



# MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL



[MarVista.org](http://MarVista.org)

## MEETING AGENDA - Minutes

### Special Board of Directors

[MarVista.org](http://MarVista.org) > Council > Board

Thursday, June 26th, 2025 from 7:00pm - 10:00pm

## PUBLIC WELCOME

Remote Conferencing by Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84666609891>

Remote Conferencing by Phone: 669-900-6833 | Meeting ID: (Webinar) 846 6660 9891

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Jennifer Rafeedie, Secretaria, al correo electrónico [Jennifer.Rafeedie@marvista.org](mailto:Jennifer.Rafeedie@marvista.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE OCTOBER 6, 2023 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 411 (PORTANTINO) AND LA CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL ON NOVEMBER 1, 2023, THE MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.

Every person wishing to address the Board must dial 669-900-6833, and enter 846 6660 9891 and then press # to join the meeting. When prompted by the presiding officer, to provide public input at the Neighborhood Council meeting the public will be requested to dial \*9 or use the Raise Hand option, 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.

### SB 411 Updates:

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.

The eligible 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.

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.

(i) An eligible 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 subparagraph , to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(ii) An eligible 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 subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(iii) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

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 one minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

*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](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying).*

**1. CALL TO ORDER - 7:04PM**

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

	Roll call	Exparte	Conflicts
Delaram Ahmadyveasi - At Large	PRESENT	NONE	NONE
(Z7) Derl Clausen	PRESENT	NONE	YES, 12.3
(Z1) Kelsey Figone	NOT PRESENT	N/A	N/A
Shaia Greenwald - At Large	PRESENT	NONE	NONE
Carolyn K. Honda - Community Director	PRESENT	NONE	NONE
Greg Kopelow - At Large	PRESENT	NONE	NONE
(Z3) Andrew Marton	NOT PRESENT	N/A	N/A
Jakob Meuser - At Large	PRESENT	NONE	NONE
Steve Paddock - At Large	PRESENT	NONE	NONE
April Peterson - At Large	PRESENT	NONE	NONE
(Z4) Jennifer Rafeedie	NOT PRESENT	N/A	N/A
(Z5) Drew Ruesch	PRESENT	NONE	NONE
Charlene Samiley - At Large	PRESENT	NONE	NONE
(Z6) Kevin Wheeler	PRESENT	NONE	NONE

### 3. WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNITY MEMORIALS

**Martin Rubin, current NC board member**

### 4. ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE, GOVERNMENT AGENCY AND CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

#### Summary of Matt's Comments (Council District 11 – Traci Park's Office):

##### Tribute to Martin:

- Matt and Councilwoman Park spent time with Martin three weeks before his passing.
  - Described Martin as a friend, deeply committed to his community.
  - Emphasized Martin's legacy of selfless service.
  - Encouraged attendance at the **Council meeting honoring Martin** (via adjournment motion); offered help with parking arrangements.
- 

#### Constituent Updates & Government Affairs:

##### 1. Beethoven Market:

- Ongoing community complaints about code violations.
- **Building & Safety issued compliance orders** (expired June 11); a reinspection is pending.
- Matt is pushing for follow-up and will **host a community update call**. Residents interested in joining should email him.

##### 2. Homelessness & Vacant Properties:

- **Venice Blvd Vacant Lots (between Sawtelle & Butler):**
  - Trespassing has occurred on fenced lots after a previous encampment operation.
  - **New violations issued**; city awaiting compliance or enforcement.
  - Matt following up as deadlines approach in July.
- **Meyer Street Encampment (near Blue Oak Preschool):**
  - Concerns due to proximity to children.
  - The property has a **demolition permit (from Nov)** but is awaiting a **pre-demolition inspection** before action can proceed.
  - City is attempting to reach the owner; progress is slow.

### 3. Immigration Enforcement Concerns:

- Recent ICE activity has caused fear in immigrant communities.
  - People are avoiding public places and essential services.
- **City of LA is a sanctuary city** (codified Jan last year):
  - No city resources/personnel assist federal immigration enforcement.
- Matt's office offers:
  - Multilingual **know-your-rights flyers**, "**red cards**", and **referrals to legal/medical/food services** via nonprofit partners.
- Reassured residents: "**You're not alone. We are here to support you.**"

### Summary of Prabjot Chambers' Comments (EmpowerLA):

- **Honoring Martin:**

Prabjot acknowledged Martin's kindness and generosity. Although she didn't work closely with him, others in the department did. EmpowerLA would like to highlight Martin's contributions on social media and will coordinate with Carolyn to make that happen.
- **Neighborhood Council Year-End Review (Due July 31):**

EmpowerLA is requesting all Neighborhood Councils complete a self-assessment by Thursday, July 31.

  - It's a short, informal survey reflecting on accomplishments and areas for growth.
  - Councils can either agendaize the item for an upcoming board meeting or have an executive officer complete it on the board's behalf.
  - Questions can be directed to Prabjot.
- **Post-Election Feedback Initiative:**

With the recent Neighborhood Council elections concluded, EmpowerLA will soon be reaching out to gather feedback on:

  - What outreach strategies were effective
  - What needs improvement
  - Insights will be shared with city partners like the City Clerk's Elections Division to enhance future election cycles.
- **Election Metrics:**

EmpowerLA is developing data reports by region, including metrics like outreach events, ballot counts, and voter turnout.

  - The goal is to create a more data-driven approach for planning and improvement.

- **Department Restructuring – NEA Assignments:**

- EmpowerLA is shifting to a regional model: each NEA will now oversee a designated region rather than individual councils.
- This change takes effect next month.
- Prabjot will no longer be the NEA for Mar Vista, but a new representative will be introduced soon as part of the transition.

## **Summary of Katie Abrams' Comments (Supervisor Horvath's):**

Katie Abrams introduced herself as a new field deputy for Supervisor Horvath's office and expressed her intention to become a regular presence at MVCC meetings. She shared a few updates:

- Supervisor Horvath attended the LA County Water Resiliency Summit, focusing on climate-resilient infrastructure.
- She also joined the Blue Ribbon Commission and UCLA for the release of wildfire recovery recommendations, including a proposal to create a Resilient Rebuilding Authority.
- Metro released the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Sepulveda Transit Corridor. Although it may not directly affect Mar Vista, Katie encouraged community feedback on the proposed alternatives. Metro is hosting public meetings through August 30.

Katie provided her contact info ([kabrams@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:kabrams@bos.lacounty.gov)) and welcomed further engagement from board and community members.

## **Summary of Karen Calderón's Comments (Isaac Bryan's Office):**

- **Introduction:**

Karen Calderón is the new Senior Field Representative for Assemblymember Isaac Bryan, joining the team in April. She's replacing Michelle, who was promoted to District Director.

- **Legislative Updates:**

- **House of Origin Week:**

16 of Assemblymember Bryan's bills successfully passed this key legislative milestone.

- **Key Bills:**

- **AB 246 – Social Security Tenant Protections Act**

Nicknamed the *"Do Not Evict My Grandmother Act"*, this bill protects seniors and disabled Social Security recipients from eviction due to delayed benefit payments.

- **AB 247 – Incarcerated Firefighter Wages**

Raises minimum wage for incarcerated firefighters to **\$7.25/hour** (up from roughly **\$1/hour or less**). Passed with strong bipartisan support (74 out of 80 votes).

- **AB 248 – Jail Wage Cap Removal**

Removes the **\$2/day cap** for inmates in county and local jails, allowing counties to set fairer wages. This bill gives counties discretion to adjust compensation for inmate labor without additional state costs.

- **Community Engagement:**

- A **town hall** is planned for later this year (date TBD).
- A **job fair** is being planned for early August in partnership with **West LA College**.
- The office will participate in:
  - **LA84 Play Day** (West Adams)
  - **Mid City Arts and Music Festival**

- **Closing:**

Karen encouraged community members to attend upcoming events and reach out with questions or interest in learning more about the legislative package.

**5. ~~ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA~~**

**6. SPECIAL ORDERS**

- 6.1. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA** - 1 minute per speaker, if time permits, more time will be given. The MVCC is built on Stakeholder participation and input; especially through our committees (see [MarVista.org](http://MarVista.org) > Council > Committees). 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 and on matters that the MVCC may act upon in future meetings. Thank you for your involvement with the MVCC. Please feel free to contact us ([info@MarVista.org](mailto:info@MarVista.org)) if we may be of service.

**Summary of Public Comment (Tommy):**

- In November 2024, the MVCC approved a \$2,800 Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) for Karmic Action, which was supposed to fund a bike giveaway (including U-locks, lights, and helmets).
- Tommy went to the affiliated bike shop (Bici Libre in MacArthur Park) expecting a free U-lock but was told they were out and encouraged to donate instead.
- He expressed confusion and concern after researching Karmic Action online, noting:
  - No mention of Mar Vista on their site.
  - Karmic Action appears to be a fundraising affiliate, not a standalone community

program.

- Tommy questioned whether the grant money was spent as promised and urged the next board to investigate and verify deliverables.
- He suggested the board seek proof of how the funds were used and consider recovering the money if misused.

#### Summary of Public Comment (Ms. Winnington):

- **Criticism of Board Oversight:**

Echoed concerns about the **Karmic Action grant**, calling it “shady” and suggesting the board was **duped**.

Urged board members—especially newer ones—to **take more responsibility in managing taxpayer funds** and learn from the mistake.

- **Middle East Conflict Warning:**

Shifted to a geopolitical topic, cautioning against **another war in the Middle East**.

Referenced historic false claims leading to war (e.g., **Iraq's WMDs**), and criticized long-standing rhetoric from **Netanyahu** about nuclear threats from Iran.

- **Mandating Homelessness Treatment:**

Cited a **recent Santa Monica shooting** involving a homeless individual, including an injured police officer.

Argued that **voluntary treatment isn't realistic** for those with mental health or substance abuse issues and called for **mandatory treatment policies**.

7. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS** - 2 minutes per speaker, if time permits, more time will be given. board members may make very limited comments and briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights (no action may be taken on matters brought up during general public comment).

8. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

8.1. April, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

	Move	2nd	Y	N	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Delaram Ahmadyveasi - At Large			1				
(Z7) Derl Clausen		x					
(Z1) Kelsey Figone							1
Shaia Greenwald - At Large			1				

Carolyn K. Honda - Community Director			1				
Greg Kopelow - At Large	x		1				
(Z3) Andrew Marton							1
Jakob Meuser - At Large			1				
Steve Paddock - At Large			1				
April Peterson - At Large			1				
(Z4) Jennifer Rafeedie							1
(Z5) Drew Ruesch			1				
Charlene Samiley - At Large			1				
(Z6) Kevin Wheeler			1				
			10	0	0	0	3

**Motion Passes.**

- 9. CONSENT CALENDAR** - *Items deemed to be routine, non-controversial. Any officer may ask a clarifying question instead of or before pulling item(s).* - PLEASE SEE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR DETAILS
- 9.1. [ADMINISTRATIVE] [FUNDING] Monthly Expenditure Report** - Discussion and possible action regarding the Monthly Expenditure Report [MER] for April 2025
- 9.2. [ADMINISTRATIVE] [FUNDING] Monthly Expenditure Report** - Discussion and possible action regarding the Monthly Expenditure Report [MER] for May 2025
- 9.3. [ADMINISTRATIVE] [FUNDING] Budget Adjustments** - Discussion and possible action regarding the budget adjustments for June 2025.

	Move	2nd	Y	N	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Delaram Ahmadyveasi - At Large			1				
(Z7) Derl Clausen		x					
(Z1) Kelsey Figone							1
Shaia Greenwald - At Large			1				
Carolyn K. Honda - Community Director			1				
Greg Kopelow - At Large	x		1				
(Z3) Andrew Marton							1
Jakob Meuser - At Large			1				
Steve Paddock - At Large			1				
April Peterson - At Large			1				
(Z4) Jennifer Rafeedie							1
(Z5) Drew Ruesch			1				



Charlene Samiley - At Large			1				
(Z6) Kevin Wheeler			1				
			10	0	0	0	3

**Motion Passes.**

**10. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

**11. OLD BUSINESS - PLEASE SEE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR DETAILS.**

**12. NEW BUSINESS - PLEASE SEE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR DETAILS.**

**12.1. [POLICY] [ELECTION & BYLAWS] - BYLAWS AMENDMENT: CANDIDATE REGISTRATION.** Discussion and possible action regarding motion to adjust requirements for registering as a candidate under the MVCC bylaws.

	Move	2nd	Y	N	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Delaram Ahmadyveasi - At Large			1				
(Z7) Derl Clausen			1				
(Z1) Kelsey Figone							
Shaia Greenwald - At Large				1			
Carolyn K. Honda - Community Director				1			
Greg Kopelow - At Large		x	1				
(Z3) Andrew Marton							
Jakob Meuser - At Large	x		1				
Steve Paddock - At Large				1			
April Peterson - At Large				1			
(Z4) Jennifer Rafeedie							
(Z5) Drew Ruesch					1		
Charlene Samiley - At Large			1				
(Z6) Kevin Wheeler				1			
			5	5	1	0	0

**Motion Fails.**

**12.2. [POLICY] [ELECTION & BYLAWS] - BYLAWS AMENDMENT: BALLOT REQUESTS / VOTER REGISTRATION -** Discussion and possible action regarding motion to adjust requirements for requesting a ballot under the MVCC bylaws.

	Move	2nd	Y	N	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
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Delaram Ahmadyveasi - At Large			1				
(Z7) Derl Clausen			1				
(Z1) Kelsey Figone							1
Shaia Greenwald - At Large		x	1				
Carolyn K. Honda - Community Director				1			
Greg Kopelow - At Large	x		1				
(Z3) Andrew Marton							1
Jakob Meuser - At Large			1				
Steve Paddock - At Large			1				
April Peterson - At Large				1			
(Z4) Jennifer Rafeedie							1
(Z5) Drew Ruesch				1			
Charlene Samiley - At Large			1				
(Z6) Kevin Wheeler				1			
			7	4	0	0	3

**Motion Fails.**

- 12.3. [POLICY] [PLUM] – 12761 W. Caswell Ave** - Discussion and possible/potential action regarding the development at 12761 W. Caswell Ave – 6-story, 67’ in height 16 Unit apartment building with 2 VLI units.

**Dir. Meuser Left at 8:50PM**

	Move	2nd	Y	N	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Delaram Ahmadyveasi - At Large					1		
(Z7) Derl Clausen						1	
(Z1) Kelsey Figone							1
Shaia Greenwald - At Large			1				
Carolyn K. Honda - Community Director				1			
Greg Kopelow - At Large				1			
(Z3) Andrew Marton							1
Jakob Meuser - At Large							1
Steve Paddock - At Large	x		1				
April Peterson - At Large			1				
(Z4) Jennifer Rafeedie							1
(Z5) Drew Ruesch					1		
Charlene Samiley - At Large			1				
(Z6) Kevin Wheeler		x	1				

		5	2	2	1	4	

### **Motion Passes.**

- 12.4. [DISCUSSION] [T&I] Hurdles to sustainability: recent lawsuits and their effects -**  
Discussion regarding the repeal of the electrification ordinance (in response to the Berkeley case in the 9th Circuit Court) and the repeal and possible re-adoption of the oil phaseout ordinance (in response to AB3233). **Pulled**
- 12.5. [DISCUSSION] [T&I] - Sepulveda Transit Corridor -** Discussion and updates regarding the recent community meetings on the [Sepulveda Transit Corridor](#) project. Also, this [dedicated website](#). **Pulled.**
- 12.6. [POLICY] [T&I] - Amend LAMC 56.15 - No riding e-bicycles on sidewalks -**  
Discussion and possible action regarding the pending [WRAC motion](#) on including e-bicycles in the LAMC language about what is allowed on sidewalks. **Pulled.**
- 12.7. [POLICY] [T&I] BICYCLE AND MULTI USE PATHS / MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY / DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS / LOS ANGELES ADMINISTRATIVE CODE / AMENDMENT -** Discussion and possible action regarding [Council File 25-0481](#) (also references [Council File 25-0124](#)) on jurisdictional changes to who maintains bike paths not directly owned by the City. **Pulled.**

## **13. REPORTS - Officer Reports**

- Drew Ruesch - Chair
- Andrew Marton - 1st Vice Chair
- Carolyn Honda - 2nd Vice Chair
- Jennifer Rafeedie - Secretary
- Greg Kopelow - Treasurer

### **Zone Reports**

- Zone 1 - Kelsey Figone
- Zone 2 - Martin Rubin
- Zone 3 - Andrew Marton
- Zone 4 - Jennifer Rafeedie
- Zone 5 - Drew Ruesch
- Zone 6 - Kevin Wheeler
- Zone 7 - Derl Clausen

## **Committee Reports**

- Elections and Bylaws
- Outreach
- Public Health, Safety and Homelessness
- Planning and Land Use Management
- Transportation, Infrastructure and Sustainability
- Education Arts and Culture
- WRAC, WRAC Committees and Other Liaisons

### **14. ADJOURNMENT - 9:05PM**

**DRAFT**

**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.

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, 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](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

#### **Public Posting of Agendas -**

Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Mar Vista Recreation Center: [11430 Woodbine St, Los Angeles, CA 90066](#)
- [MarVista.org](http://MarVista.org)
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's [Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)

#### **Notice to Paid Representatives -**

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#### **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, [MarVista.org](http://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](http://MarVista.org) > [Council](#) > [Board](#).

#### **Reconsideration and Grievance Process -**

For information on MVCC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the MVCC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website, [MarVista.org](http://MarVista.org).

#### **Servicios de Traducción -**

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a [chair@marvista.org](mailto:chair@marvista.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.