

# Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils

VANC

34 San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Councils  
Established March 03, 2003 by Jill Banks Barad-Hopkins

**Thursday, Aug 8, 2024 6:30-9:00p.m.**

**Via zoom: Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98759241651>**

**Recording of this meeting can be found at [www.VANC34.ORG](http://www.VANC34.ORG)**

**Note:** VANC is an independent Alliance and is not required to follow the Brown Act. We are able to prevent individuals from participating in VANC meetings if they are disruptive, or sufficiently unrelated to VANC business.

**Note:** To be added to the email list, send your information to [www.VANC34.org](http://www.VANC34.org)

**Greg Nelson, past General Manager of  
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)**

**Reminder:** VANC meetings are to discuss various topics so that you can educate your NC for further discussion and possible action.

**Reminder:** VANC agenda is posted at [www.VANC34.ORG](http://www.VANC34.ORG)  
Zoom attendees, please identify your NC along with your first name

## AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions:** Linda Gravani, chair [VANC34.chair@gmail.com](mailto:VANC34.chair@gmail.com)
- Qualified Candidates: 2 minutes no discussion
- Guest Speaker: **Greg Nelson, Retired General Manager DONE**
  - [It's Time For The City Council To Prove That It Values Public Input \(citywatchla.com\)](http://citywatchla.com)
  - [Is Department Of Neighborhood Empowerment Effective? \(citywatchla.com\)](http://citywatchla.com)
- LASAN – Proposed Increased Sewer Rates – HOT TOPIC #5 - UPDATE Scott Munson
- Council File: **24-0867 TITLE:** Neighborhood Council Bylaws / Youth Participation / Diversity Increase / Leadership Growth – which also includes **NC Board TERM LIMITS** HOT TOPIC #1

6. Council File: **24-0602 TITLE:** Synthetic Grass / Artificial Turf / Polyflouroalkyl Substances (PFAS) / Forever Chemicals / Health & Environmental Risks / Drought-Friendly Landscaping HOT TOPIC #2
7. Council File: **24-1100-S6** TITLE – Independent Redistricting Commission / Ballot Resolutions / Election Ordinance / 5NOV2024 Ballot / LA Administrative Code / Amendment HOT TOPIC #3
8. Council File: **24-0140-S1 TITLE** - Oregon v. Johnson / Homeless Encampments / Public Spaces Regulation/ Ruling Impact Analysis HOT TOPIC #4
9. **BONC Commissioners** – Centure & Grievance AD-HOC Meetings – update & noticing  
South Valley – Len Shaffer, [commissionerlenshaffer@gmail.com](mailto:commissionerlenshaffer@gmail.com)  
North Valley - Keren Waters, [keren.waters@lacity.org](mailto:keren.waters@lacity.org)
10. **DONE/City Clerk:**
  - **ELECTIONS:** NC Election Outreach Plans + General NC Outreach
  - **DONE Staff** after current budget: Losses, Gains, Wish List, NEA updates
  - **UPDATE on email debacle** [xxxx@empowerla.org](mailto:xxxx@empowerla.org)
  - Special Meeting with Presidents and Vice Presidents of South Valley NCs with GM **Carmen Chang Via ZOOM 15AUG2024**
  - **DONE Survey** 2024 Neighborhood Council Perceptions and Insights Survey deadline 30AUG2024  
[2024 Neighborhood Council Perceptions and Insights Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](https://www.surveymonkey.com)
  - **Mandatory training** deadline was to extended August 3, 2024 – did your board comply?

11. Budget Advocates – [www.budgetadvocates.org](http://www.budgetadvocates.org)

12. Update: CONGRESS of NEIGHBORHOODS –**Save the date: Saturday Sept 28, 2024**

**13. Items from the floor:**

- Where do you purchase your promotional items, we're compiling a list.

14. NC Anniversaries: **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**22 Years Greater Valley Glen**

15. **THANK YOU** for all **you do** for your communities and the city of Los Angeles and I appreciate your participation in VANC!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**  
**VANC VIRTUAL Meeting Thursday September 12, 2024**  
**Guest Speaker: TBA**

\*PlanCheck 10AM 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month, details [www.plancheckncla.com](http://www.plancheckncla.com)  
*Educate yourself on City Planning and Land Use issues*

**PlanCheck TOPIC FOR 10AUG2024:**

*Preview of the New Zoning Code with Senior City Planner Erick Lopez*

\*LADWP MOU 1<sup>ST</sup> Saturday of the month, details at:

<https://www.ladwpnews.com/dwp-nc-mou-and-advocacy-committee-meetings/>



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## **HOT TOPICS** For August 8, 2024

1. Council File: **24-0867 TITLE:** Neighborhood Council Bylaws / Youth Participation / Diversity Increase / Leadership Growth
  - DONE changed NC bylaws requiring youth representative seats on our boards already
  - NCs role does not include developing leadership, NCs role is to get the city to provide city services to our communities and be advisory on areas of interest to our neighborhoods
  - The city has numerous ways to develop youth leadership
  - Nothing in the title identifies **TERM LIMITS** for board members
    - i. There were 39 NCs that did not have an election in 2023 due to not enough candidates
    - ii. City Council wants to term out those who are dedicated to serve their communities without pay or recognition
  
2. Council File: **24-0602 TITLE:** Synthetic Grass / Artificial Turf / Polyflouroalkyl Substances (PFAS) / Forever Chemicals / Health & Environmental Risks / Drought-Friendly Landscaping
  - Environmental Protection Agency categorized PFAS as hazardous substances dangerous to human health
  - PFAS are known to leach into air, water and soil, potentially contaminating drinking water, runoff into waterways and the ocean.
  - Synthetic Grass has a limited life span, will eventually find its way into the land fill

3. Council File: 24-1100-S11 TITLE – Independent Redistricting Commission / Ballot Resolutions / Election Ordinance / 5NOV2024 Ballot / LA Administrative Code / Amendment
  - If NC leaders are interested, you can apply for the FIVE positions available
  
4. Council File: **24-0140-S1 TITLE** - Oregon v. Johnson / Homeless Encampments / Public Spaces Regulation/ Ruling Impact Analysis
  - The city of Grants Pass Oregon restricted encampments on public property
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court ruling anti-camping could not be enforced when homeless population exceeds the number of available beds in homeless shelters
  - US Supreme Court held that local governments **CAN** enforce laws which restrict encampments on public property
  
5. SEWER RATE INCREASE – What are you going to do about it?  
[Important Information About Sewer Service Charge - Proposed Rate Increase \(lacitysan.org\)](https://www.lacitysan.org)  
 move down on site for chart

### PROPOSITION 218 - THE PROTEST PROCESS

The City of Los Angeles will conduct a public hearing on August 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at Los Angeles City Hall, John Ferraro Council Chamber, Room 340, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, to consider the adoption of changes to the Sewer Service Charge rates, and to consider all written protests. Members of the public are welcome to attend and speak at the public hearing, or may call one of the phone numbers shown below to listen. Oral comments at the public hearing will not qualify as written protests.

Written protests may be submitted by mail to the City of Los Angeles, Office of the City Clerk, Election Division, 555 Ramirez St., Space 300, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Written protests that are submitted in person must be delivered to the Office of the City Clerk prior to the close of the public hearing. Written protests that are submitted by mail must be received by the Office of the City Clerk by no later than 5:00 p.m. on the date of the hearing. All written protests must include 1) the printed full name and original signature of the owner or tenant submitting the protest; and 2) the street address and Assessor Parcel Number (APN) of the parcel. There is no guarantee that the APN printed in this mailer is correct. You must verify and provide the correct APN in case the one identified on this mailer is inadvertently incorrect. You have the option to use this form as your written protest and send it to the City Clerk.

Only one written protest will be counted per identified parcel. Protests submitted by email or other electronic means do not qualify and will not be accepted. At the time of the public hearing, or at the next practicable City Council meeting, the City Council will receive a final tabulation of all written protests received by the City Clerk. The City Council may approve the rate adjustments unless a majority of customers file valid written protests. Per California Government Code Section 53759, there is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased, or extended fee or charge.

I \_\_\_\_\_ protest the proposed Sewer Service Charge rate increases.  
(Print name)

Assessor's Parcel Number \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am the:     property owner     tenant

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Council meetings can also be heard at (213) 621-CITY (Metro), (818) 904-9450 (Valley), (310) 471-CITY (West L. A.) and (310) 547-CITY (San Pedro).