



## Public Safety, Housing & Transportation Committee Meeting

Rampart Village Neighborhood Council  
155 N. Occidental Blvd. Suite 236  
Los Angeles, CA 90026



**Wednesday, July 3, 2024, 3:15 P.M.**  
**Agenda**

Philip Armstrong, Chair | Vice Chair, Vacant  
Lara Morrison | Lois Arkin | Jennifer Quinones

The Mission of the Public Safety, Housing and Transportation Committee shall be to serve as the primary RVNC entity for Public Safety, Housing and Transportation issues and policies planning. It shall provide assistance to Stakeholders seeking solutions that could mitigate safety issues and will address emergency preparedness, homelessness, housing opportunities, traffic, and transportation issues in the RVNC neighborhood.

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Philip Armstrong al 213.275.9322 o por correo electrónico: [Philip.armstrongrvnc@gmail.com](mailto:Philip.armstrongrvnc@gmail.com) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE OCTOBER 6, 2023 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 411 (PORTANTINO) AND LA CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL ON NOVEMBER 1, 2023, THE RAMPART VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.

#### Meeting Access Information

Internet: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85161232288> | Telephone: 669.900.6833 | Mtg. ID: 851 6123 2288 (No Password Required)

Every person wishing to address the Board must dial 669.900.6833, and enter 851 6123 2288 and then press # to join the meeting. When prompted by the presiding officer, to provide public input at the Neighborhood Council meeting the public will be requested to dial \*9 or use the Raise Hand option, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board 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 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 two minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

#### SB 411 Updates:

In the event of a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the eligible legislative body's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the eligible legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

(C) The eligible legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comments in real time.

(D) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the eligible legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(E) (i) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(ii) An eligible legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(iii) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

- I. **Call to Order** (0 Min.)
- II. **Roll Call and Adoption of Outstanding Minutes** (0 Min.)
- III. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (2 minutes per speaker)** (0 Min.)
- IV. **Discussion and Possible Action on the following Motions & Resolutions:** (0 Min.)
  - A. **Old Business with Follow-up Actions Planned**
    - 1. **Discussion and possible action to follow-up on the Central LA virtual community workshop to develop a community-driven action plan to improve walking and biking safety focusing on neighborhood schools of Commonwealth Avenue ES, Frank Del Olmo, and Lafayette Park PC. We heard from Margot Ocanas, LADOT's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Director that the SRTS plan for those schools and a total of 21 schools in the area was funded for \$32 million in CalTrans Active Transportation Program, Cycle 6. On May 23, Philip asked Max Podemski, Transportation Planning Associate II, in LADOT's Vision Zero Division, to update us regarding the scramble crosswalk at 3rd Street and Vermont Avenue that Margot told us was removed from the ATP application because that intersection is in the Vision Zero Program's High Injury Network. We were subsequently told by the Vision Zero Program that it doesn't meet their guidelines and Margot then said she would go back to the Vision Zero Program to understand this because the studies for the crosswalk had already been done. Now that Margot has moved on, Matt Gertz in the Vision Zero Division of LADOT informed Philip he's working to get an answer on this, but due to staff vacations he likely won't be able to update us until the beginning of July.**
    - 2. **Discussion and possible action on supporting follow-up to the first Play Street event, which occurred on September 9 as part of the 100-year anniversary of Commonwealth Avenue Elementary in Historic Filipinotown. There's more about Play Streets here: <https://laplaystreets.com/> Let's discuss having the next Play Street event at St. Anne's in the spring.**
    - 3. **Discussion and possible action regarding concerns raised by Carolyn Burlison about the existing conditions of the 100 block of S. Occidental Boulevard. She has reported through My311, but nothing has been done. In addition, the alley between Beverly Boulevard and 3rd Street has deep potholes that have gotten worse since the rains. She has requested repairs since November, but nothing has been done. At our May 23, 2023 Committee meeting, we discussed that we will wait for the Council Offices for CD 1 and CD 13 to respond before we take any action. We learned from Javier Solis, Superintendent of Recreation and Parks Maintenance Operations, that the Occidental medians belong to Public Works/Urban Forestry Landscape Div. At our March 19 General Board meeting, Diana Vicente, CD 1 Field Representative, told us that they want to bring to us a proposal for their Climate Fellows to plant native vegetation in the Occidental medians and they will convey this to CD 13.**
    - 4. **Discussion and possible action on the HCID rollout of a database of all low-income housing created in projects using Density Bonus or Transit Oriented Communities (TOC) incentives. In response to our analysis showing some building permits being issued to projects that ostensibly did not appear on Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD)'s list of covenanted projects, LAHD completed a review of those projects with final permits issued and asked LADBS to provide information regarding LADBS' receipt of LAHD clearance for low income units. This data visualization reflects collaboration between the RVNC PSHT Committee and LAHD to fill the data**

gaps for covenants for those projects with final permits issued: [extract of join of covenants-permits and discretionary approvals 4.20.23 5.23.23 APN | Tableau Public](#)

The Budget Advocates posted the 2024 White Paper to Council File [24-0600](#) on May 7: [https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2024/24-0600\\_misc\\_NCadvocacy.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2024/24-0600_misc_NCadvocacy.pdf) and the RVNC filed a [community impact statement](#) on May 21. In anticipation of filing the community impact statement, on May 10, Philip reached out to Kevin Keller, Senior Advisor, Office of Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass. In response, Armeen Neshat who is their link to affordable housing production reviewed Philip's email and provided the following response: "All departments that have a role in a project's construction, either by issuing a permit or conducting a necessary inspection, or providing a required clearance, communicate and coordinate closely." At her budget recap webinar on May 29, Philip asked Councilmember Hernandez whether she would be willing to introduce a motion in Council to ask the Los Angeles Building and Safety Department with support from the other Departments as needed to report back on the concerns as discussed in the 2024 White Paper. Specifically, there is no City Department that is responsible for producing affordable housing. The responsibility is divided among the Los Angeles Housing Department, the Los Angeles Building and Safety Department, and the City Planning Department and they each have a piece but none of them has all of the data that is needed: 1) to ensure that the low-income units produced are actually affordable and 2) to produce data available to the public that shows how many affordable units are being produced on a yearly basis in the various categories (including with Density Bonus and Transit Oriented Communities incentives). As the Councilmember requested, Philip submitted this question to Diana Vicente on May 29. For the slides from LAHD's April 19, 2022, presentation to the committee, please see the following link: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hpb4YXRvA0nfw\\_55Lxg6srQJqNnSDoGq/view?usp=haring](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hpb4YXRvA0nfw_55Lxg6srQJqNnSDoGq/view?usp=haring)

5. Discussion and possible action to address resumption of PATH Neighborhood Watch Committee meetings. On October 17, Zeke Sandoval, PATH's Public Policy Manager informed Philip that he's looking forward to attending our meeting soon to talk more about PATH's expanded outreach work in CD13 and the Neighborhood Watch Committee. In the meantime, Jennifer is attending the Community Police Advisory Board for the LAPD Rampart Division as the RVNC's liaison.

## B. New Business

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training scheduled for 2.5 hour/week x 7-week class at 4:30 PM on Wednesdays, April 24 to June 5 (today), at New Village Girls Academy located at 147 N Occidental Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90026 and follow-on to that training. On April 16, Vince Ababao, LAFDCERT Battalion 11 Coordinator, told us he'd be there the last day of class, Graduation day, to welcome the trainees, thank them and as Battalion Coordinator invite them and get their contact information for sign-ups. At our May 21 General Board meeting, we passed a motion to support the LAFDCERT Battalion 11 Coordinator in organizing a Neighborhood Team on June 5. Mr. Ababao was unable to get to the graduation ceremony and said he would follow up with the LAFD. We are still anticipating that Mr. Ababao will help us to recruit and train a Team Leader and request the Neighborhood Team Program (NTP) through Patrick Botz-Forbes and Chin Thammasaengsri to help our NC to develop our Emergency Plan and build our Neighborhood Team. For more information, please see the following link to the CERT participant manual: [https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2019.CERT\\_Basic\\_PM\\_FINAL\\_508c.pdf](https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2019.CERT_Basic_PM_FINAL_508c.pdf)
2. Discussion and possible action to follow up with CD 10 and Department of Recreation and Parks about the upgradation of Shatto center Badminton court (uphill). At our March 19 General Board meeting, Jungmin Lee, CD 10 Deputy of Constituent Services (Koreatown), informed us they are doing a cost analysis to renovate the park and reduce crime. Please see the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners Report No. 24-064, Shatto Recreation Center Park Renovation Project, at the following link: <https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2024/apr04/24-064.pdf> At our May 21 General Board meeting, we voted to send a letter of support for the renovations.
3. Discussion and possible action to review the lessons learned, actions taken, and solutions found regarding the safe route to school at 200 N Vermont Avenue. At our

February 20 General Board meeting, a motion was passed to approve a letter of support to LADOT, CD 13, LAUSD, and/or other parties to advocate for implementation of temporary safety measures and infrastructure to ensure a safe route to school from the Vermont/Beverly Metro Station for students and the safe passage of other pedestrians and users of the public right of way during the weeks-long closure of the sidewalk on the east side of Vermont Avenue between Council Street and the Citibank at 270 N Vermont Avenue. Also, at that meeting, Michael Batistick of CD 13 reported they were waiting on a response from LADOT and they had elevated the service request at Street Services Department. Laila Molina subsequently informed us that their office flagged the issues to Bureau of Street Services (BSS). She spoke with the BSS investigator, who went to the site after the issue was brought to her attention and made sure a traffic control plan was enforced by the developer. At our May 21 General Board meeting, the board passed a motion to request: 1) an explanation from the BSS investigator of what transpired; 2) a copy of the traffic control plan that was enforced by the developer and 3) a traffic signal and a pedestrian crosswalk across Vermont Avenue at Council Street. Then, Philip reached out to Tim Frémaux, Principal Transportation Engineer, Design and Construction Management at LADOT to provide him with the motion. In response to the motion, he told us that the signal at Vermont/Council is going through plan review and they expect that the developer will construct it in the next 3-6 months, but that is just an estimate, since the developer controls their own schedule. On June 11, Fabio Arias of LADOT's Permit Plan Review Division informed Philip that LADOT received and approved a worksite traffic control plan in October 2021 for 200 N. Vermont. The worksite plan included concrete k-rails and maintained a 5ft pedestrian access for the Vermont Avenue sidewalk. On June 17, Philip spoke with Wallie Jong in Construction Services at the Bureau of Engineering who told us that Permit No. A2024-000049, Reference No. 108644, required: 5. Jobsite conditions must comply with the latest edition of the "Work Area Traffic Control Handbook" (W.A.T.C.H.) 6. Pedestrian and vehicular access must be maintained at all times. In response to an email message from Philip, John Calderon who is an inspector at the Bureau of Contract Administration told us on June 21 that the developer did not follow the requirement in the traffic control plan to maintain pedestrian access, did not notify the public, and did not request an inspection prior to implementation. There would be an incentive for the developer to meet the permit requirements except that the City Attorney doesn't enforce LAMC 62.61 (f), penalties for noncompliance. The developers know that the Bureau of Contract Administration is short-staffed and a pattern of noncompliance is observed as a result.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the Rampart Village Neighborhood Council District Street Tree Inventory Summary Report. At our February 7 PSHT Committee meeting, Lois said she will discuss with the Trees Committee and the RVNC's PPPWLU Committee the idea of asking our stakeholders about streets in the RVNC where they could take away one parking lane to allow for planting trees in parking lanes that the community doesn't need. Different cities have tried different options for doing this to mitigate climate change. Jennifer said perhaps, as a way of selling this idea, focus on those streets that have a congregation of RVs and utilize that space differently to curb folks with questionable motivations from parking RVs there. At our March 6 committee meeting, Lois said she will discuss with the Trees Committee the idea of asking our stakeholders about streets in the RVNC where they could take away one parking lane to allow for planting trees in parking lanes that the community doesn't need. Please see the following link for details: <https://streetsla.lacity.org/sites/default/files/Rampart%20Village%2020220812.pdf>
5. Discussion and possible action to recommend approval of a community impact statement for Council File 23-1027 regarding City Charter Reform, currently in the Ad Hoc Committee on City Governance Reform. At our May 21 General Board meeting, a motion was approved to submit a second community impact statement. Please see DONE'S report on City Charter amendments at the following link: [https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2023/23-1027\\_rpt\\_DONE\\_01-22-24.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2023/23-1027_rpt_DONE_01-22-24.pdf).
6. Discussion and possible action to support LA Metro in the early planning phase of the [Vermont Transit Corridor Project](#). Metro wants to work with our Neighborhood Council and will provide a project briefing at our July 16 General Board meeting. The session aims to provide insights into project goals and benefits and address questions. Lois has asked Paulina Velasco to include in the presentation the

approximate number of surveys that were returned from this area (90004, 90026, 90057, 90020) that Metro sent out about a month or so ago, and a summary of some of the comments from the Feb 16 Opinion Leaders workshop held at 510 So. Vermont (which I was unfortunately unable to attend). In response, Paulina asked us to please share more information about the surveys and which project is that for.

7. Discussion and possible action to recommend to the Executive Committee to agendaize for the June 18 RVNC General Board meeting a motion to authorize Philip to use the RVNC Zoom account for meetings of the Los Angeles Bicycle Advisory Committee, Planning and Bikeway Engineering Subcommittee. On March 12, Philip discussed with Lorenzo using the RVNC zoom account for the Planning and Bikeways Engineering Subcommittee meetings going forward and he said that's ok.
8. Discussion and possible action to recommend approval of a community impact statement for Council File 18-0406, Notification of Demolition / Los Angeles Municipal Code / Amendment (please see the following link: [https://ens.lacity.org/clk/referralmemo/clkreferralmemo9179491\\_04162024.htm](https://ens.lacity.org/clk/referralmemo/clkreferralmemo9179491_04162024.htm)). Philip was asked by Stella Grey, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on LADBS Policies, Bel Air Beverly Crest NC, to support the Proposed Motion by Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky with the following amendment:
  - Add a requirement for the demolition permit applicants to provide LADBS Plan Check with a proof of compliance with Rule 1403 for asbestos clearance <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/rule-book/reg-xiv/rule-1403.pdf>. LADBS shall consult with AQMD and LAFD regarding implementation of this request.Background:
  - Under California Health and Safety Code, permit applicants can declare asbestos absence by signing an affidavit.
  - LADBS and its Plan Check Department rely solely on applicants' integrity to report compliance with Rule 1403 for asbestos clearance <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/rule-book/reg-xiv/rule-1403.pdf> by simply signing an affidavit.
  - Unfortunately, some applicants have signed affidavits without performing necessary tests to prevent neighbors and construction workers from being exposed to debris contaminated with asbestos. After our reports, AQMD intervened, stopping demolitions and enforcing compliance.
  - By requesting a proof of compliance from SoCalAQMD or LAFD we will ensure that public health and safety are further protected during demolition from asbestos-contamination.

C. Set agenda and day and time for next PSHT Committee meeting. Next meeting: 2:30 PM on Wednesday, September 4, 2024. We decided to cancel the August 7 committee meeting.

V. Stakeholder Suggested Future PSHT Agenda Items.

(0 Min.)

VI. Announcements

VII. Adjournment

**THE AMERICAN 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, assisted 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 (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@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 in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: [rvnc.org](http://rvnc.org) 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 Philip Armstrong at [Philip.armstrongrvnc@gmail.com](mailto:Philip.armstrongrvnc@gmail.com)

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 is within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Agenda is posted for public review at: 1) LA Eco-Village, 117 Bimini Pl, 90004; 2) RVNC Bulletin Board, Suit #236, 155 N. Occidental Blvd, 90026; 3) [www.rvnc.org](http://www.rvnc.org); and 4) [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org).

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President, Philip Armstrong, at 213.275.9322 or email: Philip.armstrongrvnc@gmail.com, or you may contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment Support at 213.978.1551 or e-mail NCSupport@lacity.org. **Note: For TTY/TDD services, please refer to state provided services at <https://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov/default1.aspx?id=1482>**

#### GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

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 two minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS – Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- 1) LA Eco-Village, 117 Bimini Pl, 90004;
- 2) RVNC Bulletin Board, Suite #236, 155 N. Occidental Blvd, 90026;
- 3) [www.rvnc.org](http://www.rvnc.org); and
- 4) You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

#### 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 Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS - For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website [www.rvnc.org](http://www.rvnc.org)