

### PPCC BOARD MEETING

**September 14, 2023** 

Via Zoom Videoconference Only

6:00 PM - 8:00PM Meeting ID: 854 8661 0425

Passcode: 592034

#### **Link to Join Zoom Meeting**

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85486610425?pwd=aGNFdVVkY1VKN09rUURPUm5zd2JXdz09

#### Meeting will be recorded for Secretarial purposes

- 1. Call to Order and Reading of Community Council's Mission. The purpose of the Pacific Palisades Community Council shall be to (1) be a forum for the consideration of Community issues, (2) be an advocate for Pacific Palisades to government and private agencies upon issues where there is broad Community agreement, as reflected by two-thirds of the Board Members voting on any one of those issues at a PPCC Meeting, and (3) assist other organizations in the Palisades which want help in accomplishing their objectives or projects, which the PPCC determines to support. See PPCC Bylaws: <a href="http://pacpalicc.org/index.php/council-bylaws/">http://pacpalicc.org/index.php/council-bylaws/</a>.
- 2. Roll-call of Board members and Certification of Quorum.
- 3. Introduction of attendees

Captain Rich Gabaldon, Captain III, LAPD west Commanding officer Sonya Young Jimenez, Department of Recreation and Parks, Superintendent of West Region Robert Buenrostro, Principal Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, RAP Jasmine Dowlatshahi, Sr. Facilities Director, Palisades Recreation Center

- 4. Approval of Minutes: August 24, 2023 -
- 5. Consideration of Agenda & Upcoming Meetings:

September 28: WRAC motions

Topics are only partially listed and may be amended.

- 6. Treasurer's Report.
- **7. General Public Comment.** This time is reserved for non-Board members to speak on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the PPCC. Speakers will be limited to one minute. Chair retains discretion to extend.

Palisades Lutheran Church will be on hand to share information about their annual 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 8AM (race starts at (am from PLC). See info below.

#### 8. Reports, Announcements and Concerns.

- 8.1. From the Chair/Presiding Officer
  - 8.1.1. Appointing or re-appointing Committees and Advisors (continues)
  - 8.1.2. Appointed Wildland Interface and Fire Hazard Mitigation Committee
    - a) Dave Card
    - **b)** Julie Silliman
    - c) Rick McGeagh
    - d) Cindi Young
    - e) Steve Cron
    - f) Sue Kohl
    - g) Michale Edlen
    - h) Bruce Schwartz
    - i) Lou Kamer
  - 8.1.3. Wildland Urban Interface meeting convened by CD11 (with LAPD, LAFD, LADOT, LA EMD, City Planning, BSS, RAP, DONE, LA County Fire, CAO's office)
  - 8.1.4. Update om TCR
  - 8.1.5. Update on Anniversary Celebration & Community Jubilee
  - 8.1.6. Discussion with Gates Security about pole top camera pilot or bike patrols though open spaces challenges and opportunities
  - 8.1.7. Asked Bylaws committee to amend the organizational certificate process
  - 8.1.8. Potrero gates update
  - 8.1.9. Metro TCN update
  - 8.1.10. Bulgari Hotel update
- 8.2. From Officers and Chair Emeritus
  - 8.2.1. Sue Kohl, Vice President
  - 8.2.2. Beth Holden-Garland, Secretary
  - 8.2.3. Dave Card, Chair Emeritus
- 8.3. From At-Large and Area Representatives
  - 8.3.1. Murray Hester. Area One Primary Rep., discussion and possible motion to emerge with respect to Castellammare/Tramonto development project in hillside streets in Area One. (Pending hearing: November 15).
  - 8.3.2. Steve Cron, Area two Primary Rep., update on Highlands Trail Head bathrooms and improvements flowing as a result of PPCC and community advocacy over years.
  - 8.3.3. Chris Spitz, At -Large Rep will update the board on the status of SB 423
  - 8.3.4. Julie Silliman, Area Seven Rep will inform the board about the upcoming Rustic Nights celebration

- 8.3.5. Rick McGeagh, Area Seven 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate will report about brush clearance in the Will Rogers neighborhood of Area Seven.
- 8.4. <u>From Organizational Representatives</u>
- 8.5. <u>From Government Offices / Representatives</u>
- 8.6. From PPCC Committees, Advisors and WRAC Representatives

#### **9.** Reports from PPCC Committees:

- 9.1. PCOC report about signs and motion to approve order of priority (see below) for communication with CD11 and RAP, urging them to amend or restore the signage this community asked for, and install as appropriate at the George Wolfberg Park at Potrero Canyon. See full report: <a href="https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Park-Rules-Sign-Revision-Issues.pdf">https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Park-Rules-Sign-Revision-Issues.pdf</a>
- 9.2. Three Chairs Committee (David Card: Committee Chair, members: Steve Boyers, Maryam Zar). Update regarding 2nd Alternate application for Area 8 and At-large. See also announcement below.
- 9.3. LUC, Steve Cron or Howard Robinson reporting on recent discussions regarding Castellammare construction project.

#### **10.** Old Business - none

#### **11.** New Business

11.1. opposition to the 100% natives proposed ordinance in City Council. Proposed motion language, sponsored by Dave Card and Beth Holden -Garland. See also: <a href="https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/position-paper-PFC-RP-9-11-23.pdf">https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/position-paper-PFC-RP-9-11-23.pdf</a>

Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) opposes the motion in L.A. City Council File 22-1469, on the grounds set forth in the accompanying Position Paper, summarized as follows:

- a) The proposed motion will result in less biodiversity, more monoculture. A mandate prohibiting the planting and sale of any non-native species in all of the City of Los Angeles (urban, suburban, commercial, governmental, and residential properties) is far too radical and damaging.
- b) It risks the health of the urban forest by the concentration of too few tree species. There are not enough native tree species to sustain our urban forest.
- c) Some natives do not adapt well in city environments. Yet cities are not devoid of diverse species, and can even benefit regional ecosystems.
- d) We encourage the planting of more native species. And we support conserving our wild open spaces and creating more parks. However, biodiversity includes all trees and plants, not just natives.
- e) Restrict invasives, not climate appropriate trees and plants

#### **12.** Adjournment





# ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & RIVER PUBLIC WORKS KADE, TRAVEL AND TOURISM MOTION

The City has prioritized the protection of biodiversity for most of the last decade through the recruitment of a Biodiversity Expert Panel, made up of scientists, researchers, professors and practitioners from the various world-class universities and organizations around Los Angeles.

The Bureau of Sanitation has led the Expert Panel in the creation of an LA City Biodiversity Index to count and account for the plants, animals and insects that inhabit the region, and to better prioritize their protection, especially from City-related activities.

Yet, the Los Angeles region faces a biodiversity crisis wherein over 90% of local butterflies, songbirds, and other pollinators have disappeared in the last century, driven by the heretofore unconscious replacement of local native flora with non-native plant and tree species.

The City is aware that addressing our local biodiversity crisis is necessary as part of any larger effort to address climate change risks to human health and the long term habitability of our city.

Now through the work of the Biodiversity Experts, the City more fully understands the impacts of its choices, particularly landscaping choices, on the region's future biological health.

As many Angelenos experienced during the COVID lockdown, such nature-based activities as seeing butterflies and hearing songbirds have been linked to human health benefits such as lower blood pressure and an increased sense of well-being and overall happiness.

California native landscaping plants and trees can thrive in our urban environment and furnish all the benefits non-native plants and trees can offer in terms of canopy shade to offset the heat island effect, beauty, and shade comfort for humans, while being low in maintenance costs, yet native plant and tree species provide the only true path to regional climate resilience for biodiversity, water and energy savings, and the elimination of soil amendment runoff pollution.

There are abundant and sufficient California native plant and tree options for every ornamental landscaping application in Los Angeles, including more than 30 California native tree species already on the City of Los Angeles Approved Street Tree List and over 500 California native drought tolerant plants that have been adopted into horticulture trade to fill every landscaping niche for size, shape, color, fragrance, bloom season, and beauty.

California native plant and tree species present an underutilized opportunity to foster local identity, embrace the Indigenous, geographical and cultural heritage of Los Angeles, and continue the City's trajectory of biodiversity leadership in a time of mass extinctions..



## APPLICATIONS OPEN At-large 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate

Calling all residents, property owners and business operators in the Palisades: The At-large 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate position is open for applicants who are residents of any area in the Palisades, property owners (including non-residents) and business operators (whether they own the business or operate one in the Palisades).

The At-large position on the PPCC board is one that encompasses all areas and can bring to our attention issues that involve both residential and commercial matters in the Palisades. The At-large Primary role has traditionally been held by prominent Palisadian voices who are involved in civic affairs and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate roles poses an opportunity for a community-minded volunteer to get involved with PPCC.

Our work leads us to have impact on issues that affect the character and safety of our community – such as crime & public safety, fire, protection of parks, property development, local and state governmental policies, and more. If you are interested in learning about, and having input on any of these topics, please consider applying to become a 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate At-large Representative (Palisades residents, property owners and business operators) on the PPCC board.

#### Area Eight 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate: https://pacpalicc.org/index.php/area-maps/#Area8

Calling all residents of PPCC Area 8 (the Riviera and Polo Fields): Applications are being accepted for the open 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate Area 8 position on the PPCC board. This role is open to all Area 8 residents (see the link above for our maps), which includes the "Polo Fields" (Riviera sections North and south of Sunset Boulevard up to Allenford Avenue), the Paul Revere Middle School grounds and the adjacent residential neighborhood (west side of Allenford Ave.), as well as the Riviera Country Club.

The Area Eight 2nd Alternate will represent residents in these areas and act as the voting member when the Primary and the 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate are not present at any PPCC board meeting. Issues that impact this are will be of concern to this Area Alternate rep, including Paul Revere traffic matters, Riviera Country Club use and event issues, as well as parking, streets/sidewalks, development and other civic concerns.

#### **Applications:**

Applications must be submitted by 5pm on Sunday, September 24. The applicants will be reviewed by a committee of three former PPCC chairs (the Committee of Three Chairs), who will present a nominee for election by the PPCC board on September 28.

PPCC  $2^{nd}$  Alternates can participate in discussions at board meetings and serve on committees; they vote on matters only if the primary and  $1^{st}$  alternate representatives are absent.

#### For more information, see:

https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/PPCC-At-lrg-Area-8-Alts.-Notice-2023.pdf