

# Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils

VANC

34 San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Councils

Established March 03, 2003 by Jill Banks Barad-Hopkins

**Thursday, May 9, 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)

## **Carol Parks General Manager Emergency Management**

**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**

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Linda Gravani, chair [VANC34.chair@gmail.com](mailto:VANC34.chair@gmail.com)
2. Qualified Candidates: 2 minutes no discussion
3. Guest Speaker: **Carol Parks, General Manager Emergency Management Department**
4. **DONE:** New General Manager Carmen Chang – CF24-0465 NCs should be given time to weigh in on the selection. **Too late, just added to 8MAY2024 City Council Agenda.**  
<https://mayor.lacity.gov/news/mayor-bass-announces-appointment-la-department-neighborhood-empowerment-general-manager>

4. Community Councils/Same Privileges As Neighborhood Councils **CF15-0389-S2 APPROVED** by committee – going to full City Council 30APR2024 [https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2015/15-0389-S2\\_rpt\\_nce\\_02-21-24%20\(1\).pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2015/15-0389-S2_rpt_nce_02-21-24%20(1).pdf)
5. **BONC Commissioners** – **Keren Waters**, North Valley [keren.waters@lacity.org](mailto:keren.waters@lacity.org)  
**Len Shaffer**, South Valley [commissionerlenshaffer@gmail.com](mailto:commissionerlenshaffer@gmail.com)
6. Meet the Candidates before November?
7. Budget Advocates Town Hall Update (held 27APR2024) – Glenn Bailey  
Recording can be found at [www.budgetadvocates.org](http://www.budgetadvocates.org)  
Under town halls
8. Budget Advocates – [www.budgetadvocates.org](http://www.budgetadvocates.org)  
**SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday 15JUN2024 8am IN PERSON at City Hall  
Contribute funds to Budget Advocates for BUDGET DAY see required form  
[Congress-Budget Advocacy Funding Contribution Form rev03182024 pdf form.pdf \(lacity.gov\)](#)
9. CONGRESS of NEIGHBORHOODS – Also needs funding - **consider your year end funds**  
Must agenzize and vote on your NC's agenda in April or May. Submit on the City Clerk's funding Form – see link <https://clerk.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph1491/files/2024-03/Congress-Budget%20Advocacy%20Funding%20Contribution%20Form%20rev03182024%20pdf%20form.pdf>
10. **Items from the floor:**
  - Jeff Mausner – Requesting humane treatment of Dogs and cats
  - (NC)@empowerla.org status
11. NC Anniversaries: **CONGRATULATIONS!**  
**22 Years Sun Valley Area**  
**21 Years Sylmar**  
**21 Years Sunland-Tujunga**  
**14 Years Northridge South**
12. **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 June 13, 2024**

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\*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.

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

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

Page 2 of 5



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## HOT TOPICS For May 9, 2024

KNOWLEDGE IS CRITICAL – INFORM YOUR NC

1. City Planning – How will this affect your community? What does your NC want for your community?
  - Mayor Bass’s Executive Directive #1 (ED1) [Mayor Bass Executive Directives | Mayor Karen Bass \(lacity.gov\)](#) United Neighbors Guidelines for ED1 Ordinance with explanations
  - **HOUSING ELEMENT** –City Planning released proposed targeted amendments to rezone areas to fulfil the goal of adding 456,643 housing units mandated by California Legislature.
  - **Community Plans** - consists of a policy document, a General Plan Land Use map, and a zoning map. The policy document lays out the community’s guiding principles, goals, policies, and programs. [Updates to the Southwest Valley Community Plans | Home | Los Angeles City Planning \(lacity.gov\)](#)

### BUDGET CLIPS

LA City Controller Kenneth Mejia

Past warning from Controller at year end JUN2023

“spending exceeding expected levels. The estimates of the City Administrative Officer.....a budget shortfall in excess of \$143 million to be addressed by a partial hiring freeze and tapping the City’s Reserve Fund. The shortfall could swell to as much as \$400 million next year”

“current staff shortages and long-term underinvestment in the training, technology, equipment and facilities for our workforce hobbles productivity and shortchanges our residents”

“without a long-term approach to putting our fiscal house in order, short-term decisions will doom Los Angeles to an inexorable decline in public services, undermining our quality of life and the economic prospect of our residents”

“A transition to a two-year budget cycle would save enormous staff time, give greater opportunity for meaningful community participation, and allow for a more strategic approach to the City’s Finances. The City also needs a transparent Capital improvement Program beyond the current wish list of billions of dollars in unfunded projects. Participatory budgeting, expanded beyond its current experimental pilot, would offer greater citizen engagement in the City’s fiscal health.”

Mayor Bass’ Proposed 12.8 Billion dollar budget, less than last year

The General Fund is where most of the attention goes to  
(Police, Fire etc)

Mayor says getting rid of vacant positions (2,000 vacancies) will not have any impact

Some departments with vacancies:

Controllers office - handles every LA city department – manages accounting, payroll and spending, conducts audits and investigations.

Emergency Management Department – responsible for its emergency preparations (planning, training, and mitigation) as well as provide a basis for direction and control of emergency operations

What do Angelenos need to give up to provide necessary positions?