



CITY OF LOS ANGELES



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**Neighborhood Council  
Governing Board**

President: Dena Weiss  
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Treasurer: Heath Kline  
Parliamentarian: Don Patterson

**WOODLAND HILLS – WARNER  
CENTER NEIGHBORHOOD  
COUNCIL**

**Arts and Culture  
Committee:**

Co-Chairperson: Masha Dowell  
Co-Chairperson: Harout Aristakessian  
Committee Members:  
Jayce Baron  
Juliet Schwarz  
Reina Cerros McCaughey  
Steve Sommers

**Arts & Culture Committee**

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: March 20, 2025

TIME: 5:35 PM

Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84617419135>

Meeting ID: 846 1741 9135

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Karen DiBiase, Secretaria, al 818-639-9444 o por correo electrónico [www.whcouncil.org](http://www.whcouncil.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, THIS WOODLAND HILLS WARNER CENTER NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY.

Every person wishing to address the Board must enter the meeting via the above Zoom link or dial (669) 900-6833, and enter 884 2295 9967 and then press # to join the meeting. When prompted by the presiding officer, to provide

public input at the Arts and Culture Committee Meeting of the Woodland Hills – Warner Center Neighborhood Council meeting, the public will be requested to dial \*9 by phone or use the Raise Hand option on Zoom, 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 Committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the 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 Committee or Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 1 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

### **SB 411 Updates:**

In the event of a disruption that prevents the Arts and Culture Committee 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 Arts and Culture Committee control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the Arts and Culture Committee 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 Arts and Culture Committee from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

The Arts and Culture Committee shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the Arts and Culture Committee 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 Arts and Culture Committee, 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) If the Arts and Culture Committee 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) If the Arts and Culture Committee 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) If the Arts and Culture Committee 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.

### **Items for Discussion and Possible Action:**

All comments are limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding chair of the committee.

1. **Call to Order at 5:56 PM**

2. **Roll call of members: Co-Chair - Masha Dowell - PRESENT, Co-Chair Harout Aristakessian - PRESENT, Committee members: Jayce Baron - PRESENT, Reina Cerris- McCaughey - PRESENT, Steve Sommers- - PRESENT, Juliet Schwarz - - PRESENT**

3. Public Announcements by city officials and representatives: (2) minutes per speaker.

**Action: Lionel Mares made a public announcement**

Mr. Lionel Mares ( East Valley Resident), alerted the committee to a financial crisis facing Los Angeles. He reported that LA City Controller Kenneth Mejia's warnings about a looming deficit were dismissed by the Mayor's office. According to Mr. Mares, City Administrative Officer Matt Szabo recently presented a mid-year Financial Status Report indicating the city faces a nearly \$1 billion budget deficit, which may result in workforce reductions, service cuts, and employee furloughs. Mr. Mares urged neighborhood councils to be vocal about this issue, expressing concern that communities relying on city services will suffer the most while LAPD maintains the largest budget despite contributing to liability costs.

4. Stakeholder Public Comment Period (on items NOT on the agenda): (1) minute per speaker. N/A

**Items for discussion and possible action:**

Item No. 1

Approval of January and February Meeting Minutes

**Action: Masha will upload to the WHWCNC website**

Item No. 2

MPTF NPG Approval - recap from General Board Meeting - Harout updated the committee on the Motion Picture Television Fund NPG approval from the General Board Meeting and next steps for implementation.

**Action: Harout will follow up on a introduction of the actual school/class that WHWCNC funded.**

Item No. 3

Possible April 17th Committee Tour of NPG Recipient Facilities - Masha proposed teh committee to replace the regular committee meeting with a tour of NPG recipient facilities with the Director of Engagement. The committee will discuss logistics and vote on this alternative meeting format. The committee agreed with the notion, if given enough time in advance to plan ahead.

**Action: Follow up with MPTF about a tour of their facilities.**

Item No. 4

Cultural Appreciation Posts Update for Social Media - Steve Sommers updated on the development of cultural appreciation content for social media platforms and discussion of upcoming featured celebrations. He mentioned that for March, the committee opted on a generic post, while the details for future posts are discussed.

**Action: Follow up with Empower LA on social media policy.**

Item No. 5

Woodland Hills Art Walk Update - Masha gave progress on the Woodland Hills Art Walk planning and discussion of next steps in community outreach and partnerships. She proposed that the committee opt for a smaller and more manageable inaugural event.

**Action: Follow up with Elozabeth Ene with Bob's Office about possibly supporting a smaller scale event.**

Item No. 6

Woodland Hills Writers Event & Calico Canvas Partnership - Juliet proposed a tentative Woodland Hills Writers Event and potential partnership with Calico Canvas for an open house/gallery opening.

**Action: Juliet will invite owners of Calico Canvas to the next meeting.**

Next Meeting: The next meeting will take place via Zoom on April 17, 2025 at 5:30 PM

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los

Angeles does not discriminate based on 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:

- **A copy of this agenda is also physically posted on the outside window of the at the front door of LAFD Fire Station 84, located at 21050 Burbank Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91367**
- [www.whcouncil.org](http://www.whcouncil.org)
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's [Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)

**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](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.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 committee in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: [www.WHCouncil.org](http://www.WHCouncil.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 the Committee Co-Chair, Masha Dowell at [mdowell@whcouncil.org](mailto:mdowell@whcouncil.org)

**Reconsideration and Grievance Process -**

For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws.

The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website, [www.WHCouncil.org](http://www.WHCouncil.org).