



BOARD MEETING SPECIAL AGENDA

THURSDAY JANUARY 12TH 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 7:08pm

Roll Call (1 min)

Kim Clements	PRESENT 7:43PM	ABSENT
Dean Cutler	PRESENT	ABSENT
Fiona Duffy	PRESENT	ABSENT
Randall Fried	PRESENT	ABSENT
Ira Gold	PRESENT	ABSENT
Jeff Hartwick	PRESENT	ABSENT
Julie Houlihan	PRESENT	ABSENT
Scott Mandell	PRESENT	ABSENT
Chip Meehan	PRESENT	ABSENT
Brandon Morino	PRESENT	ABSENT
Richard Niederberg	PRESENT	ABSENT
Karen Sarrow	PRESENT 7:50PM	ABSENT
Adele Slughter	PRESENT	ABSENT
Adam Summer	PRESENT	ABSENT
Alexa Steinberg	PRESENT 7:10 PM	ABSENT
Abigail Velasco	PRESENT	ABSENT

QUORUM: YES Present: 9 (@7:09 PM)

2. President's Announcements (5 mins): No comments. Comments will be mention at the regular Board Meeting.
3. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda items** within the Neighborhood Council's jurisdiction (1 minute per speaker)
 - *Stakeholder would like to know how Councilmember Nythia Raman would be addressing the complex issues Studio City is facing.*
4. Harvard Westlake River-Park Project Ad Hoc Committee Chip Meehan Chair. Entire committee available for additional information. Applicant Harvard Westlake is invited to answer questions.

Motion:

Motion. The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) opposes Los Angeles City Planning Department Case Number: [CPC-2020-1511-VCU-SPR](#)

Harvard Westlake River-Park Project as currently submitted due to the following concerns.

1. **Greenhouse Gas production:** The [DEIR](#) projects a significant increase in the production of greenhouse gasses from the proposed facility. That is unacceptable in a time when we need to limit and even reverse carbon emissions and is contrary to the policy goals of the Los Angeles [Green New Deal](#). The surrounding neighborhood would bear a disproportionate share of the increased emissions but the entire community would be negatively impacted. This objective metric supports the characterization of the project as being "too big for the neighborhood". The committee proposes Harvard Westlake submit a plan that demonstrates reductions or modifications in the scope of the construction of the project and its operations to be carbon neutral relative to existing facilities and operations.
2. **Artificial Turf:** The proposal is for two fields of artificial turf to replace the existing natural turf. This installation would have significant negative effects on the neighborhood in terms of:
 - a. Creating a heat island effect that would raise the temperature of the neighborhood
 - b. Negatively impact the soil column underneath the fields that would have negative impacts on:
 - i. Carbon sequestration
 - ii. Ground water
 - iii. Health of surrounding vegetation
 - c. Artificial turf is only semipermeable which creates unknown flood risks for the neighborhood
 - d. PFA/PFO/microplastic, which are implicated in several health issues, including cancer, leach and off gas into the:

- i. Atmosphere
- ii. Soil
- iii. Water

The methane, carbon dioxide and other emissions from the artificial turf degradation do not seem to be added to the GHG computations in the DEIR.

- e. At the end of its life cycle, artificial turf creates literally acres of plastic waste that cannot be recycled

Artificial Turf is a hotly debated topic. The current research has environmental and consumer advocates touting studies that show the danger of this product, and in opposition, industry figures who attempt to prove the product is safe.

Intuitively, covering the earth with acres of plastic, exposed to the elements, that demonstrably deteriorates in a short period of time, seems inappropriate in a residential setting.

We request an independent laboratory test samples of the proposed turf.

We also await the decision by the state of California to declare artificial turf a carcinogen as ordered by [Proposition 65](#).

The preferred path for Harvard Westlake would be installation of natural turf in light of environmental factors irregardless of the toxicity study findings.

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3. Community Issues: Light, Noise, Traffic

These issues are best handled within the jurisdiction of a new committee that involves Harvard Westlake and community stakeholders, as suggested by Harvard Westlake. There are two phases that need to be considered; construction and operation. The construction period and operational phases need to be well managed, as there are community perils in each. The composition, rules of governance and enforcement capabilities of the committee need to be established.

Of particular concern are the potential combined impacts of several development projects being under construction simultaneously. Anecdotally, we have seen the operations of the retail center at Coldwater and Ventura impede traffic to an unforeseen degree. Surface streets in the community have limited capacity, and are currently stressed. Keeping Studio City navigable for residents and other Angelenos who travel through Studio City will be a complicated endeavor. All projects must be evaluated in a manner that considers the cumulative impacts of multiple development projects.

4. **Other Issues**

The list above is not comprehensive of the concerns of members of the Ad Hoc committee, nor the many community stakeholders who contributed to the conversation that led to this motion. This motion is limited in scope to the specific issues the Ad Hoc was formed to review. As the HW River Park project moves further through the approval process there will need to be additional opportunities to seek amendments from the developer. Satisfaction of the concerns above does not guarantee support for the project absent consideration of other topics.

5. [Harvard Westlake letter of disagreement with the motion as per the Ad Hoc agenda](#)

[Committee Report on DEIR Harvard Westlake River Park 5/7/22](#)
[Approved by the SCNC Board.](#)

Public Comment:

- EIR is not final. Asking the NC not to take a position.
- Kamran: Supports the motion.
- Heidi: Urges the NC to support the motion. More than 15,000 people have signed this petition.
- Joseph: Expressive his exciting support for this motion. As a parent, he takes his children to Weddington Park.
- Eric: Keep the golf intact.
- Jon: No connection with Harvard-Westlake. Supports Harvard-Westlake.
- Alan: President of the Studio City Residence Association. Alan supports the Motion 100%.
- Josh: Supports Harvard-Westlake. It will support Athletics with typical development and disabilities.
- Laurie: Enjoys golfing and turf is not
- Ben: Supports the Motion.
- Alex: VP of homeowner Association Supports motion to oppose.
- Abby: Support the River Park project.
- Laurie: Support the AdHoc Motion.
- Martha: Support the motion to oppose the project.
- Stakeholder: Support in the River Park. Regarding the turf, other parks use turf grass.
- Stakeholder: Plays sports. This is a park. Privately funded. Supports the Westlake park.
- Ann: Support the River Park. Recreational open space.
- Charlotte: Concern about the use of the courts. Supports the Motion.
- Janine: "share space" Supports this motion.
- Margot: Supports the River Park project.
- Anna: Supports the River Park project.
- Stakeholder: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Sheryl: Support the Harvard River park.
- Meeri: Supports the Harvard-Westlake to be able to enjoy the space.
- Ara: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Adam: Support the River Park.

- Samuel: Supports the River Park project.
- Elaine: Plant Native. Supports Harvard Westlake project.
- John: Supports Harvard Westlake support.
- Kim: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Beverly: Support the AdHoc Motion.
- Steve: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Danny: Supports the Harvard-Westlake project.
- Bassil: Supports the Harvard-Westlake project.
- Priscila: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Stakeholder: Supports the Harvard-Westlake project.
- Diane: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Chis: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Damaris: Supports the River Park project.
- Tim: Supports the Harvard-Westlake project.
- Jen: Supports the Harvard-Westlake project.
- Stakeholder: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Sam: Supports the Harvard-Westlake project.
- Nora: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Stakeholder: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Stakeholder: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Patty: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Erika: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Jentle: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Scott: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Stakeholder: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Stakeholder: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Stephanie: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Stakeholder: Supports the Harvard-Westlake project.
- Kelsey: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Paul: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Rudy: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Richard: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Andrea: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Sarah: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Dan: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- John: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Lissa: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Keith: Supports the AdHoc Motion.
- Matt: Supports the Harvard-Westlake project.
- Ari Engelberg, from Harvard-Westlake: Shared the school's project vision.

Board Comments: Board members shared their concerns about the project.

Agenda Item: 4

Motioned by: Chip Meehan

Kim Clements	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Dean Cutler	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Fiona Duffy	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Randall Fried	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Ira Gold	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Jeff Hartwick	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Julie Houlihan	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Scott Mandell	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Chip Meehan	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Brandon Morino	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Richard Niederberg	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Karen Sarrow	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Adele Slughter	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Adam Summer	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Alexa Steinberg	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible
Abigail Velasco	yes	no	absent	recuse	abstain	Ineligible

9 YES

4 Absent

3 Abstain

Motion: Passes

14. Adjournment 10:33 PM

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 Scott Mandell at smandell@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 minute 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: •

Radford 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>