



Mar Vista Community Council



HOMELESS ISSUES SUB-COMMITTEE WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REMOTE MEETING AGENDA *DRAFT MINUTES*

Date: 10/21/20 6:30-7:45PM

PUBLIC WELCOME

ALL ATTENDEES ARE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE

To attend a meeting by phone, call 720-707-2699 and enter Meeting ID 987 2054 9076 followed by # to join.

To attend by device, go to <https://zoom.us/j/98720549076>.

Visit the “Join Our Remote Meetings” page on MarVista.org for supplemental information.

Once you join the meeting, all participants will be able to see and hear everything within your device's camera and microphone range. All meetings are recorded. Please use the “mute” feature when not speaking and the “raise hand” feature (*9) to be recognized.

Our Mission Statement: The Homeless Issues Sub-Committee mission is to promote stakeholder input concerning homeless issues in our community. The Committee encourages involvement, provides relevant information and resources, acts as advocate and liaison, and supports viable and equitable solutions.

1. Welcome and Call to Order 6:30 pm
2. Introductions
3. Ex-Parte Communications and Conflicts of Interest *None*
4. Approval of Last Meeting’s Minutes (posted on MVCC website) *1st Bill, 2nd Steven. Passed unanimous.*
5. Public Comment for Items Not on This Agenda (2 minutes per person)
B.G. Encampment near post office for years, collects needles, syringes, sees shootings, gangs in front of her office at noon, not safe, Councilmember Bonin needs to speak with business owners
S.C. must document, speak to narcotics, gang enforcement
J.K. 40 needles collected in his alley this week
Steven Z. Owner of Golden State Maintenance would like to partner with City to establish containers for refuge at smaller encampments
Nolan Studley from spreadyourvoice.org stated his company supports social cases as an accelerator, lots of celebrity/influencer support, working with Golden State Maintenance on this project
R.S. Need different housing options, not just single apartments
K.W. can't afford 600,000 dollars a unit
R.W. Police funding is not 50% of City budget, it is approximately 28%. Much of City budget is restricted
K.W. Bridge Housing has failed, MV and Venice sacrificed
K.C. Great Streets survey, plans to survey business, what would be helpful?
B.G. Expect decreased Police response since Councilmember Bonin argues to defund police?

6. Announcements/Updates/Contacts (see attached contact list)

a) Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Service Area 5 Meeting: October 27, 2020 3-5 pm
LACDMH will be presenting its Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) information for fiscal year 2018-19, including demographics, services provided and consumer needs for Service Area 5.

Link and Survey: <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/event/salt-5-meeting-october-27-2020/>

b) 9/26/20 Congress of Neighborhoods - Homeless Networking Session Notes *Co-Chair R.S. commented on attendance*
Neighborhood Councils approach homeless issues in many ways and from many ideologies, there is little communication and/or coordination between committees. Committees asked to brainstorm innovative ideas and interface with service providers, assist unhoused people to vote, push for more housing.

c) 9/30/20 Homelessness Liaison September Meeting Notes *Co-Chairs R.S. and R.W. commented on attendance*
Raquel Beltran, GM, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment spoke:

The City is investing significant resources on ensuring unhoused peoples' ability to vote in neighborhood council elections. Per Mayor Order 2&, resources are being spent to accomplish the goal of training neighborhood council members in racial equity in multiple languages.

Elizabeth Heger, Associate Director of Access and Engagement, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) spoke: She illustrated the difficulty for homeless people to live indoors and by rules when they are accustomed to living on the street. This requires significant support and resources. She could not provide a cost estimate on behalf of the city or LAHSA to provide housing and resources for unhoused people.

She could not provide an outcome report of successful outreach efforts of LAHSA to the unhoused population.

7. Community Letters sent to HIC (see attached)

8. Vishesh Anand, Field Deputy, Councilmember Bonin's Office *Please report to 311, LA Hop. He is meeting with neighbors. 11 people form 405 in Project Room key. Mr. Bonin meeting with Judge Carter.*

9. HIC Monthly Report – *Co-Chair R.W. reported, by his monthly count, 28% increase of people living on streets in MV since May, 2020. HIC goal of decreasing homelessness by 20% a year, is failing.*

10. Encampment Reports

10.1 Gateway – *no clean-up yet despite 311 reports, drug sales, chop shop, garbage in roadway, neighbors afraid*

10.2 405 – *both sides of underpass, open drug trafficking and direct drug sales, chop shops, neighbors afraid. Neighbors see daily drug use in alleys, call 911 on people passed out or acting bizarrely.*

10.3 Bowlero/Post Office - *open heroin use, multiple attendees note recent NextDoor post from mother who walked child past a person shooting heroin in front of Farmer's Market and took a photo. Area behind post office is dangerous, open drug sales, drug use, crime, gangs.*

10.4 Wasatch - *neighbors call narcotics and Mr. Bonin over and over, homelessness increasing in MV, need substance abuse treatment or will not change, city ordinance must be changed, gave up on City Hall homeless meetings*

10.5 Park – *63.44 Sleeping in parks prohibited but not being enforced, rangers deployed to fire zones, multiple encampments at MV Park.*

11. Proposed letter to Councilmember Bonin and Department of Recreation and Parks:

Mar Vista Park plays a crucial outdoor recreational role for community members during COVID. Park homeless encampments, drug sales and open drug use, strewn refuse and hazardous waste impede safe access and use. The City must

clear park encampments, increase sanitation and hazardous waste monitoring and removal, and increase staffing to monitor park activities. These staff should have capability to enforce safe and lawful park use and given responsibility and resources to do so. *1st Jeff 2nd Kevin Passed unanimous.*

12. Second Round of Public Comment *B.G. Everyday must deal with crime and drugs in front of her business, no help.*
13. Adjournment 8:00 pm

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID19, all Mar Vista Community Council meetings will be conducted entirely remotely and is open to the public by phone and/or device. Visit the "Join Our Remote Meetings" page on MarVista.org for more information.

- * PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" 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 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.
- * PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS - MVCC agendas are posted for public review at Mar Vista Recreation Center, 11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA 90066. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at [https:// www.lacity.org/subscriptions](https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions)
- * 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 chair@marvista.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, <http://www.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, contact secretary@marvista.org.
- * 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, <http://www.mar-vista.org>.

Contact List

311 App Create and track service requests for bulky items, graffiti, animal services, park issues including homelessness, private property, right-of-way, garbage, bulky items, street problems, homeless encampments and more.

LAHop.org Report homeless individuals. Do not need a name but as much description as possible, note accurate location where person can be found and when. Will get a response telling you if person was outreached.

<https://csr.dot.ca.gov/> Report encampments, trash, broken fencing, missing signage within Caltrans boundaries

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/sign-specs/district-sign-coordinators> Contact area Caltrans District Sign Coordinator

<https://lapdonline.org/trespass> Requirement for no trespassing signs and annual filing with the LAPD for trespass arrest authorization

<https://www.amazon.com/WITHOUT-PERMISSION-LAMC-41-24-Closed-Public/dp/B072LFHQ38> Buy required no

trespassing signs on Amazon

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01A7J7U56> Buy Neighborhood Watch signs

(323) 644-6661 Report issues at Mar Vista Park to Park Rangers Communication Center 7 am – 11 pm

(800) 773-2489 Report Hazardous Waste to Bureau of Sanitation

(800) 773-2489 Obtain LA County Mental Health 800 773-2489

<https://wdacs.lacounty.gov/programs/aps/> Report to Adult Protective Services

Elected Officials

Mayor of Los Angeles

[Eric Garcetti](#)

Los Angeles City Controller

[Ron Galperin](#)

Los Angeles City Attorney

[Mike Feuer](#)

City Council

[District 11: Mike Bonin](#)

County Supervisor

[District 2: Mark Ridley-Thomas](#)

State Senate

[District 30: Holly Mitchell](#)

State Assembly

[District 54: Sydney Kamlager-Dove](#)

US Congress

[District 37: Karen R. Bass](#)

LAUSD Schoolboard

[District 4: Nick Melvoin](#)

LAHSA Data <https://www.lahsa.org/data>

Project Room key Data <https://covid19.lacounty.gov/project-roomkey/>

Los Angeles County Opioid Overdose Surveillance Dashboard <https://skylab.cdph.ca.gov/ODdash/>

*Please Contact HIC Co-Chairs too add resources to this list

Community Reports, Comments, Letters to HIC:

“I’m writing to you today regarding the seemingly out of control homeless encampments issue, which is now spreading up the View streets above Venice Blvd.

The health concerns alone for our neighbors and us has reached sincerely frightening levels, and yesterday, in broad daylight, one of them made their way 2 blocks up to Charnock, where they violently struck a neighbor with a brick....

It is simply beyond our comprehension that this is being allowed, if nothing supported by city officials.

After serious consideration to move from the area that we love so much, I’ve decided instead to get as involved as I’m absolutely capable.

PLEASE tell me how I can be more involved. “

"This encampment is the most dangerous, heartbreaking, and hellish nightmare I have ever witnessed in my life. The drug use and mental illnesses are absolutely pervasive and pernicious. We see meth and heroin abuse, drug dealing, tagging, psychotic episodes, overdoses, violence, self-harm, and public urination/defecation on a regular basis, often daily. I cannot tell you how many times I have called 911 because I was witnessing something so atrocious that I was bawling uncontrollably: corpses with needles sticking out of their arms around my property that the paramedics bring back from the dead, a woman being physically assaulted against a building, my husband's life being

threatened multiple times by people high on meth, a man exposing his genitalia, a woman trying to violently commit suicide with a plastic knife, me being chased to my car by a man screaming at me and banging on my vehicle...the list goes on and on."

NextDoor Saturday, 10/11/20 1:30pm: "I just found a homeless woman in my front yard using the hose to wash herself and fill her water bottle. When I asked her what she was doing she said she needed the hose, then she hopped the fence and said, "and i'll be back for you. because you asked me what i was doing." Be on the lookout for a woman about 5'7", brown hair in a bun, tank top and baggy pants. I live on Mountain View near Charnock and she took off down Mountain View towards Venice Blvd."

"A women fitting that description attacked a young woman about 45 minutes ago. The victim was walking on Charnock close to Centinela and was randomly punched in the face and hit with a concrete brick. I was at the light and only saw her after the incident. She was bleeding and in shock. The homeless lady was still pursuing her. I had her jump in my van. She called her husband and I drove her to him. He was going to take her to the hospital. I called 911 after I left her with her husband. Please be very careful she is probably still out there unless the police were able to find her."

I caught this guy in the act of smoking meth in the alley behind our house. He was blasted out of his mind, and was swinging a knife around. I told him to clear out, and he did, after doing the most entertaining collection of his things I've ever seen. This kind of thing absolutely has to stop.

As you are all probably aware, there was a shooting at the 405 encampment last night. This is the fourth shooting at the encampment since the summer of 2018.

This encampment is a danger to all who live in it and all who live near it because it is a known drug den. With the rampant heroin and meth abuse comes the sketchy drug dealers and gang members. And with the sketchy drug dealers and gang members comes the shootings and violence. If you do not address the drug problem, this will never change, and the shootings will continue. How many more people have to be shot before you intervene?

As public servants and protectors of this area, I implore you to take action. I am not asking you to singlehandedly solve the homelessness crisis; I am begging you to address a very specific drug problem in a very specific region that is a known public health threat.

My husband has offered this solution again and again: drug-sniffing dogs. Why can't our police officers walk drug-sniffing dogs through the encampment on a regular basis, confiscating all of the meth and heroin? You do not have to arrest a single person. You just have to send the message that if someone wants to live under the bridge and be a good community member, that person cannot turn the underpass into an opium and meth den.

I voted for Prop 47. But I did not foresee the combo of Prop 47 and Martin vs. Boise turning my neighborhood into a pernicious cesspool of heroin and meth. I did not foresee looking out my bedroom window and seeing overdosed corpses with needles sticking out of their flesh in my alley or drug dealers spraying bullets into tents, just walking distance from my home. But here we are. Drugs and drug dealers are killing people in our neighborhood. Please stand with us. Please take action.

I will just weigh in to say this is a terrible situation where my young 12 and 11 year olds can no longer walk to Venice boulevard whether it's to Grandview market or to the convenience store or yum yum. They're scared because the sidewalk is block people are holding parties in the bolero parking lot at night and it's now become a magnet for crime with bicycle thieves set up their chop shop on the sidewalk . Your immediate help and intention would be acknowledged and very much appreciated.