# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OFFICERS

> CLAUDIA OLIVEIRA PRESIDENT

GARRETT SOUTH
VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION

JENS MIDTHUN VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH

> DEBBY ZHOU SECRETARY

SAMIR BITAR TREASURER





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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, November 14th, 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

## Called to order 6:29pm by Garrett South

Melynda Choothesa	P 8:28 pm	Alisha Henderson	P 6:50pm	Hakeem Parke-Davis	P
Claudia Oliveira	P	Ana Carril-Grumberg	P	Leonel Aguilar	P
Jens Midthun	Р	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross alternate Felicity Rathbone	Alternate
Wendy Celaya	A	"Russian Rick" Young	Р	Lori Aliksanian	P
Damion Wagner	P	Tyler Murphy	Α	Garrett A South	Р

At-Large - Vacant	N/A	Samir Bitar alternate Carmieshira Gorman	Alternate	Debby Zhou	A
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Р	Lawrence Carroll	P
Scott Miller	P	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	A

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

1)Raymond Yu presented information about route for November 23rd, 2023 Turkey Trot 7:30am with a 5k run at 8:00am starting LA City Hall.

- 2) Citizen asking citizens to vote in next DA election
- 3)Services from LA City including Toy Distribution Miracle on Bixel Street providing clothing and toys for 2,000 residents in the community
- 4) Barry (no last name) of candidate running for CD-14 with petition

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3. Declaration of Ex-Parte Communications
Claudia communicated with everybody about this agenda
Jens communicated about the open seats

#### 4. President's Report

a. Resources for code of conduct and conflict resolution (Jose Galdamez)
Claudia appoints Jens for budget advocate. Invites Jens Midthun to run the next segment of meeting.
No vote taken.

b. Budget Advocate appointment of Jens Midthun

## 5. Speakers

a. City/County/State/Federal elected officials or representatives East area rep for Karen Bass office of community engagement presents a QR code on sheet that can be scanned to connect with the city. Update on 10 freeway closure. Timeline is 3-5 weeks as freeway will not have to be demolished. New climate safe city services available from LA Sanitation. 213-978-1028.

Jarvis from Mayor's Office provides information for November 30th meth awareness day and climate stations. Narcan will be distributed. Gladys park trees have been trimmed by Forestry Parks and Rec. 5th St lights are awaiting being addressed, have been reported. Email jarvis.emerson@lacity.org for more information.

Jose reminds of Empower LA training portals and log in information. Reminder of by law amendment date of April 1, 2024. ELA youth conference Jan 7, 2024 at City Hall. SB411 resolution update and requirements of  $\frac{2}{3}$  board vote to adopt change.

b. Liaisons Reports - Open positions tabled

# 6. Board Seats (all items subject to discussion and possible action) Claudia resumes running meeting

- a. Discussion and Possible Action to Remove Board Directors due to attendance:
  - i. Brandon Robinson (Fashion District Business Director)

Motion: Claudia Second: Lawrence

Board comments: Claudia discusses that 2 missing members have been absent for every meeting since July 2023. Samir alternate Carmiesira about contacting the board members that are being voted for removal. Lawrence comments about supporting dismissal for board members. Jens suggests a warning process. Suggests Debby reminds members of the process when they are absent.

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

Motion to remove Brandon Robinson for reason of absence from board meetings July - November 2023.

Y (13), N (2), A (0), Abstain (0), Recused (0)

ii. Wendell Blassingame (Center City East Resident Director)

7.

Melynda	Α			Hakeem Parke-Davis	N
Choothesa		Alisha Henderson	Y		
Claudia Oliveira	N	Ana Carril-Grumberg	N	Leonel Aguilar	Y
Jens Midthun	Y	Brandon Robinson	Α	Allen Gross	N
Wendy Celaya	A	"Russian Rick" Young	Y	Lori Aliksanian	Y
Damion Wagner	Y	Tyler Murphy	Α	Garrett A South	Y
At-Large - Vacant	N/A	Samir Bitar	N		Α

				Debby Zhou	
Wendell	Α			Lawrence Carroll	Y
Blassingame		Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Y		

Motion to remove Wendell Blassingame for reason of absence from board meetings July - November 2023.

Motion:Russian Rick

Second: Ana

Public comment in support of Wendell staying on board.

Y (9), N (5), A (1), Abstain (1), Recused (0)

- a. Announcement of open seats
  - i. Center City East Business Director

Wendy Celaya resigned to be a commissioner. Seat will be open for 60 days.

ii. At-Large (formerly Center City East Resident Director)

Tabled from last meeting.

- iii. Fashion District Business Director (tentative)
- iv. Center City East Resident Director (tentative)

## 8. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of 09/13/2023 Board of Director meeting minutes.

Tabled as not on website

- Approval of 08/15/2023 Special Board of Directors/PLUC meeting minutes Tabled
- c. Approval of 10/17/2023 Board of Directors meeting minutes Tabled

## 9. Consent Calendar

- a. Approve Reeyan Raynes as Parliamentarian for DLANC
- Discussion and possible action to take a recess for the month of December 2023
   Motion: Hakeem
   Second: Leonel

Y (7), N (8), A (0), Abstain (0), Recused (0) by show of hands

- 10. Old Business None
- 11. New Business (all items subject to discussion and possible action)
  - a. President's items
    - i. Discussion and possible action to file a CIS to authorize the use of teleconferencing for Neighborhood Council meetings, including board meetings and committee meetings, in accordance with the rules established by Senate Bill 411 and the subsequent motion passed by the City Council on November 1, 2023. The special teleconferencing rules available to Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils are necessary because it increases the accessibility of our meetings, improves our community engagement, and ensures the health and safety of participants.
      tabled to end of meeting

see below

 ii. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS on <u>CF 23-1114</u>: Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils / SB 411 / Teleconferencing / Remote Meetings / Brown Act Modification / California Government Code / COVID-19 Pandemic

Melynda Choothesa	Y	Alisha Henderson	Y	Hakeem Parke-Davis	Y	l

Claudia Oliveira	Y	Ana Carril-Grumberg	Y	Leonel Aguilar	Y
Jens Midthun	Y	Brandon Robinson	Α	Allen Gross	Y
Wendy Celaya	A	"Russian Rick" Young	N	Lori Aliksanian	Υ
Damion Wagner	N	Tyler Murphy	Α	Garrett A South	Y
	n/a				Α
At-Large - Vacant		Samir Bitar	Y	Debby Zhou	
Wendell Blassingame	Α	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Y	Lawrence Carroll	Y
Scott Miller	Y	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	A

Claudia makes motion to combine items i and ii for a vote.

Motion: Claudia Second: Lawrence

Public comment for and against going virtual. Jose clarifies difference between these items and hybrid.

Y(), N()

- b. Treasurer's Items: (All items subject to discussion and possible action)
  - i. Approval of October 2023 MERS

Melynda Choothesa	A	Alisha Henderson	Y	Hakeem Parke-Davis	Y
Claudia Oliveira	Υ	Ana Carril-Grumberg	Y	Leonel AguilarY	Y
Jens Midthun	Υ	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross	Y
Wendy Celaya	Α	"Russian Rick" Young	Y	Lori Aliksanian	Υ
Damion Wagner	Υ	Tyler Murphy	A	Garrett A South	Y
	n/a				Α
At-Large - Vacant		Samir Bitar	Y	Debby Zhou	
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas		Lawrence Carroll	Y
Scott Miller	Υ	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	Y

Motion: Allen Second:Samir Y(15), N (0)

ii. Approval of September 2023 MERS

Melynda Choothesa	Α	Alisha Henderson	у	Hakeem Parke-Davis	У
Claudia Oliveira	у	Ana Carril-Grumberg	у	Leonel Aguilar	у
Jens Midthun	у	Brandon Robinson	Α	Allen Gross	у
Wendy Celaya	A	"Russian Rick" Young	у	Lori Aliksanian	У
Damion Wagner	у	Tyler Murphy	Α	Garrett A South	у
At-Large - Vacant	n/a	Samir Bitar	у		Α

				Debby Zhou	
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	y	Lawrence Carroll	y
Scott Miller	у	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	A

Motion: Claudia Second:Lawrence Y(15), N (0)

iii. The Budget and Finance committee recommends the authorization of funding for interpretation and/or translation services provided at no charge by the City of Los Angeles. The authorization will be categorized within Office/Operational Expenditures. There will be no fiscal impact on DLANC FY23-24 budget, as services are paid for by the City's pooled NC Transcription Fund. B&F Committee Vote: Y(5), N(0), Abstentions (0)

Melynda Choothesa	A	Alisha Henderson	Y	Hakeem Parke-Davis	у
Claudia Oliveira	Y	Ana Carril-Grumberg	Y	Leonel Aguilar	у
Jens Midthun	Y	Brandon Robinson	Α	Allen Gross	у
Wendy Celaya	A	"Russian Rick" Young	Y	Lori Aliksanian	у
Damion Wagner	Y	Tyler Murphy	Α	Garrett A South	у
	n/a				Α
At-Large - Vacant		Samir Bitar	Y	Debby Zhou	
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Y	Lawrence Carroll	Y
Scott Miller	Y	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	A

Motion: Claudia Second: Jens Y(15), N (0)

- iv. The Budget and Finance committee recommends the following reallocations of budget line items within the <a href="mailto:approved FY23-24">approved FY23-24 Outreach expenditure category</a>, as requested by the Outreach Committee Chair:
  - Reduce the Tabling / Events budget line to \$3800 (from \$6000).
  - Increase the Advertising budget line to \$1300 (from \$300).

B&F Committee Vote Count: Y(5), N(0), Abstentions (0)

Melynda Choothesa	Ab sta in	Alisha Henderson	Υ	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	A	"Russian Rick" Young	Y	Lori Aliksanian	Υ
Damion Wagner	Y	Tyler Murphy	A	Garrett A South	Y

At-Large - Vacant	N/ A	Samir Bitar	Ab st ai n	Debby Zhou	A
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Y	Lawrence Carroll	Y
Scott Miller	Y	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	A

Motion: Damion Second: Hakeem Y(14), N (0), Abstain (2)

- v. The Budget and Finance committee recommends:
  - The creation of a new "Constituent Email Services" budget line-item within the approved FY23-24 Outreach expenditure category to fund a new email subscription service for constituent outreach.
  - To fund this new budget line through a categorial reallocation of an amount not to exceed \$1,200. Services to be provided by <u>Brevo Inc.</u> & <u>Mailchimp</u> <u>Inc.</u> Monies to come from the Outreach budget.

B&F Committee Vote Count: Y(5), N(0), Abstentions (0)

Melynda Choothesa	A	Alisha Henderson	Y	Hakeem Parke-Davis	Y
Claudia Oliveira	Y	Ana Carril-Grumberg	Y	Leonel Aguilar	A
Jens Midthun	Y	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross	Y
Wendy Celaya	A	"Russian Rick" Young	Y	Lori Aliksanian	Y
Damion Wagner	Y	Tyler Murphy	Α	Garrett A South	Y
	n/a				Α
At-Large - Vacant		Samir Bitar	abstain	Debby Zhou	
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	Y	Lawrence Carroll	У
Scott Miller	Y	Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	A

Friendly amendment to keep as an outreach item rather than out of general operational expenses.

Motion: Claudia Second: Ana

Y (13), N (0), Abstain (1)

PLUC Vote Count: Rules & Selections

vi. Announcement from Committee Chair

#### c. PLUC

 Case Number: DIR 2023 1379 DB SPR HCA/ENV 2023 1380 EAF Project Location: 222 W. 12th Street, 1204-1216 S. Olive Street

Project Description: The proposed project is for a new 8-story, 105'-9" in height

multifamily residential dwelling building having 401 dwelling units with 45, or 11% of the total units, reserved for Very Low Income households, and approximately 8,699 square feet of ground floor commercial uses.

**Project Requests** The project is requesting a Density Bonus approval with one incentive for a reduction in Open Space, and Site Plan Review.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** The Planning and Land Use Committee recommends that DLANC submit a letter of support for the Applicant's request in Planning Case No. DIR 2023 1379 DB SPR HCA/ENV 2023 1380 EAF. Support is conditioned on the following: (1) Applicant will maintain pedestrian access if the sidewalk is temporarily closed during construction; (2) Applicant will ensure any temporary walkways covered due to construction (e.g., scaffolding) are well-lit at all hours; (3) Storefronts of ground floor retail retain transparency at all times to allow for eyes on the street and pedestrian safety; (4) Owner/Operator will come back and present to DLANC PLUC should owner/operator change; (5) Applicant includes a designated space for accommodating pet waste within the project to mitigate pet waste polluting public right of ways. If this is not feasible, a designated area should be provided to the public right away along with a specific plan for cleaning and maintenance; (6) Developer will ensure that property fencing is see-through so as to eliminate any blind spots and increase public safety; (7) Developer will add architectural and security lighting on the east building elevation and additional lighting and security measures at all perimeter alcoves.

#### See below

ii. Case number: ENV-2021-2232-EIR;

CPC-2021-2231-GPA-VZC-HD-VCU-ZV-SPR

**Project Location:** 2045 East Violet Street (2030 - 2060 East 7th Street; 715 - 829 East Santa Fe Avenue; 2016 - 2043 East 7th Place and 2017 - 2051 Violet Street, Los Angeles, California 90021)

**Project Description:** Continued use and maintenance of the 244,795 square-foot Warner Music Group building and associated automobile parking garage. Construction of a new 13-story, 450,599 square-foot building featuring 435,100 square feet of office uses, 15,499 square-feet of ground floor retail, 20,418 square-feet of open space in balconies/roof decks for office use, 10,643 square-feet of shared deck area, and 42,957 square-feet of shared publicly accessible open space at the ground level. Parking is both underground and wrapped by the building in a 7-story structure that includes four below-grade levels, one at-grade and two above-grade levels.

## **Project Requests:**

- 1. General Plan Amendment from "Heavy Manufacturing" to "Regional Center Commercial."
- 2. Zone and Height District Change from zone <u>M3-1-RIO</u> to <u>C2-2-RIO</u> (permitting a maximum Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of 8.1:1 and a maximum height of 148 feet to the top of the parapet).
- 3. Vesting Conditional Use for a Major Development Project.
- 4. Vesting Conditional Use to allow FAR averaging in a Unified Development (the Project Site.)

- 5. Zone Variance to permit a loading zone to be provided with vehicular access from a public street.
- 6. Site Plan Review.
- 7. Vesting Tentative Tract Map for merger and resubdivision.
- 8. CEQA review.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** The Planning and Land Use Committee recommends that DLANC submit a letter of support for the Applicant's request in Planning Case No. ENV-2021-2232-EIR;

CPC-2021-2231-GPA-VZC-HD-VCU-ZV-SPR. Support is conditioned on the following: (1) Applicant will maintain pedestrian access if the sidewalk is temporarily closed during construction; (2) Applicant will ensure any temporary walkways covered due to construction (e.g.,scaffolding) are well-lit at all hours; (3) Storefronts of ground floor retail retain transparency at all times to allow for eyes on the street and pedestrian safety; (4) Owner/Operator will come back and present to DLANC PLUC should owner/operator change; (5) Developer will add architectural and security lighting on the west building elevation.

PLUC items i and ii voted together

Motion: Samir alternate

Second: Damion

PLUC Vote Count by hands: Y (15), N (0), Absent (0)

## d. Livability

i. None

#### e. Government Liaison

i. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS against unless amended on CF 23-0008-S12: Valley Boulevard / Eastern Avenue / Huntington Drive South / Marianna Avenue / North Lorena Street / South Evergreen Street / East Cesar Chavez Avenue / 1st Street / Boyle Street / Echandia Street / Oversize Vehicle Parking Restrictions

## **CIS Supplemental Statement:**

Suitable parking spaces within the district are provided for the vehicles being moved, provide relocation of inoperable vehicles, within district limits, and include wrap-around services for the unhoused.

Melynda Choothesa	Α	Alisha Henderson		Hakeem Parke-Davis	
Claudia Oliveira		Ana Carril-Grumberg	A	Leonel Aguilar	Α
Jens Midthun	Ab sta in	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross	
Wendy Celaya	A	"Russian Rick" Young		Lori Aliksanian	
Damion Wagner		Tyler Murphy	A	Garrett A South	
At-Large - Vacant		Samir Bitar	Ab st ai n	Debby Zhou	A

Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas		Lawrence Carroll	Ab stai n
Scott Miller		Christian Dittmer	A	Sara Eastwood	Α

Motion to not take a motion on this item as it has already been voted in by city council.

Motion: Claudia Second: Lori

Vote not taken due to abstaining.

#### f. Outreach

DLANC Marketing Toolkit
 Jens has document to attach Marketing Toolkit document about How to describe
 DTLA and DLANC role

## g. Urban Needs & Resources

- i. Discussion and possible action to rename San Julian Park to honor Wendell Blassingame.
- **12.** Claudia makes a motion to issue a letter to be written from Urban Needs to City Council to ask to coordinate with Parks and Recreation department to rename San Julian Park to honor Wendell Blassingame.

Hakeem makes an amendment to add a celebratory plaque or monument physical structure at the park.

Motion: Claudia Second: Hakeem Y (11), N (0), Abstain (2)

Melynda Choothesa	A	Alisha Henderson	Y	Hakeem Parke-Davis	Y
Claudia Oliveira	Y	Ana Carril-Grumberg	A	Leonel Aguilar	A
Jens Midthun	Y	Brandon Robinson	A	Allen Gross	Y
Wendy Celaya	A	"Russian Rick" Young	Y	Lori Aliksanian	Y
Damion Wagner	Y	Tyler Murphy	A	Garrett A South	Y
	n/a				Α
At-Large - Vacant		Samir Bitar	abstain	Debby Zhou	
Wendell Blassingame	A	Luis M. Gonzalez-Salas	abstain	Lawrence Carroll	У
Scott Miller	Y	Christian Dittmer	Α	Sara Eastwood	A

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

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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.)

Update from Hakeem advocating for DLANC members to be trained for Narcan administration. Hakeem recommends stocking Narcan in apartment buildings.

- b. Board Members and Committee Announcements.
- c. Next Meeting: TBD
- d. Adjourn 9:31 pm

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/lobbying. 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, <a href="mailto:debby.zhou@dlanc.com">debby.zhou@dlanc.com</a>

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**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 <a href="https://www.dlanc.com">www.dlanc.com</a>.

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@Jacity.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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