



## AGENDA

### PPCC BOARD MEETING

October 12, 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=aGNFdVVkY1VKNO9rUURPUm5zd2JXdz0>

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**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:* <http://pacpalicc.org/index.php/council-bylaws/>.
- 2. Roll-call of Board members and Certification of Quorum.**
- 3. Introduction of attendees**  
LAPD West Traffic Officer, Gabbler, for a presentation of statistics on collisions and whether those have adversely impacted traffic in Pacific Palisades, and a discussion of strategies/and solutions for traffic flow and better communication. Possibly to be joined by LADOT reps.  
  
Carl Ginsberg of My Safe LA will be making a presentation about fire safety, home hardening and local Fire Councils as a means by which to mitigate the impact of fire and to assist in emergency preparedness in the community.
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** September 28, 2023 - <https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Sept-28-draft-Minutes.pdf>
- 5. Consideration of Agenda & Upcoming Meetings.**

**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.*

**8. Reports, Announcements and Concerns.**

8.1. From the Chair/Presiding Officer

8.1.1. Review of letters written since last meeting: <https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/FIN-Tramonto-Rvello-Dev.-project-letter-2.pdf>

8.1.2. Report on 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jubilee & Community Celebration

8.1.3. Update on Castellammare SAB center proposal for nonprofit headquarters

8.1.4. Report on Youth Exhibit and November 9<sup>th</sup> in person meeting at the Palisades Library Community room

8.1.5. Announced appointment of the ASC – timeline for nominees and announcement of honorees in November (11/9)

8.1.6. Holiday Dinner & Awards Gala, planned for Dec 14 (yay or nay) possibly at The Draycott. Discussion & ideas.

8.1.7. Doggie bags for dispenser in PCP (we are fining this round. Need volunteers to fund replacements.)

8.1.8. CD11 and Rap will be at the Oct 25<sup>th</sup> PAB meeting and report about Quimby funds for park and bathroom upgrades/construction.

8.1.9. Asillomar Bluffs update: Michael Womack will attend an upcoming PPCC meeting to report on schedule. For now, the contractor is in the process of procuring equipment and lining up subs.

8.1.10. Welcome to new Organizational reps. Possible new-member orientation in early 2023.

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. Haldis Toppel, Area Three Primary rep., to report on MKPOA block party.

8.4. From Organizational Representatives

8.4.1. Courtney Macker, PPRA Primary, to discuss emergency response plan and actual escape routes. In light of recent events, this discussion becomes increasingly important.

8.4.2. Kimberly Bloom, Area Five primary Rep., discussion about fundraising opportunity

8.5. From Government Offices / Representatives

8.6. From PPCC Committees, Advisors and WRAC Representatives

8.6.1. Lou Kamer, Transportation Advisor, presentation and report regarding PCH closures and improvements we can advocate for that would limit the impact on

our neighborhood roads and the 81,000 cars that travel PCH through PacPal every day.

9. Reports from PPCC Committees:

9.1. Bylaws Committee 1<sup>st</sup> distribution of Bylaws amendments impacting certification for returning organizational members who transition from the Alternate to the primary role, in their respective categories. (not applicable to categories with a sole member.)

10. Old Business - none

11. New Business

11.1. LUC recommended motion re Proposed Affordable Housing Streamlining Ordinance (AHSO) / CF 22-0623; CPC-2023-5273-CA – **Request VHFHSZ Exemption.**

See below for letter seeking approval. See CF: [https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0623\\_misc\\_06-13-23%20\(1\).pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0623_misc_06-13-23%20(1).pdf) or <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnnumber=23-0623>

11.2. First distribution of Bylaws Committee recommended motions. Discussion only.

See suggested motion language here: <https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/09-26a-2023-Draft-Revisions.pdf>

Summary of proposed changes:

1. The Bylaws current require Member Organizations and Alternate Member Organizations to provide a written certification of various information regarding their organization. The proposed change removes the obligation that the Alternate Member Organization comply with the requirement. These changes will make sure that any Member Organization (the organization in a category that will be the voting organization in a Category for the term) has provided the required written certification. If an organization will be serving a consecutive term or terms (including the Historical Society and PPRA), then those Member Organizations will be required to submit an updated written certification if any of the information has changed since the organization's last written certification or if the organization has not submitted a written certification within the last three years.

**Justification:** Member Organizations are eligible to vote on matters before the Board and it is reasonable to require the Member Organizations to provide current information by submitting a written certification as set forth in the Bylaws. I don't believe that the requirement places an undue burden on the Member Organizations.

2. Update Appendix A to reflect an organization's correct name.

**Justification:** Friends of the Library is formally named the Pacific Palisades Library Association (PPLA) and should be correctly identified in the Bylaws.

12. Adjournment



**DRAFT** proposed PPCC letter – recommended to the PPCC board by the PPCC LUC

October \_\_, 2023

Department of City Planning (*via email*):

Vincent P. Bertoni, Director of Planning

[vince.bertoni@lacity.org](mailto:vince.bertoni@lacity.org)

Cally Hardy, City Planner, Housing Policy

[planning.housingpolicy@lacity.org](mailto:planning.housingpolicy@lacity.org)

Re: Proposed Affordable Housing Streamlining Ordinance (AHSO) / CF 22-0623; CPC-2023-5273-CA – Request VHFHSZ Exemption

Dear Department of City Planning:

For fifty years, Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) has been the voice of the community and the most broad-based organization in Pacific Palisades. Our entire community is located within the sensitive Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ).

The proposed AHSO contains limited exemptions for certain sensitive areas (in single-family and Coastal zones), but does not include a VHFHSZ exemption. Several areas of Pacific Palisades (and other Los Angeles communities in the VHFHSZ) are not located in either of these two exempt zones, and thus would be subject to a streamlined approval process for affordable housing projects, with *no review of public safety impacts* in sensitive VHFHSZ areas.

Elimination of environmental and discretionary review in designated VHFHSZ areas is dangerous and unacceptable. Both PPCC and the Los Angeles City Council have recognized this fact by calling for an unconditional VHFHSZ exemption in proposed state housing legislation that would streamline approvals for housing development projects. In addition, the City's own approved Housing Element protects environmentally sensitive areas such as the VHFHSZ by excluding them from the Rezoning Program needed to meet RHNA numbers. Consistent with these positions and City policy, an **unconditional exemption for the VHFHSZ** should also be included in the proposed AHSO.

### **Los Angeles City Actions/Policy**

The City Council has expressly recognized the danger to all of the City's VHFHSZ areas if adequate discretionary review is eliminated in the housing approval process. The Council recently called for an unconditional exemption for the VHFHSZ in proposed state legislation (SB 423) that would streamline certain affordable housing projects statewide (*see Council File 23-0002-S71 – unanimously passed on 9/25/23 to include this position in the City's 2023-24 State Legislative program*).

As explained in the CLA's report in CF 23-0002-S71, an unconditional VHFHSZ exemption is necessary to allow for adequate environmental review and scrutiny for public safety concerns of proposed housing development in these sensitive areas. *Without a VHFHSZ exemption, the proposed AHSO is contrary to the CLA's conclusion and the City Council's express position on SB 423.*

Moreover, the approved 2021-2029 Housing Element (HE) *expressly protects VHFHSZ properties* by excluding them from the inventory of sites available for rezoning. As the HE explains: "Key elements of

the rezoning strategy have been informed by public input and City Council direction. . . . In general, the program emphasizes increasing access to Higher Opportunity areas of the city, . . . while *protecting environmentally sensitive areas such as fire zones . . .*” HE, Chapter 4 (emphasis added). *Failure to exempt the VHFHSZ from the proposed AHSO would be clearly inconsistent with the HE’s protections.*

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October \_\_, 2023

Dept. of City Planning

### **Substantial Risk to Public Safety**

Failure to exempt the VHFHSZ would compromise public safety in Pacific Palisades and in other hillside communities in the VHFHSZ. Like many of our counterpart communities in the City, the Palisades is at constant risk of wildfires and required emergency evacuations. We have extremely limited means of egress and ingress (only two main roadways lead in and out of Pacific Palisades) and thousands of our residents reside on narrow hillside streets as well as substandard “flat” streets, where evacuation is already challenged. See: <https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/PPCC-LetterCF-20-1213-Motion-re-VHFHZ.pdf>. We have decades-long experience with destructive wildfires and frightening evacuations, including the massive 1978 Mandeville Fire, the 2018 Woolsey Fire, the 2019 Getty and Palisades Fires and the 2021 Palisades Fire.

These conditions result in serious risk to lives and public safety from crowded roadways during required emergency evacuations – which would be made even worse with additional density. Our community’s significant and legitimate concerns and considerations must be addressed with an adequate environmental review of any proposed affordable housing projects in the VHFHSZ.

### **Conclusion/Request**

PPCC recognizes the need for affordable housing and *does not seek to prevent affordable housing in appropriate areas of Pacific Palisades or in any other areas of the City.* However, in the interest of public safety, it is imperative that any such proposed housing in the sensitive VHFHSZ must not be streamlined and must be subject to adequate environmental and discretionary review.

Consistent with the City Council’s position in CF 23-002-S71 and its request for an unconditional VHFHSZ exemption in SB 423, as well as with the protections afforded sites in the VHFHSZ by the HE, **we urge the Planning Dept. to include an unconditional VHFHSZ exemption in the draft of the proposed AHSO.**

This letter was recommended by the PPCC Land Use Committee and approved [*unanimously?*] by the PPCC Board of Directors at the regularly-scheduled public PPCC meeting on October \_\_, 2023.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maryam Zar  
President, Pacific Palisades Community Council  
Steve Cron and Christina Spitz  
Co-Chairs, PPCC Land Use Committee

cc (via email):

Hon. Karen Bass, Mayor, City of Los Angeles

[karen.bass@lacity.org](mailto:karen.bass@lacity.org)

Hon. Traci Park, Councilwoman, CD 11

[traci.park@lacity.org](mailto:traci.park@lacity.org)

Hon. Paul Krekorian, L.A. City Council President; Councilmember, CD 2

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Hon. Katy Yaroslavsky, Councilwoman, CD 5

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Hon. Nithya Raman, Councilmember, CD 4

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Lisa Webber, Deputy Director of Project Planning

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Each Member Organization ~~and Alternate Member Organization~~ shall be required to submit to the Board a written certification of the name, purpose of the organization, description and number of its members (if a non-profit, the members recorded on its rolls), names of officers, nature and frequency of meetings, fees or dues required, physical address, website, e-mail address and telephone number. Any Member Organization serving in consecutive years, including Member Organizations in categories with only one organization, shall be required to submit a written certification if: (a) there has been a change in the information that the Member Organization provided in its previously-submitted written certification; or (b) if the Member Organization has not submitted a written certification in the previous three years.