

SCNC BOARD

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BOARD MEETING AGENDA - REVISED
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022
at 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/97198762934>

Meeting ID: 971 9876 2934

Or dial 669-900-6833 to Join the Meeting

Then Enter This Webinar ID: 971 9876 2934 and Press #
Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone

1. Call to Order & Roll Call (1 min)
2. Approval of [January](#) meeting minutes
3. President's Comments (5 mins)
4. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda items** within the Neighborhood Council's jurisdiction (1 minute per speaker)
5. **Multi-Agenda Item Comment** (20 minutes) Members of the public who wish to speak on items shall be allowed to speak for up to one minute per item up to a total of three minutes per meeting.
6. Announcements by Government Representatives (45 mins)
7. Treasurer's Report (Kim Clements, 3 mins)
8. Public Safety Committee (Scott Mandell, 10 mins)
 - a. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) requests Councilmember Raman to direct the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to investigate the traffic conditions at the Shops at Sportsman's documented in the two videos linked below. Unsafe conditions at the Coldwater Canyon Avenue entrance are occurring at a time when only some of the stores have actually opened. The SCNC has received numerous complaints from stakeholders regarding the increase in traffic as a result of this opening, and the videos document what is now a regular occurrence. This will only get worse if the adjacent property gets an Exception to the Ventura-Cahuenga Specific Plan to build 500+ apartments utilizing the same entrance on Coldwater Canyon Ave.
Links:
<https://youtu.be/-sztIutwRRw>

<https://youtu.be/Xh56vLBg7-I>

b. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) supports Council File 21-0002-S196 Title Cash Bail / Reinstatement / Temporary Zero Emergency Bail Schedule / COVID-19. California voters rejected Proposition 25 which proposed ending the cash bail system in the State. We are in support of this resolution which seeks City Council and Mayoral approval whereby the City of Los Angeles includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislation that would reinstate cash bail. Cash bail need not be an all-or-nothing proposition. Rather, a fair system that considers the accused, their criminal record, their flight risk, and their danger to the community, Covid-19 challenges, without a rigid dollar amount framework. This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to council file [21-0002-S196].

LINK

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=21-0002-S196>

c. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) supports Council File 21-1465 Title Los Angeles Police Department / Property Crimes / RV Overpopulation. Areas populated with oversized vehicles, including recreational vehicles, contribute to certain traffic and public safety challenges including overcrowded streets, obstructed views, and decreased parking. This overpopulation of RVs also presents a public safety risk to RV dwellers as well. In order to ensure the conditions of these corridors are not contributing to the recent upward trend in crime and protect community residents, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) should study the prevalence of crimes within corridors populated with recreational vehicles. This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to council file [21-1465].

LINK

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=21-1465>

d. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) supports Council File 22-0002-S5 Title AB 1603 (Salas) / Property Value / Grand Theft Threshold Decrease / Proposition 47 In 2004, CA voters passed the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, Prop 47. We agree with Assembly member Rudy Salas, D-Bakersfield, author of Assembly Bill 1603 which would lower the felony/misdemeanor threshold of Proposition 47 from \$950 to \$400. If passed, AB1603 would bring that question to CA voters in the form of a ballot measure. Council File 22-0002-S5 shows support of AB1603 by the City. We urge the City Council to pass, and our mayor to sign, CF 22-0002-S5. This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to council file [22-0002-S5].

LINK

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=22-0002-S513>.

e. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) supports Council File 20-0190 Title Armed While On Duty / Park Rangers / Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) / Section 63.41 / Amendment The Department Of Recreation and Parks Park Ranger Division is a law enforcement agency with full police powers to detain, arrest, book criminal violators, and conduct investigations into criminal activity. RAP park rangers are considered full law enforcement officers under California Penal Code (CPC) section 830.1 and have full police powers throughout the State of California. For the protection of the

public and for the safety of all law enforcement officers in the City, it is necessary to amend LAMC section 63.41, to allow park rangers to be armed while on duty, as authorized by CPC §830.31 (b) which states, " a person designated by a local agency as a park ranger, who is regularly employed and paid in that capacity, and whose primary duty is the protection of parks, may be armed by their employing agency." Approximately 70% of a park ranger's duties involve law enforcement activities. Given the areas they patrol, the increase in criminal activity, the dangers they face, they need the necessary tools to protect themselves and the public they serve. For that reason, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority officers are armed, and so should RAP rangers. This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to council file [20-0190].

LINK

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0190>

f. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) supports Council File 22-0029 Title 2118 Sylvan Street / Valley Plaza / December 13, 2021 Fire / Vacant Property / Fire Life Safety Equipment Requirement / Enhanced Security Measures. The December 13, 2021 fire of a long-vacant property at 2118 Sylvan Street in North Hollywood prompted the City Council to take action with regard to the safety and security of the many vacant properties all over Los Angeles. Vacant properties are a known hazard and a source of blight, crime, trespassers, squatters, and often catch fire causing damage to adjacent property and expending city resources. We support this first step asking the City Attorney to consult with the Fire Dept., Legislative Analyst, and Building and Safety to draft the necessary ordinance and regulations requiring owners of vacant properties to keep them secure and safe. Our only objection is that it is asked that these requirements do not become law until after 180 days of being vacant. Safety and security should begin the moment a property becomes vacant. 180 days is too long. This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to council file [22-0029].

LINK

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=22-0029>

g. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) opposes Council File 22-0130 Title Gun Violence / Economic Toll / Gun Owner Liability Insurance /City of San Jose. The City Of Los Angeles and the State Of CA. already regulates magazine capacity, ammunition sales, storage and transport of firearms, reporting of stolen or lost firearms, the type of firearms that are California Compliant, as well as maintaining a database of prohibited possessors. Many of the bullet points in the San Jose ordinance are already regulated. The issues at hand are the yearly fees imposed upon owners of firearms, along with the obligation to purchase a specific type of gun liability insurance or face the prospect of having their firearms impounded. The San Jose ordinance is already facing legal challenges, and the insurance industry has yet to price and present the to be determined liability coverage. The legislation that Los Angeles seeks to model is punitive towards gun owners exercising a constitutional right that is disfavorably viewed by some lawmakers, rather than for a public good. The comparisons to automobiles/drivers are specious due to the fact that driving is not a constitutional right, that automobiles stored and used on private property

need not be registered, licensed, insured, or comply with the vehicle code, and the drivers need not be licensed and insured. An apples vs oranges comparison. The San Jose ordinance claims to be in the interest of public safety, however it makes no mention of the actual criminals who are causing the latest surge of gun crime, the proliferation of so called ghost guns, the tens of thousands of prohibited possessors, and the fact that the criminals committing these types of crimes do not follow gun laws or the law in general. The City Council should table this matter, and seek to address the criminal aspects of so-called gun crime, and not the firearms purchased and held by law abiding citizens in their homes. The San Jose ordinance exempts those with a CCW permit, when actually, these types of fees and insurance would make more sense as a condition of a CCW permit. The vagueness of the structure and purpose of the "Non Profit" to be established is ripe for abuse. This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to council file [22-0130].

LINK

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=22-0130>

9. Bylaws Committee Report(Jeff Hartwick 10 mins)
 - a. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) approves amending Article III (Committees and their Duties), Section 1 (Standing Committees), Paragraph J(6):
 6. Committee members, other than Chairs and Board members, may be removed in the same manner in which they were appointed. However, Chairs and Board members may be removed from a committee by the President only after the President or a Board member submits a removal motion to the Board and a majority of the Board votes for removal.
<https://www.studiocitync.org/pdfs/OPERATING-PROCEDURES-10212020.pdf>
 - b. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) approves amending Article II (Officers), Section 1 (Duties and Powers), Paragraph A, by adding subdivision 4:
 4. The President shall sign all Board correspondence, including but not limited to, Community Impact Statements, Proclamations, Resolutions, and Requests for Action, within five (5) days of submission by the Corresponding Secretary. After five days, the Vice President or Secretary shall be authorized to sign submitted documents upon request by the Corresponding Secretary.
<https://www.studiocitync.org/pdfs/OPERATING-PROCEDURES-10212020.pdf>
 - c. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) approves amending the Bylaws by adding Section 12 to Article V (Governing Board) as follows:

Section 12: Board Members Duty to Disclose Conflict of Interest

A Board member shall disclose to the other Board members any potential conflict of interest due to any financial or business interest that relates to a matter under consideration by the Board or a Committee. In addition, a Board member shall disclose membership in a group or organization (other than the Stakeholder Organization he or she represents) that has an interest in a matter before the Board or Committee, or an interest in an individual or family capacity in a matter before the Board or a Committee.

Any required disclosure shall be made immediately upon the Board member's awareness that the Board is considering or will consider a matter giving rise to a conflict of interest or appearance of a conflict of interest, and prior to the Board taking any action on the issue. If a Board member disclosing a potential conflict of interest does not recuse himself or herself, any other Board member may call for a vote of voting Board members on whether the disclosing Board member may vote on the issue.

<https://www.studiocitync.org/pdfs/SCNC%20Approved%20Bylaws%2002172021.pdf>

10. Transportation Committee Report (Barry Johnson, 10 mins)
 - a. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) request Councilmember Nithya Raman to direct the the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (L.A.D.O.T.) to investigate the new signal timing at Ventura Boulevard and Radford Avenue causing traffic to back up into the Ventura/Laurel Canyon intersection, which then becomes gridlocked and a danger to pedestrians and bicyclists trying to cross on a green light.
 - b. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) request Councilmember Nithya Raman to direct the the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (L.A.D.O.T.) to investigate possible mitigation including, but not limited to, speed humps for drivers ignoring the eastbound "STOP" sign on Kling Street at Goodland Avenue.
11. Homelessness Committee Report (Luis Oliart, 7 mins)
 - a. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports Council File 21-0002-S195, State Funding / Los Angeles County / People Experiencing Homelessness /Mental Illness /Sub-Acute Beds / Psychiatric Care / Lanterman-Petris-Short Act /Staff Shortage. One in five unhoused has a diagnosis of serious mental illness in Los Angeles County. There are only 1,700 sub-acute beds available for psychiatric care, only 1/3 of those necessary for Los Angeles County. California has around a \$31 billion budget surplus, and more funding should go to mental health. We support the Council's resolution supporting legislation or administrative action for the state to allocate funding to allow Los Angeles County to meet the number of beds recommended by mental health experts: 50 per 100,000 residents. This Motion is to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement to Council File 21-0002-S195.
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=21-0002-S195>
11. Government Affairs Committee Report (Barry Johnson, 7 mins)
 - a. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) opposes Council File 17-0981, (01-21-22 - Revised Draft Ordinance), because the proposed ordinance takes away the vetting process from the surrounding community.

This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to [CF 17-0981]

Link:

https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2017/17-0981_ord_draft_01-22-22.pdf

- b. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) supports Council File 22-0033 to approve \$200,000 from the Innovation Fund (IF) for a Resilient, Solar Powered Street Lights pilot project to: 1) reduce City costs

associated with copper wire theft; 2) address sustainability goals; and 3) increase resiliency of the City's street lighting infrastructure. The proposed pilot project would replace at least 50 of the City's street lights with solar powered light fixtures. In regards to historical street light fixtures/structures, the City must exhaust all available options, including theft-proofing, before resorting to solar replacement of the historical fixture/structure.

This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to [CF 22-0033]

Link:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=22-0033>

12. Outreach Committee Report (Brandon Morino 7 mins)

- a. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) opposes the Digital Communications Policy (current draft as of 2/16/22) as presented by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) and empowerLA, representing the City of Los Angeles.

This motion is to be submitted to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC), Councilmember Nithya Raman, Councilmember Paul Krekorian.

13. Sustainability Committee (Adele Slaughter 10 min)

- a. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council is opposed to the council file: 21-0828; LA Zoo Addition Plan. The proposed Zoo Vision Plan is profoundly inconsistent with City environmental priorities. The Project radically turns its back on Los Angeles's Sustainable City Plan, and snubs the 30 x 30 Initiative, along with the Biodiversity work by the Department of Sanitation and Environment. The plan is to clear native habitat for a native habitat exhibit and will destroy a Sensitive Natural Community. The proposed plan and its emphasis on providing a recreational amenity rather than an educational and conservation center and therefore will tarnish its image as a serious player in species conservation.

Fortunately, with the reduced project Alternative 1, little is lost toward the Zoo Vision's 14 Project Goals. Alternative 1, per the EIR, "would reduce environmental impacts identified in the EIR associated with the development and loss of natural resources within these areas (e.g., visual resources, native habitat, sensitive plant species, protected trees)." According to the EIR Alternative 1 is the "Environmentally Superior Alternative,"

With Alternative 1, the Zoo will meet AZA standards. The EIR clearly states that the Zoo can become a "World-class Destination" while meeting many other project goals with Alternative 1.

And finally, the proposed parking structure/additional parking encourages increased traffic and emissions in Griffith Park. We propose that the City Of Los Angeles, Bureau of Engineering work with Department of Transportation and Metro to expand multi-modal transit alternatives to support equitable access the the Zoo. The Zoo expansion should support our basic commitment to green house gas emission reduction.

This motion is to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to Council File: [21-0828] LINK:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=21-0828>

Friends of Griffith Park letter:

https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0828_pc_10-12-2021.pdf

- b. **Motion:** Studio City Neighborhood Council strongly opposes Council File 19-0603. We recommend that the City of Los Angeles vote against this measure to expand Fire District 1. The motion proposes to exclude Type IV (heavy timber) and V (wood framed) construction from being utilized in Height Districts 2, 3, 4, and Regional Centers of Los Angeles. We urge the City Council to vote down this proposed expansion and instead use this opportunity to repeal the entire outdated and archaic Fire District 1 classification. While the Studio City Neighborhood Council applauds the attention to fire safety measures, the limiting of building materials will harm the production of affordable housing and contradicts existing City sustainability policies, all while providing virtually no increase in fire/life safety for our City's residents. Also, this limitation of acceptable building materials does not align with the statewide California Building Code (CBC/Title 24), which is updated every three years, nor is it justified by the CBC which is seen as the benchmark for building safety and energy-use standards nationwide. The manufacture of concrete and steel is the source of about 16% of the world's CO2 emissions, whereas responsibly farmed timber is a carbon sink. Our City is already being ravaged by wildfires whose severity is directly magnified by the effects of CO2 on the atmosphere. The City should be looking at ways to mandate construction that involves less CO2 emissions (such as mass-timber), not mandating construction that is more CO2 intensive (such as concrete and steel). This ban on Type-IV (heavy timber) and Type-V (wood-frame) construction would eliminate one of the main mechanisms by which we are currently able to produce low- and mid-rise housing. If these construction types are banned, the only projects that will pencil in this new District will be much taller, much denser towers which can amortize the increased construction cost over more units and more-expensive units. The cost to build new homes in Los Angeles is already too high, which has reduced the amount of permanent supportive, affordable housing constructed in recent years and contributed to a severe increase in

homelessness and housing costs. The Department of Building & Safety's report to Council on the proposed ordinance estimates that this one change would increase the per-unit construction cost between 10.6% to 47.1%. Expanding Fire District 1 will reduce the financial feasibility of 6 housing construction and result either in less affordable housing built in the City, or will require increasing the public subsidies for these projects. The last thing any member of our City Council should be proposing is even larger costs and ever larger deficits between the demand for housing in our City and its supply. As a neighborhood with many homes in the VHFHSZ and wildland-urban interface, we are deeply troubled that the effects of limiting medium height wood-framed construction elsewhere in the City will further exacerbate the severity of climate-change-magnified wildfires and make it even more difficult to meet our housing and sustainability goals.

This motion is to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to Council File: 19-0603

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=19-0603>

14. Cultural Affairs Committee (Karen Sarrow 5 min)

- a. **Motion:** The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council requests Council Members Nithya Raman and Paul Krekorian to make a motion to insure the Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM) designation is tied to historic buildings and places, not building-fragments, salvage, or "site of" commemoration only, and to expand the parameters of the designation to include community significance.

15. Adjournment

Studio City Neighborhood Council Committee Meeting Agendas are posted for public review on the SCNC website at studiocitync.org and at the CBS Studio Center Radford and Colfax gates.

VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN CONFORMITY

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

Every person wishing to address the Neighborhood Council must dial 669-900-6833, and enter 971 9876 2934 and then press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting. Press *6 to mute and unmute and *9 to raise and lower your hand.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

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, assistive listening devices, and 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 you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email: NCsupport@lacity.org or phone: (213) 978-1551.

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 4024 Radford Ave. Editorial Bldg. 2, Room 6. Studio City, CA 91604 and at our website: www.studiocitync.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 Randall Fried at (323) 828-2149 or email: rfried@studiocitync.org

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – The public is requested to dial *9, when prompted by the presiding officer, 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 1 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

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.

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

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

- CBS Studio Center outside the Radford and Colfax gates.
- <http://www.studiocitync.org/>
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/government/subscribe-agendasnotifications/neighborhood-councils>