



Encino Neighborhood Council

4924 Paso Robles Avenue, Encino CA 91316 Phone: 747.282.0450

Roy Nwaiser - President
Josh Sautter - Vice President
Jennifer Luce - Secretary
Pilar DeFreest - Treasurer
Kelvin Tolbert - Sergeant-at-Arms

NOTICE AND AGENDA ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PARKS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE *SPECIAL MEETING* **MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 29, 2026, @ 8:15 pm

Zoom meeting online or by telephone

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89282025569>

Or dial (888) 475-4499 to join the meeting

Then enter this Webinar ID: [89282025569](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89282025569) and press #

Zoom Webinars are recorded

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Jennifer Luce, Secretaria, al (747) 282-0450 o por correo electrónico secretary@encinonc.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE JANUARY 1, 2026, ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 707 (DURAZO) AND LA CITY COUNCIL FILE 23-1114, THE ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.

Public Comment: Public calling in, please press *9 on your phone to raise your hand to speak. For those who are using the Zoom Webinar, please use the raise your hand feature to speak.

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 Comments on non-agenda items are limited to TWO MINUTES (2) per speaker.** Time may be adjusted at the Chair's discretion.

Public comment on agenda items will be heard when the item is up for discussion. **Public comment on agenda items is limited to ONE MINUTE (1) per agenda item.** Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Time may be adjusted at the Chair's discretion.

Voting Committee Members: *Glenn Bailey(Chair)**Present**, *Rachel Perry (Vice-Chair) **Present**, *Shaindi Schwebel **Present**, *Jennifer Luce **Present**, *Robert Meer **Present**, Marianne Davis, Amy Zidell

Alternate Voting Committee Members: Alternate 1, Alternate 2

***Indicates ENC Board Member or Alternate; no more than five (5) ENC Board Members and/or**

Alternates may be seated at one time during any ENC Committee Meeting

1. Start Recording / Call To Order / Roll Call / Determination Of Quorum

2. **Comments from Chair Glenn Bailey:** Rachel Perry appointed committee Vice Chair (doesn't need board approval), resignation of previous Co-Chair Joanna Power. **Amy Zidell:** advised that she was listening in but driving and not able to turn on the camera. Has a history with preservation efforts for Los Encinos Historic State Park.

3. Reports From Public Officials/Departments/Community Agencies

Updates from representatives of City officials and departments within the subject matter jurisdiction of this Committee

- **Yvonne Velazquez, Senior Recreation Director, Balboa Sports Center**
Yvonne.Velazquez@lacity.org,
- Yvonne has been the director of the Sports Center since Dec 2025.
- Balboa Park is under CD6, not CD4, like the rest of Encino. Yvonne has been meeting with Park Rangers, CD6, and Senior Lead Officers to understand the area and have good communication if issues arise. There is an overlap in the Park of ENC and Lake Balboa NC
- Sports Center offers family & adult programming; Spring Easter Egg Hunt, 6 Sports teams going on right now, 12 classes, Summer Camp
- Sports Registration for the Summer Session Begins Monday, May 2.
- The playground at the park will be closed temp for floor maintenance. No update on shade structure, but the playground will be updated to be ADA compliant at some point, no ETA.
- Yvonne also manages Pedlow Park & Soccer fields South of the LA River

Q&A For Yvonne:

- **Terry:** Q; what is the playground flooring made of? A: advised they are replacing the flooring, but not sure what they are replacing it with
- **Ezra:** Q: Are there any plans to reconfigure the paths in the parks or the lights? A: Yes, redoing some of the paths will be addressed with the playground & ADA compliance. Lights, no updates as of right now. Amy: Q: Can the park advisory board consider solar lighting to replace broken lights due to copper wire theft? A: Yes, but cost is always an issue
- **Rachel:** Q: Any info on the operating hours for the concession at the Tennis Courts? A: Concessions are managed by another dept, no answer at this time; will follow up.
- **Robert:** Q: Is Libbit Park managed by Yvonne or Aaron? A: No, it's not under either jurisdiction. It's unstaffed and managed by the regional parks department.

- **Aaron Yates, Director, Encino Community Center, Recreation Facility Director**
- Aaron.Yates@lacity.org
- Been with the park for 2.5 years
- Spring session is underway, soccer league, 30/40 classes

- Encino Fest coming up May 31 (pending city approval)
- 6/13 CERT Disaster Drill
- Also manages the Music Building, looking into repurposing the building, still in planning stages.

Q&A for Aaron:

- **Lionel:** Q: Can you ride bikes in the Encino & Balboa Park? A: Yes
- **Shaindi:** Q: Do we have an update on the assistance request for Encino Fest? A: Yes, one employee, still working on it, but it could be Aaron.

4. Public Comment On Non-Agenda Items

Public comments on non-agenda items are limited to TWO (2) MINUTES per speaker. Time may be adjusted at the Chair's discretion. **See Q & A Above**

5. Old Business

- **Park Needs Assessment** [HERE](#) Envisioned as a guide over the next 20 years for park improvements, not written in stone.

- **Arming Park Rangers- Update** [CF 20-0190](#)

3/19/26 ENC Submitted a CIS in support of arming Park Rangers [HERE](#) Many Park Rangers have gone through the Police academy, and are post-certified. Current city policy doesn't allow them to carry firearms, and some are in remote areas. Motion is currently pending. Will keep on the agenda for future updates.

Public Comment, Lionel: Thinks we need to hire more park rangers.

6. New Business

- **Town Hall on Park and Environmental Topics & Concerns**

All attendees can have an opportunity to participate & elevate concerns or topics of discussion regarding Parks & Environment issues in Encino

Lionel: 1) LA City to discuss charter reform, full day of public comments on Charter Reform. Believes in more green space and park space. 2) Important budget discussions are in the works at the LA City Hall. Meetings are taking place this week to address the 2026/27 budget from the Mayor. CF 26-0600

Amy: Can a Park Ranger advance to administrative or management duty without giving up Peace Officer Status?

Miriam: Need more rangers but also exploring options in Lake Balboa for cameras, 4 @ \$40k each, can record 24/7 (add discussion to next month's agenda)

- **City Park Advisory Boards (PAB) - [background information](#)**
- Application for the Park Advisory Board is in the link above
- The purpose of the board is to meet to gain community insight on concerns and matters

in the park(s).

- **Balboa Sports Center, Park Advisory Board:** 5 ppl on the board, meetings on Tuesdays, next meeting is on May 12th at 6:30 pm. The agenda will be posted on the park's website.
- **Encino Park, Park advisory board:** has about 3 members, looking for additional stakeholders to join. First meeting is tentatively planned for May 27th, around 6/6:30 pm.

- **Encino Fest**
Encino Park, May 31, 2 pm - 5 pm. All are welcome to join, ENC's largest event of the year. **Shaindi:** Not approved yet, can't formally advertise yet. Encourage everyone to keep an eye out for upcoming announcements once it is finalized/approved. Still looking for sponsors and volunteers. **Email:** Shaindi.enc@gmail.com

- **Artificial Turf / LA City Parks [CF 24-0602](#)** This file, introduced in May 2024, focuses on studying the environmental, heat, and health impacts of synthetic turf, including PFAS ("forever chemicals"). Explore a potential ban on new turf installations, particularly at city facilities, and establish incentives to replace existing artificial turf. As of 2025–2026, the file is active, with ongoing reports from the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office and numerous community impact statements from neighborhood councils. The motion aims to pivot toward drought-tolerant, natural landscaping rather than plastic alternatives. **Terry (Promoted to panelist):** Tarzana Neighborhood Council & LA Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance. Been working on this for 2 years, worked with Bob Blumenfield to get the motion passed with the City Council. Lots of dangers and concerns with artificial turf, non-recyclable, forever chemicals, bad for the water supply, and expensive to maintain. LAUSD is also in the process of considering removing turf from its facilities. There are sustainable grass options with less water needs, hearty, working in other parts of the country. We will have a full presentation by Terry in an upcoming meeting. Several members were interested in hearing more. Also, people were interested in more info on turf in private yards.

- **Future agenda item: LA 28 Olympics** Team talked about focusing on only the Valley/Encino Olympic Events and spaces (3 or 4 areas). Questions about what events would be held in Encino and what would happen to facilities once the Olympics were over. Traffic management concerns. Would like to host a town hall-style meeting on this topic closer to the Olympics once there is more definitive info on the plans. Maybe towards the end of the year? After the summer? Invite key players: City Council Members: Ad Hoc Committee Padilla, Rodriguez, Bloomenfield, Olympic Committee Members, Mayor's Office. Paul Krekorian, Executive Director, Major Events. Check the Project Forward Alliance.

7. Announcements:

Committee member announcements about items not on this agenda

8. Adjournment

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. **California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(3).**

The 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. **California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(4).**

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. **California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(5),**

A 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 paragraph (5), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed. **California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(6)(A),**

A 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 paragraph (5), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment. **California Government Code Section 54953.8(b)(6)(B).**

The Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC) is a Certified Neighborhood Council of the City of Los Angeles, which ADVISES City, other Governmental Officials', and the Community on issues or concerns that are affecting the community of ENCINO. The ENC is made up of volunteers who are ELECTED by the community who live, work, or otherwise are involved in the community of ENCINO. The ENC also makes appropriations of City Funds for Community Projects and needs as requested and approved by various committees and the general board.

Out of an abundance of caution due to the possible attendance and participation of a majority of Encino Neighborhood Council Board Members at this Committee meeting, this meeting is noticed as a Joint Meeting of the Committee and the Board, in adherence with the State's Brown Act. No action will be taken on behalf of the Board at this meeting of the Committee. Only Committee Members are allowed to vote.

THE AMERICANS 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

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: www.encinonc.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 Jennifer Luce, Secretary, at (747) 282-0450 or email at: secretary@encinonc.org.

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

- 4933 Balboa Blvd, Encino, CA 91316
- www.encinonc.org

- 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. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or 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.encinonc.org