**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday August 22, 2023 7:00 PM**

**Tarzana Child Care Center**

**5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356**

Supporting documents related to the below agenda items are posted on the TNC website at

<https://www.tarzananc.org/committees/viewCommittee/board>

1. **Call to Order** at 7:02 p.m. by 1st VP of TNC Eran Heissler and Welcoming Remarks.

**Roll Call:** Eran Heissler, Jeff Mausner, Harvey Goldberg, Iris Polonsky, Sylvia Bedrossian (arrived at 7:17 p.m.), Matthew Clark, Susan Lord, Terry Saucier (left at 8:05 p.m.), Susan Rogen, Bob Shmaeff, Christopher Ahuja, Barry Edelman, Bruno Hernandez, and Leon Antonio Gonzalez. Absent: Leonard J. Shaffer, Paul Radenberg, Esther Wieder and Joyce Greene. Quorum reached with 14 board members.

1. **Remarks by representatives of public officials**: Safi Lodin with Councilmember Blumenfield’s Office reported that on August 10, 2023, the first public, electric street sweeper in the United States was revealed based on Councilmember Blumenfield’s support. The plan is to Go Green with 10,000 electric street sweepers by 2035 in Los Angeles.

On encampments: The Councilmember has a fund to pay for cleanups. L.A. Sanitation will not pick up bulky items using the “311” app if they are associated with homeless encampments. The Council Office has cleanups that they can do on Mondays and Thursdays. Contact the Council Office with photos of encampments and trash and they will take care of it in 3 – 4 weeks.

He also spoke about clearing up overgrown vegetation along the bike path by the park. They are hoping they will be completed in a week. L.A. DOT is responsible for this and the delay is due to contracting issues. Contact him at: 818 774-4330, [safi.lodin@lacity.org](mailto:safi.lodin@lacity.org)

Stakeholder \_\_\_\_ said he was moving someone’s vehicle and found out that DOT only comes every other Monday to ticket people and wondered why. He asked why $100K was being spent for electric street sweepers.

Stakeholder Kurt \_\_\_\_\_ wanted to know what to do about getting encampments cleaned up. Safi said the city was sued for cleaning up the encampments; the advocate justified that being homeless is not illegal. In public right of ways, there are two City ordinances: #4118 (blocking the public way) and #4511 (something else in the right of way). So, what the city does is try to find people housing and if they refuse, they can schedule a cleanup with LA Sanitation. They cannot, however, do anything about people living in RVs. These vehicles cannot be towed. Once an encampment in the public right of way (a sidewalk) is scheduled, a multidisciplinary team is sent out. If that process is not successful, they cannot force anyone to move. But they can do cleanups and after a certain amount of time, the items will be removed. But the same individuals often return to the same places.

**Joel Gonsalez** **– Project Coordinator for Empower LA** said they are printing up new training manuals for board members. There is a Meet & Greet coming up with a lot of city dignitaries at the Tom Bradley Center. He brought some “goodies” for the board.

1. **Presentation: Matt Gertz:** **Los Angeles Department of Transportation Vision Zero team** – **Reseda Project**. He talked about this $20M project which has been under construction for the past couple of years. The project is a collaboration with LADOT, the Bureau of Engineering, LA Sanitation, Tree Planting, and the Bureau of Street Services. It is focused on Reseda Blvd. by Victory Boulevard. He talked about the specifics involved here:

Construction started in 2020 with sidewalk construction (100K sq. ft.). Last year, they worked on ADA parking, concrete islands, bus lanes, new crosswalks, and are now under construction for traffic signal upgrades. They are redesigning/narrowing some areas and removing 240 parking spaces to create space for bike lanes. The signal upgrades should be done by September.

**Harvey** asked whether Vision Zero has reduced accidents for this particular project. Matt said it is too soon to do evaluations. He also asked about the bus lanes (new curb lanes) which are expected to reduce a lane of traffic and wanted to know the effect on traffic flow. Matt said they haven’t calculated it or done a traffic analysis.

**Barry** asked why Tarzana was left out of this project as there is a dangerous intersection below Victory. Matt said they wished that they could have done it as part of this project. He knows there is interest in doing so. He said there are other teams that can explore this outside of Vision Zero.

**Christopher** felt this project is a win**.**

**Susan Rogen** asked who does the traffic study? Matt said he wasn’t sure that there was one. **Unidentified person** mentioned waiting through two lights to get through a busy intersection.

1. **Public Comments:**

* Mike Greenspan said they are behind the curve when it comes to the airport. He spoke about this for a while.
* Sharon Brewer talked about an item at a City Council meeting led by Councilmember Monica Rodriguez to remove Jamie York from the Ethics Commission. She said that no public comment was allowed and she feels this was unethical. Jamie was letting many NCs weigh in and was working very hard but apparently, the Councilmembers did not want her on the Ethics Commission. Sharon felt it was an injustice (ref: CF 23-1200-\_).
* Fred Gilbert had concerns about what is going on at City Hall related to the Ethics Commission. He finds it troubling. He asked for help from the Councilmember with what happened regarding the Ethics Commission.

1. **Candidate presentations for the following open Board seats:** Eran announced three open board seats. Candidates were interviewed by the executive committee and the EC recommended candidates for the three open seats of Residential Renter, Business Representative, and Homeowner Representative. Eran explained that a majority of the board must be in favor of each candidate for them to be installed on the board.

b. **Residential Renter** - Pam Majumdar. She has lived in L.A. for four years and is a Tarzana resident. She was a residential property manager but no longer works in that occupation. Her background is in civil engineering and social media marketing.

**(Goldberg/Bedrossian) moved to approve Pam Majumdar for the Residential Renter board seat. The motion passed unanimously: 14-0-0. Pam joined the board after the vote, raising the board members present to 15.**

c. **Business Representative** - Duncan MacIntosh (Other possible candidates) Tabled until next meeting.

.

d. **Homeowner Representative** - Ely Sorkin (Other possible candidates) No action as candidate changed his mind.

1. **Budget Advocate/Representative Report**: Tabled.

1. **Executive Secretary’s Report** – Iris said there have been two absences by board members so far. Six absences are allowed, per person, per calendar year.
2. **Approval of minutes** **of the July 25, 2023 meeting.** Tabled until next meeting.

**9. Committee and other Reports**:

**Budget** – Harvey shared the status of TNC’s funding of community projects: TNC has allocated $435K toward community projects since its inception and $13.3 K in the last fiscal year. Harvey explained that only $32K is allocated for the NC right now and $10K of unused funds can be rolled over to the next fiscal year. Sept. 20, 2023 is the next Budget Committee meeting.

**Land Use** – Eran Heissler said there were two items discussed at the Land Use Committee which will come up for a vote under items #13 and #14.

Outreach – Terry left early so no report.

Events – No report.

**Transportation** – Susan Rogen talked about speed bumps and small round-abouts being investigated to improve traffic.

**Public Safety** – Susan R. spoke about emergency supplies and the need for everyone to create a “go bag” for their properties and cars. She has a sample of what goes into one from FEMA.

Rules – No report.

Government Action – No report.

**Animal Welfare** – Jeff Mausner said the City Animal Shelters are severely overcrowded with 1488 dogs and only 1081 kennels. The rescues are having a difficult time as they don’t have enough fosters. Having to kill healthy animals due to a lack of space is the topic of an article he wrote for City Watch. Spaying and neutering programs will save the city tens of millions of dollars in the long run. He said that the Northeast Valley Animal Shelter should also be utilized on an emergency basis to help with overcrowding.

**Beautification** – Iris Polonsky added two new committee members and put together an Ad Hoc committee for a Community Clean Up Event. They will be discussing adding more TNC light pole banners at a future meeting.

**Homelessness** – Susan Lord is asking for donations of toiletries, towels, etc. for the homeless cabins. She also announced that Joyce Greene’s mother recently died and she also had hip surgery, should anyone want to send her a card.

DWP MOU Report – No report.

**VANC Report** – Jeff stated that Mayor Bass was the guest speaker at the recent VANC meeting. He said she is very communicative about what is going on and a strong supporter of neighborhood councils. There is a recording of that meeting if anyone wants to review it.

LANCC Report – No report.

**NCSA Liaison** – Christopher Ahuja talked about an event held recently and about the upcoming NC Congress.

Ad Hoc VNY – No report.

Eran reminded the newer board members to choose a committee within 90 days of their board service and start participating in it.

**10. July 2023 Expenditures:** (Goldberg/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the Budget Committee’s recommendation and approves the July 2023 expenditures for submission to City Clerk (MER) and the financial statements for June and July 2023.” **The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-0. (Hernandez, Ahuja, Goldberg, Heissler, Bedrossian, Rogen, Mausner, Clark, Edelman, Polonsky, Lord and Shmaeff).**

**11.** **Purchase of Storage Cabinet:** (Goldberg/Lord) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the Budget Committee’s recommendation to approve the Request from TNC President to purchase a storage cabinet for our large form sound equipment and related items that are kept in our office. Item to be purchased from Home Depot or similar vendor at a total cost NTE $500. To be classified Operations, General, Office expenses. Funds to come from Unallocated.” **The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-0. (Hernandez, Ahuja, Goldberg, Heissler, Bedrossian, Rogen, Mausner, Clark, Edelman, Polonsky, Lord and Shmaeff).**

**12. Revised Budget**: (Goldberg/Shmaeff) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves a revised budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 -June 30, 2024 to include the above item 11 and approves all necessary forms and paperwork required to update the budget and directs the Treasurer and/or President to prepare such and to submit it to the City Clerk’s Funding Division.” **The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-0. (Hernandez, Ahuja, Goldberg, Heissler, Bedrossian, Rogen, Mausner, Clark, Edelman, Polonsky, Lord and Shmaeff).**

**13. Land Use Motion/Waiver**: (Heissler/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the Land Use Committee’s recommendation regarding 19471 Rosita St – ZA-2023-3033 – Single Family Residence seeking relief form LAMC 12,21 C 10 relating to access from a substandard hillside street as follows: Support the request for a waiver pursuant to LAMC 12.24 x 28 of the provision in LAMC 12.21 C10 that would require the improvement of Palo Dr, a sub-standard hillside street from the property line of 19471 Rosita Street to Rosita Street. **The motion carried unanimously: 14-0-0. (Hernandez, Ahuja, Goldberg, Heissler, Bedrossian, Rogen, Mausner, Majumdar**, **Clark, Edelman, Gonzalez, Polonsky, Lord and Shmaeff).**

Public comment by Goat Puppet.

**14.** **Land Use Motion/Cell Tower**: (Heissler/Lord) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the Land Use Committee’s recommendation regarding 18206 Victory Blvd (Reseda Islamic Center) – ZA-2023-3208-CUV – Installation of cell and microwave antennas and generator backup power as follows: Oppose the grant of a CUV install 3 8-foot-high panels with a total of 13 antennas on the roof of the 18206 Victory Blvd. (The installation includes a generator in the underground parking garage containing 120 gallons of diesel fuel.) The property is zoned R1 (residential) and the current use as a religious institution is allowed pursuant to a conditional use permit. This would set a bad precedent of allowing cell antenna installations in residential zones. The Land Use Committee noted there is a commercial business a short distance to the east at Victory and Lindley that could accommodate a cell tower.” **The motion carried unanimously: 14-0-0. (Hernandez, Ahuja, Goldberg, Heissler, Bedrossian, Rogen, Mausner, Majumdar**, **Clark, Edelman, Gonzalez, Polonsky, Lord and Shmaeff).**

Unidentified stakeholder asked about the need for Verizon to build a new cell tower and whether the Islamic Center would be getting paid to have the cell tower on its roof**.**

Goat Puppet made a comment about this.

**15. Board Business** – One of the board members thanked Eran for running the meeting.

**16**. Adjournment at 8:45 p.m.

*Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One*