

Valley Alliance of
Neighborhood Councils
VANC

Thursday, June 9, 2022 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Via zoom: Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98759241651>

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 VANC@empowerla.org

LA Fire Department Strategic Plan 2022-2025

Guest Speakers:

Deputy Chief Trevor Richmond, Valley Bureau Commander
Assistant Chief John Drake, Command 42, Valley Operations
Captain Ruben Lopez, I/CM42 Adjutant

Reminder: VANC meetings are to educate you on various topics so that you can bring back to your NC for discussion/vote

Zoom attendees, please identify your NC along with your first name

AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Jill Banks Barad-Hopkins, Founder and Chair
2. **Guest Speakers (30 min): LAFD Representatives: Q&A**
3. **Budget Advocates OPPOSE CF11-1020-S3.** When NC funds are voted to specific alliances, they alone should be the recipient of those funds. Brian Allen (hot topic # 1)
4. **NC possible conflict of interest procedure.** DONE now wants required NC attorney approval on **ALL possible conflicts of interest**, even though we've taken mandatory ethics training. (hot topic # 2)
5. **Urge City Council to retain telephonic public commenting.** Tony Wilkinson (Hot Topic # 3)
6. **School Police on LAUSD Campuses** (Hot Topic # 4) Jeff Mausner
7. **DONE UPDATE** by General Manager Beltran or her appointee
8. **Budget Day** via zoom 18JUNE2022 930am and 25JUNE2022 selection of Budget Advocates www.budgetadvocates.org
9. **BONC UPDATE** by Commissioner Shaffer, South Valley and/or Commissioner Quyen Vo-Ramirez, North Valley

10. **Items from the Floor:**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

*VANC Meeting Thursday, July 14, 2022: Speaker: **LAUSD Supt. Alberto Carvalho:**

*PlanCheck 2nd Saturday of the month, details at www.plancheckncla.com

Educate yourself on City Planning and Land Use issues.

HOT TOPICS For June 9, 2022



1. **CF11-1020-S3** - would rename the Budget Advocates account to "budget advocacy" with no mention as to where the funds would go.

Recommended Motion:

The _____ Neighborhood Council opposes Council File 11-1020-S3. Neighborhood Councils form alliances when they want to join together to work on something of common interest. We want to be able to contribute specifically to alliances we support. The name of the overall fund is not important. What is important is that every recognized alliance has the ability to raise its own funds and those funds are reserved for its use and its use alone. Our Neighborhood Council wants the ability to direct our funds to a specific alliance and not to a fund that is allocated without our input. We ask the motion be amended to make this clear.

2. June 2022 Monthly Profile

If you are a board member and have a question about a possible conflict of interest on any matter coming before the neighborhood council, you are advised to follow this procedure:

1. First, you should directly contact your assigned NCAD Attorney. If you do not know which NCAD Attorney is assigned to work with your Neighborhood Council, contact your NEA for the information.
2. Once you are provided their contact information, you will directly email the NCAD Attorney about your concern.

Your email should include: Your name and best contact information, the NC you are a board member of, the subject matter coming before the board, the meeting date of when the item will come before the board (if known), and the reasons why you are reaching out about a potential conflict of interest.

The NCAD Attorney will contact you directly about your concern. If you do not receive a response before the meeting, **we highly recommend you move to table the item to a future meeting** to allow you additional time to receive the advice you need.

3. LA City Council has resumed in-person meetings, but they are not planning to continue to allow public comment via telephone. The current city council agenda states:

"Members of the public may also attend City Council meetings in-person. Public comment will be taken in-person, only, and not via teleconference.

In conjunction with the announcement of a return to in-person City Council meetings, the City Council announced that its meetings will continue to be accessible online. Since there will continue to be medical requirements for admission to City Hall, this policy of restricting public comment to people who attend in person is discriminatory to those without medical documents or with compromised immune systems. In addition, it discourages comments from those who have limited hours available during the workweek. For a city that takes pride in being an environmental leader, it will create many hours of auto trips downtown for the sole purpose of making a one minute public comment.

At its meeting on May 12, 2022, the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils unanimously adopted the following resolution that urges reinstatement of remote public comment. **Please send to your local NC City Councilmember with the name of your NC.**

"The _____ Neighborhood Council requests that the City Council again allow remote participation in City Council meetings, by telephone or online means, in addition to in-person public comment."

4. Hot Topic - School Police on LAUSD Campuses

School Police Officers are not allowed on Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) school campuses. On July 15, 2021, the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) unanimously passed the following resolution:

The Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), representing the 34 Neighborhood Councils throughout the San Fernando Valley, views the safety of our children and school staff of utmost importance, and strongly supports the resolution of School Board Members Scott Schmerelson and Dr. George McKenna, Resolution Number 029-20/21, entitled Ensuring Local School Site and Community Control, Authority, Autonomy and Choice Regarding Safe Campuses and the Protection of Our Students and Staff. VANC strongly supports local control by each school site and school community to allow the Los Angeles School Police onto LAUSD school campuses, ensuring safe campuses and the protection of our students and staff.

The Schmerelson/McKenna Resolution **did not pass at the LAUSD School Board** meeting, so School Police are still not allowed on school campuses. In light of the school shooting in Texas on May 24, 2022 the LAUSD School Board should reconsider stationing of School Police on LAUSD campuses, re-funding the School Police Department, and hiring additional School Police Officers.