SPECIAL GENERAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA
AGENDA DE LA REUNIÓN ESPECIAL GENERAL DE LA MESA DIRECTIVA

Date/Fecha: Location/Lugar:
Saturday/Sábado 7/8/17 La Parrilla Restaurant
1:00 p.m. 1300 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90017

1. Welcoming remarks / Bienvenida. (1 minute)
   a. Call to order and roll call / Llamada al orden y pasar lista. (1 minute)
   b. Pledge of Allegiance. / Juramento de la bandera (1 minute)

2. Public Comments/Announcements on Non-Agenda Items within the Board’s jurisdiction (remarks limited to up to 3 minutes per speaker). / Comentarios del público/Anuncios sobre asuntos que no están en la agenda y los cuales están dentro de la jurisdicción de la junta (comentarios se limitan a un máximo de 3 minutos). (10 minutes)

3. Reports by Representatives of local Agency and Elected Officials. / Informes de los representantes de agencias locales y oficiales electos. (5 minutes)

4. Review and possible approval of WSNC Board meeting minutes held on 5-13-17. / Revisión y posible aprobación de las acta de la reunion del WSNC de 5/13/17. (5 minutes)

5. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of April, May and June expenditures 2017. / Discusión y posible acción sobre aprobación de los gastos de Abril, Mayo y Junio 2017. (5 minutes)
   a. April: $293.48
   b. May: $1,263.33
   c. June: Pending

6. Westlake South Neighborhood Council (WSNC) Treasurer’s Report and discussion and possible action regarding April, May and June 2017 Monthly Expenditure Reports. / Reporte del Tesorero del WSNC y discusión y posible acción acerca la aprobación de los Reportes de Gastos Mensuales de Abril, Mayo y Junio del 2017. (5 minutes)
7. Presentation by Jill Stewart followed by discussion and possible action regarding the requested motion and letter regarding the city’s General Plan update: / Presentación de Jill Stewart seguida por discusión y posible acción respecto a la moción solicitada y carta sobre la actualización del Plan General de la ciudad: (10 minutes)

**Proposed NC Draft Motion:**

The city has for months been working on a plan behind closed doors for the overall vision and dreams for Los Angeles, the **General Plan**, which is to be presented to the public and Neighborhood Councils sometime this fall;

Mayor Garcetti has said, residents must have "a sense of ownership over the development of our communities," and City Councilman Jose Huizar, chair of the powerful PLUM committee, pledged to bring "accountability and transparency back into our **General Plan and Community Plan** processes";

Los Angeles is decades behind other Western U.S. cities in updating these far-reaching plans, necessitating that the City involve its citizens in a **General Plan Update** process that starts from the ground up;

Public money and public interest are major factors in the earliest decision-making on our **General Plan Update** process, strategies, and dreams;

It is widely agreed the public cannot fully participate in **General Plan Updating** meetings, hearings and debates during the day downtown;

Closed-door meetings on fundamental debates about our goals for updating of the **General Plan** can only create more distrust and dismay over the broken planning system. Who, for example, are the experts invited to the fast-approaching closed-door meetings on the "**Community Assets** Element" of the General Plan, if not the communities themselves?;

**Therefore, we request:**

- All Planning Department **Work Group** meetings about our shared ideas and ideals for the **General Plan** and its many Elements be made fully transparent, be set at evening and weekend hours; be open to the public as of now; invite a representative from each neighborhood alliance; and in the case of the Open Space Work Group meetings, three of which were completed in closed-door sessions, three additional Open Space meetings be held that follow the prescription in this paragraph.

**We further request, in the same vein:**

--- The Mayor's Planning Task Force and Transportation Infrastructure Steering Committee for the **General Plan** both be made fully transparent, be set at evening and weekend hours; be open to the public as of now; and expand their closed-door meetings to several additional meetings that follow the prescription in this paragraph.

**2. A Proposed Accompanying Letter to City Officials:**

Dear Mayor Garcetti, Planning Director Bertoni and City Council Member (name):

The city has since February been working on plans behind closed doors for the overall vision and dreams for Los Angeles, the **General Plan**, which is to be presented to the public and Neighborhood Councils later on.

Yet as you, Mayor Garcetti, said in response to Measure S and broad criticism of the non-transparent, broken planning system at City Hall, residents must have "a sense of ownership over the development of our
communities." And as City Councilman Jose Huizar, chair of PLUM, pledged, City Hall will now act to bring "accountability and transparency back into our General Plan and Community Plan processes."

**We agree.** That is why we are joining several other Neighborhood Councils who have formally asked that all closed meetings about our shared ideas and ideals for the L.A. General Plan be fully transparent, more inclusive, and open to the public now.

We're pleased that the fourth **Work Group Meeting on the Open Space Element** was opened to public discourse in June — thanks to letters from Neighborhood Councils.

But these NCs reasonably sought more involvement than a single meeting. We add our voices to theirs. Most residents and environmental stakeholders cannot attend meetings set for the convenience of City Planners at 2 to 4 p.m. downtown.

Moreover, the "chapters" published at OurLA2040.org describing the Open Space Element and the Conservation Element are woefully inadequate, failing to address crucial issues and forward-thinking new Elements. One omission is an Urban Forest Element that pursues the need to recreate and save our fast-vanishing urban tree canopy, crucial to fighting GHG emissions and creating livable communities.

Moreover, we understand that a developer consultant sits on the Work Group Meeting for the Open Space Element of the General Plan, and is being described by Planning as an "open space expert."

These are the many kinds of problems that fan distrust of City Planning and the debate over how to fix it -- problems created when the City reverts to closed-door meetings and selective choosing of who the experts should be, as it has so far this year.

In that vein, the mayor's Planning Task Force and Transportation Infrastructure Steering Committee for the General Plan should also be as of now. Key strategies for planning, shaping and reshaping Los Angeles are unfolding in these closed meetings.

Best practices demand that you, Mayor Garcetti, immediately adopt a ground-up process for your Task Force and your Steering Committee, open to the public like the Measure HHH Citizens and Administrative Advisory Committees and the Measure H Work Group meetings were: including independent experts and thinkers, warts and all.

Attached is a motion our Neighborhood Council approved, urging the above actions.

Sincerely, xxxxx
8. **Selection of board officers**/Selección de la mesa directiva (10 minutes):
   a. **Selection of officer positions**/puestos de oficiales: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer
   b. **Board designation of Bank Card Holder and Second signatory**/Designación de la tarjeta bancaria y segundo signatario
   c. **Board designation of NC Liaisons to City Departments**/Designación Consejo de NC Enlaces de departamentos de la ciudad

9. **Discussion and possible action to schedule the Calendar of Regular Meetings of the Westlake South Neighborhood Council as required by the WSNC Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1.**

10. **Discussion and possible action to approve a letter of endorsement for a new pocket park located at 11th and Union requested by Pico Union Neighborhood Council board member Silvia Velasquez.** The letter will be sent to the LA Department of Parks and Recreation and councilmember Gil Cedillo. / **Discusión y posible acción para apoyar por escrito la ubicación de un nuevo parque ubicado en la 11 y Unión solicitado por Silvia Velasquez, miembro del consejo de vecindario de Pico Union. La carta será enviada al Departamento de Parques y Recreación de Los Ángeles y al concejal Gil Cedillo.** (5 minutes)

11. **Discussion and possible action regarding the adoption of the WSNC Budget Request Package for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, including Assessment of Past Activities, Basic Strategic Plan, Outreach Survey, Budget, and Board Vote Count Form** / **Discusión y posible acción acerca la adopción del Paquete de Solicitud del Presupuesto del WSNC para el año fiscal 2017-2018, incluyendo Evaluación de Actividades del Pasado, Plan Básico Estratégico, Encuesta de Esfuerzos de Acercamiento, Presupuesto, y Formulario de Conteo del Voto de la Junta Directiva.** (20 minutes)

12. **Adjournment** / **Cierre**
LEGALLY REQUIRED OFFICIAL POSTING -- PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE UNTIL AFTER BELOW DATE AND TIME Saturday February 11, AT 10:00 PM

The WSNC Agenda is posted for public review at the following locations: City of Los Angeles Early Notification System (ENS), Westlake Plumbing & Hardware - 1818 James Wood Blvd., 7 & 8 Market - 747 South Westlake Avenue, Immaculate Conception Church - 1483 James Wood Blvd., Esperanza Elementary School - 680 Little Street, Curacao Business Center - 1605 West Olympic Blvd. (PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS -- The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item on the Agenda PRIOR to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments on other matters, not appearing on the Agenda that are within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction, will be heard during the Public Comment On Non-Agenda Items period. Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the Board. 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, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three (3) business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting WSNC Secretary Randy Waller at randywaller@ca.rr.com. RECONSIDERATION PROCESS -- Board member(s) that voted on the prevailing side of the decision may call Reconsideration of a vote by the Board as a motion. GRIEVANCE PROCESS -- A stakeholder, or a group of stakeholders, may present a grievance concerning the legality of actions by the Board during public comment. A panel set by the Board will examine substantive grievances, and the decisions may be appealed to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. 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 reviewed at a scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the Agenda, please contact WSNC Secretary Randy Waller at randywaller@ca.rr.com or telephone NC Support at 213-978-1551 or via e-mail at: NCsupport@lacity.org. WSNC BYLAWS -- Please be advised that the Bylaws of the WSNC provide a process for reconsideration of actions as well as a grievance procedure. For your convenience, the WSNC Bylaws are available during every meeting. RECORDING MEETINGS -- Note that Board meetings may be sound and/or video recorded for backup to Minutes.