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MINUTES

ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ZOOM MEETING Monday January 16, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 361 (RIVAS) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY WITH A CALL-IN OPTION OR INTERNET-BASED SERVICE OPTION

Public Comment: Public calling in, please press *9 on your phone to raise your hand to speak. For those that are using the Zoom Webinar please use the raise your hand feature to speak. Public comment on agenda items will be heard only when the item is up for discussion. Public comment on agenda items is limited to 1 minutes per agenda item. Time may be adjusted at the Chair's discretion.

AB 361 Updates: Public comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting, only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.



Committee members: Members present:

1-*Glenn Bailey: Co-Chair, 2-*Pat Bates: Co-Chair 3-Katie Bull 4-Amy Zidell 6-*Daniel Glaser

Members absent with notification: 5-Marianne Davis

1. **Quorum was determined Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by co-chair Pat Bates with a thank you to the members for donating their time on the very special MLH holiday. Pat volunteered to take notes.**
2. **Approval of Committee minutes.** *Motion was made to approve draft Parks and Environment Committee Minutes of the November 2, 2022 Meeting. Pat/Glenn 5 yes 0 no 0 abstentions*
3. **Report/Presentation from any Agencies/Organizations present:** *Geoff Thompson from CD 4 was present at the meeting, said a few words regarding the Sepulveda Basin vision Plan, and stayed through the meeting . Alex Garay, President of the Encino NC was present with no initial comments.*
4. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction –**no other member present.**
5. **Old & New Business Action Items: Votes may be taken on all action items.**
 1. **Discussion and possible action:** Draft City Council Motion regarding the objectives of the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan. This includes the scope of the [February 2022 Task Order Solicitation](#) (pages 24-25 describes projects and locations) requesting bids on master planning and design consulting services, resulting in a contract which was awarded on [November 18, 2022](#). Besides the specific projects, consider commenting on lack of notification of affected Neighborhood Councils that the Task Order Solicitation (TOS) had been issued.

Pat shared the map from the TOS showing the proposed locations of the various projects identified in the TOS, noting some projects such as the swimming venue which is a prop K project and is known. All of the 13 projects noted on the map were pointed out and briefly described. The map is attached to these minutes. Several board members expressed shock that this list of projects had been compiled with no disclosure. Comments included.....

Glenn - P1 (area west of Balboa) was supposed to be reserved for passive recreation per agreement with RVNOC. What's the explanation for this?

Pat and Glenn - The Encino residential area directly abuts the LA River and park area

Pat with mutual agreement - committee was disturbed by Tapia Farms being targeted for removal and would appreciate an explanation.

Mr Thompson noted that the plans for LA28 are still vague, there is no funding for many of these projects (grants will need to be requested). Pat noted that a regional "asset" such as the Sepulveda basin, especially one containing jurisdictional boundaries, should be subject to a lot of transparency. It should not be under the sole purview of one CD which /glenn and Mr. Thompson concurred with. There was speculation that federal funding for the basin was limited to 4 sports fields, \$1 K/field. Similarities with lack of disclosure of the Van Nuys /airport plans were noted - it needs transparency as things happening at VNY affect surrounding

communities. Mr. Thompson noted there is no funding for most of the /basin proposals and grants will need to be obtained.

The Committee raised significant issues related to transparency including that any RVNOC (Resident Volunteer Neighborhood Oversight Committee) overseeing basin improvements must have /encino representation.

After extensive discussion and modification the following motion is proposed for the Encino NC board to consider:

The ENC Parks/Environment committee recommends the ENC board support the following Motion: The Encino Neighborhood Council requests that any "Vision Plan" projects proposed for the Sepulveda Basin be subject to timely Encino Neighborhood Council notification (90 days advance notice) as well as including Encino Neighborhood Council and Encino community participation. The Encino Neighborhood Council supports in principle the proposed motion from Councilwoman Nithya Raman regarding the Vision Plan based on the current draft of the motion. The Encino Neighborhood Council, as well as Los Angeles City Council District 4 must be notified of all actions under the Vision Plan and invited to participate and engage in all phases of the development of the Vision Plan and projects. (Pat/Glenn 5 yes/ 0 no /0 abstentions)

- B. Discussion and possible motion regarding Proposition K:** L.A. For Kids Program projects within the boundaries of the Encino NC proposed for partial funding during Fiscal Year 2022-23:
1. Construction of new aquatic facility (swimming pool); location has been reported as being just east of the Department of Recreation and Parks Valley Regional Headquarters (the overflow parking area) - \$3,000,000 available. [See also CF 19-0205-S1 report dated 3/3/2022](#)
 2. Hjelte Field: construct new athletic fields, lighting and parking - \$1,000,000
 3. Los Angeles Riverfront Park - Phase III Design (Balboa to LA River Orange Line Crossing)
 4. Sepulveda Basin Lake Balboa Park (Proposition K Project ID #R31) to include complete design and engineering of a new irrigation system for the entire 67-acre site, and complete construction to install a new irrigation system for an area of up to 11 acres, based on a total Proposition K funding authority of \$2,506,534. Approved by L.A. for Kids Steering Committee on 1/27/22.
- C.** Sepulveda Basin Controlled Burns - Can we revisit this request? Alternatively, consider the use of goats for fuel reduction. *This was discussed - Glenn noted that LAFD Captain Wade White is aware of the proposal and the LAFD brush Committee will be considering. Reference CF 22-0600-S61.*
- D.** LA County Parks Needs Assessment 2021 Regional and Rural Edition - recommendations regarding the Sepulveda Basin and possibly other parks located with the ENC. [Website](#)
- E.** LA City 2021 Draft [List of Tree Species](#) for Public Right of Way. [City Plants](#) list with planting guide. TreePeople [list](#) and ratings.

6. Informational Items/Reports/Updates

- A. Los Encinos State Historic Park update - *Amy Zidell Amy noted that the annual board meeting for Los Encinos /docents with the /state is 1/29/23, she will let us know details.*
- B. Encino Park and Encino Community Center update *Mr. Thompson noted that the \$1.2MM funding from Rep. Sherman's office was for a Encino Community /Center historic building , something to do with the Armenian Cultural something. Pat noted that sounds like the old fire station. Research continues.*
- C. Sepulveda Basin update (NOTE: Those portions of the Sepulveda Basin located south of Victory Boulevard, west of the 405 Freeway and east of White Oak Avenue are located within the certified boundaries of the Encino NC.)
- D. Water: LADWP rebates, drought, water use restrictions
- E. Announcement: Beyond Plastics February Workshops: [free, virtual, 2-part grassroots organizing training in February](#) to learn practical, powerful ways to reduce plastic pollution and engage your larger community in this important work. *Glenn emphaized to consider this.*
- F. NC Sustainability Alliance - currently meets virtually second Sundays, 6:30 pm and has four active committees. [Website](#)
- G. Cool Blocks LA leaders are now being recruited and trained. [Webpage](#)
- H. Los Angeles 100% Renewable Energy Study (LA100) issued by the U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory - [Executive Summary](#); Full report - [12 chapters](#)
- I. 2020 Biodiversity Report - Council File [15-0499](#) - report adopted by City Council on August 18, 2021
- J. Weed & Clean Update *Pat noted the Cepe Myrtles are sprouting, Katie mentioned the weef. /a revisit is needed. Mrl Thompson asked if the area between White Oak and Lindley was in a /bid, we explained it is not. He suggested having a meeting to consider extending the BID. Good idea - to be continued.*

7. Committee Member Comment on Items not on this Agenda

Adjournment at: _____ 2049 _____ Next Parks and Environment Meeting: _____ uncertain _____