



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Marvista.org

Meeting Agenda



Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability (TI&S) with the Board of Directors

Wednesday, March 6, 2024 From 6:30 to 8:30pm

Windward School, 11350 Palms Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90066 Room 410

Public Welcome

Parking: Upon arrival, please enter through the Sawtelle lot where a member of the security team can show you to a parking space and guide you to Room 410.

1. CALL TO ORDER 6:35 PM

2. ROLL CALL AND EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS/CONFLICTS-OF-INTEREST - roll call shall include each attending board member declaring any ex parte communications outside of their duties and conflicts of interest pertaining to items on or related to this agenda.

Fred Kuhns No/no

Jakob Meuser No/no

Kelsey Figone No/no

April Peterson No/no

Derl Clausen No/no

2 Stakeholders present

3. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - [SEE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR DETAILS](#)

4.1. Approval of the February 7, 2024 Minutes

Discussion regarding grammar inaccuracies.

Derl moves to approve the minutes / Fred seconds

Fred Kuhns	Y
Kelsey Figone	Y
Jakob Meuser	Y
Derl Clausen	Y
April Peterson	Y
Stakeholder	Y
Stakeholder	Y

5. REPRESENTATIVE, GOVERNMENT AGENCY, AND CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Faith Myhra with Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance: NCSA has taken a position against the gondola project. Timeline: the goal would be to complete it before the Olympics. The local community would suffer greatly from this project after already having been hurt by Dodger stadium in the past.

There will be a demonstration lawn conversion on March 9 and 10.

There will be a meeting put on by Climate Reality Project about sustainability in the LA River.

There is an EV motion being discussed at the next committee meeting.

The tree committee will be meeting Saturday March 23, crafting a new tree campaign for the city.

6. CHAIR REPORTS

a) CHAIR – Kelsey Figone

i) [SEE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR DETAILS.](#)

- a. Updates on self-driving cars and Waymo regulations.
- b. Opportunity to inspire kindness in the neighborhood through microgrants, potentially useful for the EAC committee.
- c. Ciclavia is coming to Venice Blvd. on April 21st from 9AM to 4PM.
- d. Sepulveda Transit Corridor updates include there being seemingly strong support for the project to have a station on the UCLA campus, there was the potential elimination of one of the monorail alternatives.

b) VICE-CHAIR – April Peterson

c) MEMBER – Jakob Meuser

- a [There is a Museum of Street Lighting at the Bureau of Street Lighting.](#)

d) MEMBER – Derl Clausen

- a [Working on responding to the opposition from someone at LADOT to the Sawtelle crosswalk letter the committee submitted several months ago.](#)

e) MEMBER – Fred Kuhns

- a [Attended the energy innovation conference at UCLA.](#)
- b [Santa Monica is partnering with Quit Carbon, an organization which helps people electrify their homes. Speaking with LADWP employees about incentives and rebates.](#)
- c [Council File 24-0116 is a motion before the council to provide more oversight over LADWP as they go through changes aiming for zero carbon by 2035.](#)

7. SPECIAL ORDERS – NONE 8. STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS - NEW - SEE [SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR DETAILS](#)

8.1.[ADMINISTRATIVE] **RESILIENT PALISADES PRESENTATION.** Discussion and possible action regarding how Resilient Palisades has pursued solar and storage adoption and microgrid initiatives in their neighborhood.

Ryan Craig presented and responded to questions from the committee and stakeholders. He is the cofounder and treasurer of [Resilient Palisades](https://resilientpalisades.org), an organization in the Palisades devoted to combatting climate change through local action. The organization raises money through donations and the California CORE state program to get funds to provide electric leaf-blowers for gardeners. They worked in partnership with their local community council. Feel free to reach out to ryan@resilientpalisades.org with any questions.

The solar effort by the organization is about 2 years old, this is meant to make the transition less complicated for community members. Battery storage dramatically increases the utility of rooftop solar so that it can even work at night. Phase 1 is to increase the penetration density of solar and storage through a group purchasing program. Then they could go door to door to try and convince people to switch to solar. The potential installers had to agree to certain terms including responsiveness guarantees and warranties. Then they had events reaching out to the community to try and increase adoption. The installers agreed to pay a commission to Resilient Palisades for their extensive outreach efforts. 150 people have requested installation and 45 have received it. Most people are buying, not leasing. Did a full mailing to every household and additional door-to-door outreach. Only single family homes so far have been able to get installations. The biggest obstacle to people is the up front cost, usually in the realm of \$20,000. The installers do offer financing options.

They have also focused on eventually creating a microgrid that would use homes with solar panels and battery storage that can support each other to provide power if the full power grid went down. There are very few microgrids yet in existence in residential areas.

Net metering is a proposal by the CPUC that would significantly reduce the incentive to having rooftop solar. This organization came before the community council. Reach out to ryan@resilientpalisades.org.

8.2.[POLICY] COUNCIL FILE 24-0055 (GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS / FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 COMPLAINTS AND CITATIONS / ENFORCEMENT / EDUCATION PROGRAM).

Discussion and possible action regarding [Council File 24-0055](https://resilientpalisades.org/council-file-24-0055) regarding data collection, improved enforcement, and educational outreach on gas-powered leaf blowers.

Gas leaf blowers are known to be polluting and have been banned for many years, yet LAPD is not enforcing the ban on certain leaf blowers.

Jakob moves to support the council file motion / Kelsey seconds

The motion mentions a \$250 rebate for turning in a gas leaf blower for an electric one. One potential challenge is that the cost of an electric leaf blower is about \$3,500 so the rebate does

not cover it. To use electric leaf blowers for a full day of work, gardeners would also need two batteries and a charger. There used to be additional rebates from CORE but it has run out of funds.

Another challenge is the pushback from gardeners who don't like the concept of switching and people interfering with their work.

The third issue is that some electric leaf blowers produce more high pitch noise than gas powered leaf blowers.

The motion instructs that the Bureau of Street Services explore a potential tiered fine system for repeat offenders issued to the owner of the property rather than the gardener.

April does not support the menu of options listed in the motion about new enforcement mechanisms. The committee and stakeholders feel that there are many potential problems with the enforcement mechanisms listed.

One stakeholder supports the idea of a study but not the idea of only having "sticks" rather than "carrots".

Kelsey points to the language of the motion, indicating that these enforcement mechanisms are recommended to be studied and not necessarily implemented, and also doesn't prefer the LAPD enforcement and basing potential fines on neighborhood gossip. Despite those drawbacks, however, the motion is worded to explore potential mechanisms to disincentivize the use of gas-powered leaf blowers and views this as a step in that direction.

Kelsey Figone	Y
Derl Clausen	Y
April Peterson	N
Jakob Meuser	Y
Fred Kuhns	Y
Stakeholder	Y
Stakeholder	Y

Passes 6-1-0

8. **3.[POLICY] STREET HUMPS APPLICATION CYCLE.** Discussion and possible action regarding the [2024 residential speed hump application cycle](#).

This application goes FAST -- good luck. A stakeholder emailed two weeks ago asking for a speed hump on a particular street (Walgrove).

Things that the MVCC can do about this: potentially send a letter from the council to LADOT about supporting particular applications from the Mar Vista community. We could potentially ask for a report back regarding the prioritization of certain areas.

Jakob moved /April seconded the following motion language:

“We ask that LADOT strongly prioritize speed hump installation in areas near schools and slow residential streets that currently act as cut-through streets; specifically, we request that LADOT strongly consider Mar Vista applications in the following places: Walgrove, Rose, In addition, and most importantly, we are extremely concerned about the lack of transparency around this process and request that LADOT report back to neighborhood councils about the number and location of requests, the prioritization of those requests by LADOT, and the order in which approved requests are to be implemented.” Letter to be directed to LADOT, CD5, CD11.

Kelsey Figone	Y
Derl Clausen	Y
April Peterson	Y
Jakob Meuser	Y
Fred Kuhns	Y
Stakeholder	Y
Stakeholder	Y

9. STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS - OLD -

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA - *The Brown Act provides for a “part of the meeting where the public can comment on any item of interest that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency.” The MVCC is an advisory board to the Los Angeles City Council and, as such, its jurisdiction is restricted within Los Angeles and most importantly, the Mar Vista Community. Therefore, please keep public comments within the MVCC jurisdiction. Thank you.*

Stakeholder points out that buildings now do need to provide a green bin for composting. It would be helpful to have this information on the website.

11. ADJOURNMENT Jakob moves to adjourn /Stakeholder seconds 8:18 PM

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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/Committee 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/Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to one minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Committee.

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 §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying.

Public Input at Neighborhood Council Meetings – 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 Public Comments for Items NOT on This Agenda period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during this 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 3 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board. Use the Zoom Link and phone numbers listed at the top of this agenda.

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- Mar Vista Recreation Center: [11430 Woodbine St, Los Angeles, CA 90066](#)
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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, MarVista.org, or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, they may be downloaded from our website; visit MarVista.org > Council > Board.

Reconsideration and Grievance Process -

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