

Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 9, 2018
Westside Pavilion - 10800 W. Pico

A) Call to Order: Terri Tippit, WNC Chair, 7:03 PM

Jae Wu (Seat 1)
Jeff Hronek (Seat 3)
Kim Christensen (Seat 4)
Barbara Broide (Seat 7)
Terri Tippit (Seat 8)
Sean McMillan (Seat 9)
Stacey Antler (Seat 10)
Colleen Mason-Heller (Seat 12)
Jane Wishon (Seat 13)
Ira Newlander (Seat 14)
Caryn Friedman (Seat 15)
Wendy Dox (Seat 16)
Aaron Rosenfield (Seat 17)

Seated After Start:

Brendan Kotler (Seat 5)
Elnie Vannatim (Seat 6)
Mary Kusnic (Seat 11)

Not In Attendance:

Lisa Morocco (Seat 2)

B) Motion by Mr. Rosenfield to approve the July 12, 2018 minutes as presented.

Second: Ms. Antler

Votes in Favor: 1,3,7,8,9,10,12,14,15,16,17

Abstentions: 4,13

Not in Attendance: 2,5,6,11

11-0-2

Passed

Ms. Kusnic is seated.

C) Jack Sripoona, Council District 5 (CD5) Field Representative – (1) The Councilman wants to temporarily ban all scooter companies in the City. It has to go through committee first. Street Services and DOT would be able to impound the scooters under the measure. (2) September 12th at 8 am is the application start date for speed humps. DOT does four sections in the Council District. We can check in to see if the community wants speed humps if they can pay for them. I think it's around \$5,000 per hump. (3) The West LA Community Plan Update will be at the Westchester Senior Center on September 8th from 9 am-11 am.

Ms. Vannatim is seated.

D) Shannon Louis, Sheila Kuehls's Office, slouis@bos.lacounty.gov – (1) The motion for the School Threat Assessment Response Team (START) program is meant to reduce school shootings. These are mental health professional teams that will be expanded beyond the current ten staff. The recommendation is to develop an outreach program and to hire an expert consultant. *More info:* <https://www.elac.edu/currentstudents/studentresources/emergencyalert/docs/start.pdf>. (2) The County Homeless Initiative calls for \$4.5 million to be awarded by a challenge for faster, cost effective housing construction. It is for innovative housing solutions addressing homelessness in LA County. *More info:* <https://www.housinginnovationchallenge.com/>. (3) The Department of Mental Health has an affiliation agreement with UCLA. A grant will increase from \$1 million to \$12 million, to develop a Center for Street Psychiatry. The program will make sure service models are state of the art. Also, the Dept of Mental Health is awarding grants to help increase access to mental health resources. The grant awards will range between \$1,000 and \$5,000 and is available to schools, community groups, faith-based organizations, etc. *More info:* https://calmhsa.org/wp-content/uploads/LA-County-Mini-Grants-7-26-2018_FINAL-POSTING-AND-DISTRIBUTION-LH.pdf.

Mr. Kotler is seated.

E) Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Chris Baker, LAPD – Near Selby and Ohio, by Saint Paul's, an elderly woman was home and a 30-year-old broke into her house. She locked herself in the room and called the police. The person took off but left a cell phone. The suspect came back to get his cell phone and the person was brought into custody. In my area, the home invasions were through a window screen, possible stolen key and two rear doors that were smashed in. In Rick's area, there were five smashed in back doors. We made three arrests on DNA, and that takes usually six months for those to process. Rick's area is down 4% in burglaries and down 19% in GTAs. He is up in robberies 20%. In my neighborhood, we are trending downward. In March, we were up 42% and now we are up only 13%. We are up in break-ins of motor vehicles in my area.

Mr. Hronek – Yesterday, my daughter and the nanny were walking to the train. I watched them wait for the train to pick them up at Westwood. I noticed a person that was a street guy approaching from the platform. This guy was kicking things and he was violent. He was arguing with someone I noticed and I went up to join my family out of concern. That is when I heard a woman yelling and the guy was walking away. The guy hit her apparently, I did not see it. A metro guy was there, and he pushed the button and asked for the police to apprehend the guy who got on the train.

Mr. Baker – LAPD has now been policing the train a couple years. Former Chief Charlie Beck created a transit service unit of 25 officers. They have 6 officers in West LA. There is not enough. Next month, we will have a supervisor from transit service come speak with you. We show leniency unless there is a real crime.

Ms. Broide – On August 2nd at Glendon and La Grange, there was a person who hit a poll and their license plate was left behind. He was doing circles on a lawn and almost killed two people. I am wondering if that person was apprehended? Also, there was a major apprehension in Beverly Hills, can we find out if there is a link to what has been happening in our area?

SLO Baker – Yes, we have tied a couple burglaries in the area to that group. I am going to go down to the Pot Shop to say hello before our next meeting.

Ms. Antler – Thank you.

F) Madelyn Alfano, owner Maria's Italian Kitchen, support for renewing 10761 Pico CUP, ZA-2018-4187-CUB.

Ms. Alfano – I am the owner of Maria's Italian Kitchen. I live in the area and have been here for a long time. We are downgrading our alcohol license from a full bar to just beer and wine. We do not make money on it and people just like beer and wine. I have a letter that I emailed to all of you.

The following was presented by Ms. Alfano:



*Agoura Hills • Brentwood • Encino • Marina del Rey • Northridge • Oxnard
Pasadena/Hastings Ranch • Sherman Oaks • West Los Angeles • Woodland Hills*

To: Westside Neighborhood Council
Re: Letter of Support for n CUB renewal application
Marias Italian Kitchen
10671 West Pico Blvd LA CA 90064

To Whom It May Concern:

My family moved to West Los Angeles in 1968, and we lived just south of Exposition on Kelton Avenue. I attended Overland Avenue Elementary, Palms Jr High, University High and then UCLA.. You can say, I literally grew up in your neighborhood

I have been in business since 1985. Being a woman owned business and a strong supporter of community involvement; I know that Marias Italian Kitchen has been and will continue to be positive addition to West Los Angeles. My commitment is to make sure that the outside of our building always looks clean and fresh. In fact in our daily duties we sweep the sidewalks and the curbs to maintain a well kept neighborhood. Beautiful Curb appeal.

Maria's Italian Kitchen is a rare entity which represents the true meaning of **Your Neighborhood Restaurant**. We offer good, fresh, reasonably priced food served in the true "Italian home-style manner." Many folks in the neighborhood feel that our restaurant is just an extension of home. That's just what we want and how we choose our locations.

Reports show that today's families usually consist of two individuals who both have to work to keep up in today's world. They are eating out more frequently and most often it is some sort of fast food. That is where Maria's Italian Kitchen differs. We offer good quality food, fast. The natural complement to the food we offer is beer, and wine.. Our customers also support this marriage of food and wine, as their requests, and our history would indicate this since we have been operating our West Los Angeles location since 2003. What's better than a glass of Chianti with Spaghetti and Meatballs..... A cold glass of Italian beer. We want to provide full service to our customers, which truly spark the reason for the request and consideration

Maria's Italian Kitchen | PICO BLVD \

Home Office: 16535 Arminta St., Van Nuys, CA 91406 · Tel: (818) 786-4833 · Fax: (818) 786-1866



*Agoura Hills · Brentwood · Encino · Marina del Rey · Northridge · Oxnard
Pasadena/Hastings Ranch · Sherman Oaks · West Los Angeles · Woodland Hills*

Some Fast Facts:

Maria's Italian Kitchen began operating in WLA since 2003.
We have been serving full line of alcohol since that time and no material changes are planned for the future. We are simply renewing our CUP.
We have an outstanding record with the ABC, Police and Fire Departments.
Our hours of operation are 11 am till 11 pm,
We offer fundraiser nights for the neighborhood schools and kids eat free on Wednesday.

In closing, I want to make clear that we are responsible members of the community and this dedication and concern is also our highest commitment to our business.

Thanking you in advance for your continued support.

Sincerely,


Madelyn Albano
Owner/ President

Ms. Brodie – No negative feedback on this issue was given at our most recent Westwood South of Santa Monica (WSSM) HOA meeting.

Ms. Antler makes a motion to support the renewing of the Conditional Use Beverage (CUB) permit for Maria's Italian Kitchen located at 10761 Pico, ZA-2018-4187-CUB.

Second: Ms. Mason-Heller

Votes in Favor: 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17

Not in Attendance: 2

16-0-0

Passed

G) Victor Hinderliter, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), presentation on what services the LAHSA provides, specifically pertaining to the WNC area.

Mr. Hinderliter – We are a funding pass through agency that collects money from various sources and passes them to groups that help with homelessness. We also help with the yearly homeless point and time count, which is the last week in January. You are familiar with St Joseph’s Center, which is the lead agency in your area. My department does direct street based homeless outreach. We will have 80 teams in SPA 5 when we are fully up to speed. It is a long process to get people off the streets. Individuals with severe chronic issues will need permanent supportive housing that is subsidized and which has regular mental health professionals working with them. But, that is not for everyone. If someone just lost their job, we can assist with finding a new job and a short-term housing subsidy.

Mr. McMillan – LAHSA is the leader on this issue. I have seen their presentation lot’s of times and I’ve worked with the group to have a greater understanding. What people want to know is: if I see something and I want to take action, how do I reach an outreach team? Where do we, the direct public, go?

Mr. Hinderliter – You can go to: www.LA-hop.org, which is a website that allows any community member to request services. Include as much information as possible and specific challenges or barriers that you may notice. We do not have as good of a reaction time as the police. We come out 24-72 hours later and we come out multiple times to try to find the person. We have multi-disciplinary teams that can do mental health assistance and counseling right on the street. The team includes a peer who has experienced homelessness themselves. It includes a case manager that can go through the process of getting housing. We have teams that specialize in severe mental health disorders. You submit the request and it goes to the coordinator who sends out the most qualified team to match the request.

Mr. Newlander – Is there any evidence that when you provide services, it serves as a magnet for homeless folks? For example, if word gets around in Riverside that there are better services in Los Angeles.

Mr. Hinderliter – The research I have seen shows that when a community provides services, it helps to reduce homelessness. It is rare that people become homeless in one area and then move to other areas, say across states.

Ms. Antler – I have heard some places buy tickets and send the homeless to California. Is there truth to that?

Mr. Hinderliter – I have not seen that, though I have heard of it anecdotally. It is different if a family member agrees to take responsibility for the person.

H) Safety and Preparedness Fair

Mr. Hronek – The Safety and Preparedness Fair will be November 4, 11 am – 3 pm at Overland Ave Elementary School. Cynthia and I have been working on this and it has been fun. Thanks to Jae and Sean for letting us use their office for meetings. We met with Jack and Greg in CD5 and Greg is going to take care of a lot of things for us. He will coordinate with some emergency services to make presentations. Jack is going to take care of the tables and chairs. The idea is to have a bunch of booths and presentations. We are going to have a fire demonstration on how to put it out with a fire extinguisher. LAPD will be there. There is talk about a mobile command unit, which I think would be a draw. Different vendors will be there presenting things for survival in the event of a disaster. We might have food tastings for dried packaged food. There will be a pet preparedness booth. We are going to do bike safety. There was a

suggestion by Captain Cooper to have a scavenger hunt, so that people go to different booths. At the stations, people learn something and then get something that will be useful in an emergency.

I) Vanessa Serrano, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – About two months ago, the Palms Neighborhood Council (NC) had the intention to add as a shared area the Palms Park and Library, as well as part of Cheviot along the bike path in their NC. Thank you for Colleen for sharing details from the minutes going back a long way. We talked to that NC and asked them to show us why they thought it belonged in their area? They were trying to include language in their by-laws to match a map that included that area. Their intention to include that area has been rejected. They have the south side of the ten as their border according to their by laws.

Ms. Tippit – The area we gave them awhile back by National was not certified. People can't just write in areas to their bylaws without certification.

Ms. Mason-Heller – BONC denied that area becoming part of Palms, even though we offered them the property willingly. It was denied because it was ceded by us and not orphaned property, which was required by DONE at the time. It's the Wild West out there. People try to put things down on paper and take property for themselves figuring its better to ask forgiveness later than permission up front.

Ms. Tippit – You, Semee and Vanessa can get together to discuss more.

Ms. Serrano – You have been able to keep really good records and give us a record. I have been able to corroborate the things you gave us with other minutes.

Ms. Tippit – So, we want to go back to the 10 freeway as our natural line.

Mr. Newlander – In any motion we make, we want to make sure that we state the area is ours and has always been ours. We should not be conceding anything as we seek correction to the map they prepared.

Ms. Serrano – We met over Anchor Ave and looked at Club Drive on both sides. SORO NC includes both in their by laws and does not want to give up one side of Club Drive. If an NC wants to give something up, that is a different story. But they do not want to give it up.

Ms. Mason-Heller – Their historic bylaws said Beverwil Drive. They took it by changing the name. BONC said no. So, they went to the City Council to override it. We have dues paying members in the Cheviot HOA in that area, and we do outreach there. They do not. It's also a different zip code. Their original boundary went down the boundary of where the zip code splits. When they took it, none of the 90064 people supported it.

Ms. Whishon – I live half a block from Club Dr. and I was active in the PTA. Everyone in that area said they lived in Cheviot. I offended someone one time saying they lived in Beverlywood. The east side of Anchor identifies with Cheviot and there is a bluff there.

Ms. Tippit – We are going to see this through to make sure that area is part of the WNC where it belongs.

Ms. Serrano – If you would like to participate on August 14, from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm there is Civic U and the 100 Cities nonprofit will be there to help make the area resilient if there is an emergency. We would like someone from the Board participate in the conversation.

Ms. Saffir – I will go.

Ms. Serrano – Just be aware there are new guidelines released for the NCs. The most significant change is financial officers have to renew their funding training every two years.

J) Update on the proposed Pot Dispensary and Grow Shop at 2435 Military Ave.

Ms. Tippit – A long time ago, I sent a letter to Patricia who was talking about changing the zoning. The City said nobody can afford that land and now the pot shop is there. 3,000 sqft of their space is a greenhouse and the rest is a pot shop. It's nice inside; very upscale. We can't say anything because there are only temporary permits in place, and because the City has not come through yet. They are growing for other shops that they own. They had a previous fire somewhere else. Why is the City allowing this across the street from homes? It is because they did bad planning. There is no permanent basis right now, so everything is being allowed on a temporary basis.

Ms. Broide – Legal facilities are being allowed on a temporary basis until the State opens a permanent process. There is a way to show which facilities are legal and we can ask the City to close down illegal shops. The LA Department of Cannabis is so new and they operate in a vacuum; not coordinating with other departments like Planning.

Motion by Ms. Broide that we request when a temporary or permanent permit is issued by the Department of Cannabis, there should be advanced notice provided to the relevant Neighborhood Council.

Second: Mr. Newlander

Votes in Favor: 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,17

Votes Against: 10,16

Not in Attendance: 2

14-2-0

Passed

K) Funding Motions

Motion by Ms. Wu for the Farmer's Market ribbon cutting August 26, 2018 for funding up to \$500 for WNC outreach at the Farmer's Market.

Second: Ms. Dox

Votes in Favor: 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,15,16,17

Not in Attendance: 2

Not Eligible to Vote: 14

15-0-0

Passed

Motion by Ms. Kusnic to reimburse \$60.51 for the WNC Go Daddy Domain.

Second: Ms. Wishon

Votes in Favor: 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,15,16,17

Not in Attendance: 2

Not Eligible to Vote: 14

15-0-0

Passed

L) Update on Community Plan

Ms. Christensen – The WNC passed a motion last month on the West LA Community Plan. We are finalizing the letter.

Ms. Broide – We have been lumped with several NCs to the South and the next group after that will be with Bel Air and the Palisades. It's a very ambitious plan, to be done in 3 years. It took us longer to do other plans. If it is being done so quickly, there are likely some preconceived notions. There are real long-term questions. How do we improve our community through land use? We are asking to be put in with the NCs to the north of us. On Sunday, at WRAC, we said we deserve to have data about communities before we start. We will have related items on the agenda next month. We want meaningful community participation. We have to have more density, but where should it be? What are creative ways of doing this? People should attend the trainings for the planning 101, so people can learn the process and participate.

M) Announcements - Meeting Space

Ms. Tippit – I want to see if we can get the Henry Medina Building to meet at because it is easier to get to. The Century City Mall has a very nice room below the Macys and is our back up plan.

N) Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) Motions

More information on each motion at: <http://westsidecouncils.com/pending/>.

Motion by Ms. Broide -- The WNC supports CEQA Appeals Code Amendment of June 6, 2018 (CPC-2018- 2657-CA ENV-2018-2658-CE) and recommends limiting the fee for residents to \$250.

Second: Ms. Christensen

Votes in Favor: 1,3,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17

Abstentions: 5

Not in Attendance: 2

15-0-1

Passed

Background: No formalized appeal process exists, and this amendment will allow residents to file appeals. A fee of \$250 is reasonable for the city, which has numerous low-income residents.

Motion -- The WNC requests that the City regulate personal electric scooter issues with regard to public safety and accessibility, with means for enforcement

Second: Mr. Newlander

Votes in Favor: 3,4,5,6,7,8,10,11,12,13,14,15,17

Abstentions: 1,9,16

Not in Attendance: 2

13-0-3

Passed

Background: Issues include requirement for a City business permit, use of helmets, fines for blocking the public right-of-way.

Motion -- The WNC requests that the City do an audit and assess the effectiveness of the Administrative Citation Enforcement pilot program for Animal Control and the Police Dept. The audit should include plans to implement the program in other departments.

Second: Ms. Antler

Votes in Favor: 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17

Not in Attendance: 2

16-0-0

Passed

Background: ACE began two years ago as a pilot program in only two departments, and the program should be reviewed for effectiveness. ACE may be an effective program to expand to other departments, including DBS Code Enforcement. But, assessments are not available, on which those decisions rely.

Motion -- The WNC opposes SB831, which would eliminate the FAR, floor area square footage, of Accessory Dwelling Units from a site's total floor area. No compelling reason, and no planning justification, has been presented that demonstrates how the physical conditioned, livable space of an ADU is different from the physical conditioned, livable space of the primary residence on the property.

Second: Ms. Mason-Heller

Votes in Favor: 4,5,6,7,8,10,11,12,13,14,15,17

Abstentions: 1,3,9,16

Not in Attendance: 2

12-0-4

Passed

Background: The bill would allow up to the 1,200 sf legal limit of the square footage of accessory dwelling units to be exempt from FAR calculations. However:

-No compelling reason has been stated for why this specific exemption is needed.

-By exempting the FAR for ADUs, the floor area could increase 100% for buildings in low-density neighborhoods.

-The City of Los Angeles has established 14 Floor Area Overlay Zones, and their FAR limits would be abolished.

-Local municipalities should decide FAR standards like these.

-ADUs are not counted in State inventories of housing units or housing units projections.

Motion -- The WNC supports the community impact statement filed by the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council calling for the City Council to take immediate action to comprehensively address and remedy the documented waste, fraud, and abuse in Los Angeles's Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP).

Second: Ms. Antler

Votes in Favor: 1,3,4,5,7,8,9,10,12,13,14,15,16

Abstentions: 6,11,17

Not in attendance: 2

13-0-3

Passed

Background: <http://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/CIS-re-CF-18-0117-DROP.pdf>.

EAGLE ROCK
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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CITY OF
LOS ANGELES
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COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

May 2, 2018

Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Committee Members:

On May 1, 2018, a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held with a quorum of 10 board members present and that by a vote of 8 yes, zero no, and 2 abstentions, the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council (ERNC) adopted the following Community Impact Statement concerning Council File 18-0117, Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) / Los Angeles Firefighters and Police Officers / Extended Periods of Time Off / Injuries / Program Status:

The ERNC has followed recent *Los Angeles Times* investigative reporting coverage about the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP), including but not limited to articles on February 3, March 3, March 10, and April 15, 2018. Namely, the investigation showed:

- Police and firefighters in the DROP program were nearly twice as likely to miss work for injuries, illness or paid leave.
- Those taking disability leave while in DROP missed a combined 2.4 million hours of work for leaves and sick time and were paid more than \$220 million for the time off.
- More than a third (36%) of police officers who entered the program went out on injury leave. At the fire department, it was 70%.
- The average time off for those who took injury leaves was nearly 10 months. At least 370 missed more than a year.
- In addition to the salary and pension payments, leaves taken by DROP participants create a third cost for taxpayers: The Fire Department pays overtime to fill their shifts; the Police Department requires other officers to cover their work.¹

The February 3, 2018 *LA Times* also article noted: "Allowing employees to take long stretches of paid time off while in DROP runs counter to Los Angeles city leaders' stated rationale for the program, which was to keep experienced and savvy veterans in firehouses and police precincts serving the public and mentoring new recruits." The ERNC is very concerned about the documented fraud, abuse, and waste involved in DROP and the City's lack of action to address these issues that directly impact taxpayer

¹ See <http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-drop-20180203-htm1story.html>

resources concerning Northeast Los Angeles and the entire City.

On February 7, 2018, Councilmember Englander introduced a motion via CF 18-0117, which was referred to the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee. The motion explained the recent *LA Times* coverage from February 3, 2018, about DROP which "identified a correlation between entry in the program and extended periods of paid time off due to injuries - many within days or weeks of entering the program." According to the motion, DROP was originally anticipated to help both sworn departments retain veteran staff members by allowing them to collect their salary and pension for a period of five years and was approved by voters in 2001. The *LA Times* story details that nearly half of all DROP participants have gone on disability leaves after entering the program (36% of Police Officers and 70% of Firefighters) and that sworn members of the DROP program were nearly twice as likely to miss work for injuries, illness or paid leave.² The article also details "several egregious examples of abuse, including likely fraud." The motion urged the City to investigate these allegations and "take steps to prevent abuses in order to protect both taxpayer funds and the integrity of the program." The motion sought a CAO report on Worker's Compensation issues as it pertains to the DROP program and current status of the program.

Since February 7, 2018, there has been no further action on CF 18-0117 and no timeline has been provided to the public about when this "program review" will be finished. Meanwhile, further news coverage on March 3 indicated that some City Councilmembers and Mayor Garcetti knew about and subsequently ignored a 2016 CAO report which found waste and other flaws in DROP.³ That 2016 report recommended eliminating the program because it no longer was necessary as a retention tool and had never been cost-effective. Moreover, despite the numerous issues raised in the ongoing *LA Times* coverage, the public learned on March 10, 2018, that the City Council approved up to 5% pay raises and up to 4.5% raises for patrol officers and detectives without addressing or remedying any of the serious problems with DROP.⁴ Even more troubling, a disproportionate number of police officers and firefighters have since sought to enroll in DROP: 129 enrolled in February 2018 alone, when the average enrollment had been 25 per month.⁵ Police and fire expenditures already make up approximately 74% of the Mayor's proposed budget in FY 2018-2019. Police and fire are already the two-highest proposed line items, at \$1.6 billion and \$676 million respectively (excluding pension liabilities).⁶ The proposed line item for "Service Pensions - DROP Payout" is \$145 million, up \$35 million from the \$110 million budgeted and about \$95 million actually expended in FY 2017-2018, which would be a 31.8% increase.⁷ The Budget Advocates' 2018 White Paper specifically addresses DROP, recommending that the program be "immediately [suspended] until new regulations are developed," and that "scofflaws [be held] accountable."

In mid-March 2018, the ERNC reached out to Councilmember Huizar's office about DROP and was informed that the Councilmember shared our concerns about financial prudence and was awaiting the results of the program review. According to the Councilmember's office, the CAO report from 2016 was not presented to the full City Council, only at an Executive Employee Relations Committee, which was/is made up of the Mayor, the Council President, and Councilmembers Englander, Krekorian, and Koretz as the

² See March 3, 2018 article:

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-drop-report-retirement-20180303-story.html>

³ See March 10, 2018 article:

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-adv-drop-contract-20180310-story.html>

⁴ See April 15, 2018 article:

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-drop-new-enrollment-20180413-story.html>

⁵ See http://cikrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2018/18-0600_rpt_MAYOR_04-19-2018.pdf

⁶ See http://cikrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2018/18-0600_misc_2_04-19-2018.pdf

President Pro Tempore, Budget and Finance Committee chair, and Personnel Committee chair, respectively.

Per the motion in CF 18-0117, the CAO is only reviewing the Worker's Compensation issues in DROP and the current status of the program. The ERNC is unsatisfied with the limited nature of the motion and seeks more comprehensive and urgent responsive action, including but not limited to an interim measure such as immediately suspending all further enrollment in DROP; conducting a full-scope investigation of DROP involving the offices of the City Attorney, City Controller, and City Administrative Officer, and exploring whether civil and/or criminal charges are warranted given the alleged waste and abuse of taxpayer resources and numerous, documented instances of fraud perpetrated on the system; and determining whether DROP should be ended permanently, as numerous other jurisdictions, i.e. San Francisco and San Diego, have already done years ago. The City Council should also hold meetings/hearings about this issue so that more community members can express their concerns in a public forum. In light of so many other needs in Northeast Los Angeles and other City regions concerning homelessness, transportation, infrastructure/public works, potholes and road repairs, etc., it is concerning that DROP continues to occupy a significant portion of taxpayer resources, without a proven, tangible benefit in return.

The ERNC urges Councilmember Huizar and his colleagues to take immediate action to comprehensively address and remedy the documented waste, fraud, and abuse in DROP as soon as possible. We request a written response within twenty (20) business days from the Committee and/or any other involved City departments/agencies copied below which specifically addresses the concerns raised in this Community Impact Statement and what is being done to take appropriate action.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important issue.

Respectfully,

The Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council

cc: Office of Councilmember Jose Huizar: Paul Habib, Chief of Staff, Martin Schlageter, Policy Director;
Sean Starkey, Field Deputy, Northeast LA Office
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), % lorenzo.briceno@lacity.org
Raymond Ciranna, General Manager of Los Angeles Fire and Police Pensions
Office of City Attorney Mike Feuer
Office of the City Controller Ron Galperin
City Administrative Officer Rich Llewellyn
Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti
Los Angeles Times

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Rosenfield at 9:06 pm: Unanimous.

Submitted: By Aaron Rosenfield, Secretary

Voting note regarding how abstentions are counted: Section 3 of the WNCs By-Laws state: "Except as otherwise specifically provided, an affirmative vote of a majority of those voting, not including abstentions, shall be required to pass motions." <http://wncla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Westside-nc-approved-bylaws-amendments-2014.pdf>.