File 08-0644-S1- Residential Hotel Unit Conversion and Demolition Ordinance / Update / Affordable Housing Shortage / Violation / Enforcement and Penalties*

[Lawrence motioned, Ana seconded](#)
[Y\(15\), Abstain\(4\), N\(0\)](#)

- ii. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support of *Council File 23-0002-S74- Down payment Toward Equity Act of 2023 (H.R. 4231) / Close Racial Wealth and Homeownership Gaps / Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Homebuyers*

[Hakeem recused, author of motion](#)
[Lawrence motioned, Damion seconded](#)
[Y\(17\), Abstain\(2\), N\(0\), Recusal\(1\)](#)

- iii. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS in support of *Council File 23-0851- Summerfest on Broadway / AB 1290 Fund / Business Improvement District (BID) Trust Fund / Council District 14 / Transfer*

[Leo motion to support if amended: if funds come from discretionary funds, Damion seconded.](#)

Y(16), Abstain(2), N(1)

f. **Outreach**

i. Motion to table Ciclavia Heart of LA on October 8th, 2023

Jens motions to table, event date corrected to October 15th, Hakeem seconded.

Y(19), Abstain(0), N(0)

11. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

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12. Board Members and Committee Announcements.

13. Next Meeting October 10th, 2023

14. Adjourn 8:36PM

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. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or 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, 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*

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. 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.*

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.

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.*

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