

# Northridge West Neighborhood Council

General Board Meeting

**Tuesday, November 11th, 2025**

**I. CALL TO ORDER 6:16 p.m. by Janis Kraft, president of Northridge West Neighborhood Council.**

- **Board Roll Call:** Quorum of seven (7) established with ten board members.
- **Present:** Janis Kraft, President; Kathleen Edwards, VP Admin; Joel Lowell, Treasurer; Sam Dulys, Secretary; Alanna Flax-Clark, Kevin Herzberg, Nicolas Haddad, Jeff Diamond, Krystal Sims, and Richard Young.
- **Absent:** Nathan Lichtman, Greg Wood and Diana Delgado.
- The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT -** Glenn Bailey announced a meeting at Porter Ranch next Tuesday 11/18/25 at 6 p.m. on the Alisa Canyon gas leak. Cal State Northridge is hosting a Native American Pow Wow on Saturday, 11/29/25 starting at 10 a.m. with the grand entrance procession beginning at noon.

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS -** Comments from the Board Members on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction:

- a) **Holiday Meeting:** Janis announced that the next meeting will also be a holiday celebration, on December 9th, 2025 - location TBD.
- b) **Board Training updates:** Janis noted that Diana and Sam still need to take the Training 101.

**IV. a. APPROVAL OF NWNC MONTHLY EXPENDITURE REPORT (MER) FOR OCTOBER 2025:** Treasurer Joel Lowell reviewed the expenses stating that \$17,713.76 is currently available for the balance of the fiscal year. **(Edwards/ Duly) moved to approve the October MER for the Northridge West NC. The motion carried unanimously.**

- **Voting Yea:** Janis Kraft, President; Kathleen Edwards, VP Admin; Joel Lowell, Treasurer; Sam Dulys, Secretary; Alanna Flax-Clark, Kevin Herzberg, Nicolas Haddad, Jeff Diamond, Krystal Sims, and Richard Young.
- **Opposed:** (0)
- **Abstaining:** (0)
- **Absent:** Nathan Lichtman, Greg Wood and Diana Delgado.

**b. APPROVAL OF NWNC GBM MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 2025: (Lowell/Sims) moved acceptance of the October 2025 board meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

- **Voting Yea:** Janis Kraft, President; Kathleen Edwards, VP Admin; Joel Lowell, Treasurer; Sam Dulys, Secretary; Alanna Flax-Clark, Kevin Herzberg, Nicolas Haddad, Jeff Diamond, Krystal Sims, and Richard Young.
- **Opposed:** (0)
- **Abstaining:** (0)
- **Absent:** Nathan Lichtman, Greg Wood and Diana Delgado.

**V. PRESIDENTIAL COMMENTS:** Janis thanked everyone who attended the First Generation Senior Healthcare event. She also thanked Krystal Sims and Alanna Flax-Clark for putting together a great Education Committee meeting last night but noted that there was a hiccup with the Zoom account.

**VI. REPORT(S) ON VETERAN'S DAY:** Jon O'Sullivan, Senior Commander of VFW Post 2323 on Chatsworth Street in Granada Hills, CA. gave a brief history of the Veterans of Foreign Wars: The VFW was established in Los Angeles on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month at the end of WWI in 1919 and was originally called Armistice Day. It was later changed to "Veterans Day" to honor all the other veterans who fought abroad. People confuse it with Memorial Day, which honors those who did not come home. On Veterans Day, we show gratitude to those who are still serving, made a great sacrifice, and carry a heavy weight for the rest of their lives. The crux of this holiday is to honor those who served and show our appreciation for the sacrifice they and their families have made. The VFW is the oldest veterans organization. The American Legion is the second largest.

**Kathleen** asked how many veterans they are working with.

**VFW Sr. Commander O'Sullivan** said his VFW post has been there since 1956 and they have over 200 people on their roster. But since their population is shrinking, they are now working on reaching out to younger veterans to include them. He, himself, was involved in Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf. He joined the VFW when he finally realized the value of sharing like-minded experiences with other veterans. There are about 380 homes within three miles of their post that have VA loans attached to them. He also founded a chapter of the Guardians, which helps veterans with different tasks.

## **VII. GOVERNMENT REPORTS**

**a) Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division.** (non-emergency number 1 877-ASK LAPD) **Battalion Chief Adrian Vasquez LAFD** announced that LAFD has selected a new fire chief, Jamie Moore, who was previously in charge of the Valley Bureau. During the period of high winds last week, additional resources were brought into the Valley and drones discovered a brush fire in a homeless encampment that they were able to quickly extinguish. Rain is expected on Friday/Saturday and although it's not expected to be severe, there will be additional resources on hand in case of mud slides in fire zones. He explained that the drones are being used to detect hot spots.

**Mikki L.** asked if the drones could find the homeless encampments to give them early warnings if there is a fire.

**Battalion Chief Vasquez** said they can't because they only have two drones. But they do have cameras in many locations all over the city which volunteers monitor. Recently, the homeless encampment at the Sepulveda Basin was cleared out but now those people have migrated to other locations. One is Lime Kiln Canyon which CD12 will clear out tomorrow.

**Glenn Bailey** asked how far away the drone can be operated from.

**Battalion Chief Vasquez** said they can be about a mile away but can only fly for about 20 minutes at a time before being recharged. He pointed out that there are limits to where they can fly due to airport fly space.

**Glenn** asked what the cost is for a drone.

**The Battalion Chief** said the funds for the drone come from CUPA, a non-profit that provides state funding but it comes out of the LAFD budget. The drones' cost varies in price.

**Jeff Diamond** spoke about the use of drones.

**The Battalion Chief** about how they use drones to find high hazard areas.

**Kathleen** read a comment from an attendee who wondered if the drones present an invasion of privacy.

**Battalion Chief** said their job is strictly to identify hot spots and suppress fires. If they need to fly over a backyard, it's part of their job.

**Mikki** reported: On 11/18/25, there will be an All Basic Car Potluck Dinner.

Anyone can attend and bring an appetizer or desert that will feed 6-10 people.

The location is St Euphrasia Catholic Church, 11779 Shoshone Ave., Granada Hills.

On 11-15-25, Saturday, at 10:30 a.m. LAPD will conduct a toy drive at the Walmart, Porter Ranch. They will additionally have drop off locations for toys. On 12/13/25, the toys will be distributed at LAPD PALS Youth Center. To receive email notifications about senior lead reports, email: [devonshireslo@lapd.online](mailto:devonshireslo@lapd.online).

b) CD 12 City Council Representative – No report.

c) Other Government Departments/Agencies – No report.

d) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment – No report.

e) **Budget Advocate**, [www.budgetadvocates.org](http://www.budgetadvocates.org) – Glenn Bailey reported they are meeting with many city departments. When the reports are written, they will produce their White Paper with recommendations for the Mayor and City Council. Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for all city departments to submit their budget requests for the next year. They are scheduled to meet with the mayor this Thursday on the city budget. They will be speaking about the funding for the NCs. They are hosting a virtual Town Hall with the DONE, Monday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m. The link to the meeting will be on the Budget Advocate's website.

Jeff Diamond commented on the funding strategy of the city to reduce the NC's budget by half. Glenn agreed with Jeff and suggested someone from NWNC file a CIS in opposition to: **CF26-06-00**.

## VIII. NWNC Committee Reports

a) **Executive Committee** - Janis Kraft will add the Ad Hoc committee on bylaws consisting of Joel, Kathleen & Janis to the next agenda.

b) **Public Safety** - Kathleen Edwards spoke about copper wire and internet/fiberoptic line theft that is damaging the city's infrastructure stating that it is a felony that should be reported to "911." There is a tip line with up to \$25,000 reward for the arrest of these individuals or you can call: 1-833-404-8477 (TIPS). She also spoke about reporting gang graffiti saying the SF Valley has over 40 Hispanic gangs and over 200 taggers, according to LAPD.

- Jeff noted that it is easy to use MyLA311 to report graffiti anonymously. He also pointed out areas where the graffiti routinely shows up.
- Sam pointed out that drug dealers now use graffiti to advertise using apps, so it's especially important to remove graffiti right away as it could draw people into the illicit drug world.

- Kathleen additionally talked about human trafficking of children and gave stats saying parents need to keep an eye on what their children are reading and who they are contacting through the internet or apps on their phones.
- Kathleen said she creates public safety reports with the object of educating everyone and invited the board members to send her any comments if they find any new info that refutes her report.
- Kathleen read a list of non-profits that are providing assistance with free food to those in need. (List is attached.)

c) **Government Affairs** - Richard Young plans to hold a meeting in Dec., TB

d) Planning and Land Use (Diana Delgado) – No report.

e) Elections (Janis Kraft) – No report.

f) Homelessness (Nathan Lichtman) – No report.

g) **Beautification** - Sam Dulys is going to set up a meeting before the end of the month.

h) Budget (Joel Lowell) – Previously reported.

i) Outreach (Nathan Lichtman) – No report.

j) **Education** - Krystal Sims said she held this committee's first meeting last night with six participants. They discussed their purpose, the history of this committee, and how best to move forward. They will be focusing on four schools in the NWNC district and will meet once a quarter. Their next meeting will be held on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> 2026.

- Jeff suggested they promote the importance of volunteerism for high school and college students.
- Mikki thanked the Education Committee for a great meeting. She looks forward to the Feb. 2026 meeting.
- Glenn said that Northridge East NC has had a vibrant Education Committee which has dealt with issues of traffic safety, speeding, etc. He will connect Krystal with their Education Committee.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

a. **Motion to approve \$10 to AppleOne to cover City Clerk's underpayment for March & April 2025 invoices.** Joel said he got an email from Apple One stating there was an underpayment by the City Clerk for two meetings.

**(Lowell/Kraft) moved to approve this expense of \$10.00 so the City Clerk can make that payment to Apple One. The motion carried unanimously.**

- **Voting Yea:** Janis Kraft, President; Kathleen Edwards, VP Admin; Joel Lowell, Treasurer; Sam Dulys, Secretary; Alanna Flax-Clark, Kevin Herzberg, Nicolas Haddad, Jeff Diamond, Krystal Sims, and Richard Young.
- **Opposed:** (0)
- **Abstaining:** (0)
- **Absent:** Nathan Lichtman, Greg Wood and Diana Delgado.

b **Jeff Diamond's presentation on the 2028 Olympics.** Jeff stated that Mayor Karen Bass has asked for the creation of the Office of Major Events, under CM Paul Krikorian, to create a safe and fiscally responsible event for the World Cup, as well as other sporting events. Jeff attended the first of these meetings with the city regarding the Office of Major Events. On 11/17/25, the Director of City Tourism will present how his department is preparing L.A. for the World Cup and the steps the city has taken. The Office of Major Events is focusing on several steps: 1) fixing sidewalks, 2) dealing with homelessness, 3) making tickets it less expensive, and 4) creating shade.

Regarding the Olympics, LA28 is the name of the committee overseeing that event – it is just 976 days away: July 14-30, 2028 with the Paralympics following: Aug 15 – 27. Jeff noted that some of the events will take place in the Valley. CM Krikorian wants to tie in art festivals and create city activations and hospitality events in the regions around these events, and that will require volunteers to work on these things.

There are additional meetings coming up which Jeff will report back on.

**c. Discuss and vote on food and location for the December 9<sup>th</sup> party and GBM, Request for up to \$800 for food.** Janis informed the board that she has not heard back from the Toyota but has spoken with a rep from California Pizza Kitchen. They are offering an outdoor space for this event with a catering menu. She said another option was to use the clubhouse where she lives, but she noted there would be parking issues.

- Katherine stated that this has to be advertised as an in-person December General Board Meeting, open to the public.
- Glenn agreed with Kathleen on the language to get approval from the City.

**(Lowell/Edwards) moved to authorize an expenditure of up to \$800.00 on refreshments for the December in-person General Board meeting and Holiday mixer.” The motion carried unanimously.**

- **Voting Yea:** Janis Kraft, President; Kathleen Edwards, VP Admin; Joel Lowell, Treasurer; Sam Dulys, Secretary; Alanna Flax-Clark, Kevin Herzberg, Nicolas Haddad, Jeff Diamond, Krystal Sims, and Richard Young.
- **Opposed:** (0)
- **Abstaining:** (0)
- **Absent:** Nathan Lichtman, Greg Wood and Diana Delgado.

**d) Update on Committee zoom meetings:** Janis offered to help anyone who wants to do a Zoom meeting (once the bugs are worked out) after which, they can work with NC support.

**e) Kathleen Edwards will discuss selection process for NCs participation in 2027 Elections with DONE.** Kathleen discussed the different options and restrictions about the city’s election/selection process, stating that “one size doesn’t fit all.” She read questions that the NCs were asked at this meeting and different processes that were being examined.

The board discussed various options with Kathleen and Glenn giving input from the meetings they have attended. Kathleen will send out the bullet points and get feedback on what the board members want after she attends the next two meetings. Kathleen suggested that board members email her directly with their suggestions.

**f) Discuss a request for an information session with the Alzheimer’s Assn.** Janis spoke about the value of collaborating with the NENC on a program with the Department of Aging to provide information to the community. Janis said they were approached by a person who handles programming for the Alzheimer’s Association. She will follow up with them to see about getting a presentation.

Glenn said the NENC is trying to work within the city’s rules with the Dept. of Aging and they are trying to see if there is interest for such a program. Kathleen thinks a Town Hall would be a good idea with the three local NCs involved. Janis recommended doing some more research and then

reporting back.

g) **Discussion on CF 25-1136 to bring back the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program which was in effect from 2002 to 2023.** Richard brought this Council File to the board which examines bringing back the Neighborhood Prosecutor program that was eliminated by the current City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto.

The Council File was jointly filed by CMs Padilla and Lee. Some of the goals of this program were to reduce quality of life crimes, including graffiti removal, illegal dumping, illegal street sales and party houses.

In support of CF 25-1136, they said that the current program by Community Law Corps. lacks community focus. When the Neighborhood/Community Prosecutor program was in effect, a prosecutor was assigned to the local LAPD station from the City Attorney's office and they worked with the LAPD SLOs and community leaders to handle community problems before they escalated to more serious offenses. Sun Valley NC and Westside NC have already endorsed this program and both have submitted a CIS. Richard asked if the NWNC also wants to endorse this program and submit a CIS.

**(Kraft/Lowell) moved to have Richard Young file a Community Impact Statement in support of CF 25-1136, to reinstate the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program in L.A.**

- Richard recommended bringing it back as there would be someone who specifically follows on ongoing crimes and prosecutes the offenders.
- Kathleen said the current program is more affordable but she supports this CIS.
- Jeff spoke with Josh Yager at CD12 who was very vocal about it. He said it would produce more results by having an assigned Neighborhood Prosecutor in our area.
- Mikki said she remembered when the City Attorney campaigned for office and said she was going to remove the Neighborhood Prosecutor program because not all the NPs were effective. However, she pointed out that this was not the case, locally, and how the NPs served as liaisons with police departments to the public.
- Glenn agreed with Mikki that the City Attorney campaigned against the NP program. But he noted that the NPs worked with local groups and strengthened the NC's work as well as their connection to their senior lead officers.

Richard will write the CIS and submit it to the exec. Board. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- **Voting Yea:** Janis Kraft, President; Kathleen Edwards, VP Admin; Joel Lowell, Treasurer; Sam Dulys, Secretary; Alanna Flax-Clark, Kevin Herzberg, Nicolas Haddad, Jeff Diamond, Krystal Sims, and Richard Young.
- **Opposed:** (0)
- **Abstaining:** (0)
- **Absent:** Nathan Lichtman, Greg Wood and Diana Delgado.

**X. ADJOURNMENT: (Kraft/Dulys) moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 p.m.**

**Minutes by Pat Kramer, AtWork**

## **FOOD ASSISTANTS LOCATIONS AVAILABLE FOR STAKEHOLDERS:**

### **Food Assistance Available for Families Impacted by CalFresh Delays**

Due to the ongoing Federal Government shutdown, CalFresh benefits will be delayed for November. In the meantime, weekly food distributions are available across Los Angeles to help residents access fresh produce, pantry staples, and groceries—free of charge. Nearby Valley locations include:

- Canoga Park – New Economics for Women, 21400 Saticoy Street (2nd Friday of each month, 10am until supplies last)
- Van Nuys – New Economics for Women, 6946 Van Nuys Blvd., Suite 220 (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays)
- Panorama City – El Centro de Amistad, 14500 Roscoe Blvd., Suite 205 (Thursdays, 9am to 1pm; pantry open daily)
- Pacoima – El Nido Family Centers, 11243 Glenoaks Blvd., Unit 2 (food pantry open daily)

For a full list of City of Los Angeles FamilySource Center food distributions, visit [LA4Families.org](http://LA4Families.org), [LAFoodBank.org](http://LAFoodBank.org), or dial 2-1-1 for immediate assistance.

### **Food Assistance Available Through ONEgeneration**

As the recent federal government shutdown affects CalFresh (SNAP) benefits, ONEgeneration is stepping up to ensure no one in our community goes hungry. Their Food Bank and Mobile Food Pantry will continue operating without interruption, expanding access for individuals and families in need. Services include:

- Walk-up Food Pantries in Van Nuys, Reseda, and Northridge
- Home Deliveries for homebound and older adults
- Mobile Food Pantries serving churches, shelters, and community sites
- Benefits Enrollment Assistance to help households access available resources

If your CalFresh benefits are disrupted, help is available. For service updates or to donate, visit [www.onegeneration.org](http://www.onegeneration.org)