

# DRAFT MINUTES

Neighborhood Council  
Governing Board  
Elisa Avalos, President  
Mikayeel Khan, Vice President  
Jessica Urquiza, Secretary  
Anna Justice, Treasurer  
Alex Morales, Boardmember  
Fannie Long, Boardmember  
Imelda Foley, Boardmember  
John Hernandez, Boardmember  
Daniel Venencia, Boardmember  
Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember  
Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember  
Mireira Moran, Boardmember  
Rebecca Long, Boardmember  
Reuben Garcia, Boardmember

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



## PACOIMA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

[www.PacoimaNC.com](http://www.PacoimaNC.com)

Regular Board Meeting

Virtual Meeting via Teleconference

Wednesday, April, 21, 2021• 6:30 p.m.

### 1. WELCOMING REMARKS: (5 minutes)

Boardmember Fannie Long opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 2. a. Call to order (5 minutes)

A public meeting of the Pacoima Neighborhood Council was convened on April 21, 2021 via Zoom webinar and called to order at 6:36 p.m. President Avalos presided as moderator.

President Avalos appointed Vice-President Khan to the position of webinar co-host.

### b. Roll Call by Secretary Jessica Urquiza

1	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
1	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
1	Anna Justice, Treasurer
1	Alex Morales, Boardmember
1	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
1	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
absent	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
absent	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
1	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
1	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember

<b>11</b>	<b>Directors were present and a quorum was attained.</b> 26 members of the public/speakers/stakeholders were present
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**3. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS: (5 minutes for each)**

(Representatives from government offices, Police Department, and community-based organizations)

- a. California Congressional District 29  
Congressman Tony Cardenas  
Field Deputy: Michelle Vergara

Ms. Cardenas updated the Council on a recent program of FEMA for funeral financial assistance to families for deaths related to COVID-19 that occurred after January 2020. Please call 844/684-6333 to register or visit the FEMA website.

May 17<sup>th</sup> is the new IRS tax filing deadline if you haven't already filed. Please reach out to our office if you require assistance for services or any other concerns with IRS, stimulus checks, immigration, Social Security, or any other federal concerns. [Michelle.vergara@mail](mailto:Michelle.vergara@mail) or 818/321-2868

The Congressman has posted on our site the annual art competition for high school students in the 29<sup>th</sup> district. The successful submissions will be displayed in the Capital Building for one year. Prior to COVID-19 this competition included a trip to Washington, but this activity has been paused.

The Congressman is also working on the annual congressional certificates for seniors. There have been over 2000 requests and we are looking for volunteers.

There will be a forum with Alex Padilla at LA Mission College this Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Please feel free to email or call me for further information on this event at [Michelle.vergara@mail](mailto:Michelle.vergara@mail) or 818/321-2868.

Ms. Cardenas solicited any comments from the floor.

President Avalos thanked Ms. Cardenas for her updates and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 3a was closed

- b. California State Senate District 18  
Senator Bob Hertzberg  
District Representative: Eveline Bravo-Ayala

No Action Taken.

- c. Los Angeles Police Department, Foothill Division  
Senior Lead Officers Adriana Munguia and Steve Nunez

Officer Nunez, Senior Lead Officer, informed the Council that in the month of April not many changes occurred and we are in the negative 10% crime reduction bracket. The Chevy Silverado is still the car of choice for thefts of catalyst converters and at this time Chevrolet is making a malfunction kit, but the kit is hard to get and that is why this car is so desirable. Old Hondas and Toyota Camry autos are also a target of theft. Richie Valens Park is at stage III on clean-up with Caltrans as the back side is finished. This clean-up effort is a priority.

Officer Nunez solicited any comments from the floor.

President Avalos thanked Officers Nunez for his report and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 3c was closed

- d. Los Angeles Police Department Foothill Division  
Community Safety Partnership Officer Avila

Officer Luis Garcia gave an update on the Friday night drive-in movie event. This project will engage the community and provide an opportunity to safely interact with the community during this pandemic period. We are planning a Mother's Day Luncheon on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Pacoima Charter and inviting 150-175 to attend and make something special for the moms of San Fernando Gardens. Please feel free to contact me for additional information.

Officer Garcia solicited any comments for the floor.

President Avalos thanked Officer Garcia for his update and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 3d was closed

- e. Los Angeles City Council District 7  
Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez  
Field Representative: Susana Carmona

Susan Carmona, field representative, for Councilwoman Rodriguez updated the Council and stated that Pfizer vaccinations are continuing to be distributed. To date we have distributed over 8,000 in mobile sites in Pacoima. Anyone age 60 and older can get vaccinated, so please contact our office. We still have COVID-19 care kits for anyone in need.

Ms. Carmona screen shared pictures of Pacoima Beautiful for Earth Day and the clean-up focused along Van Nuys Boulevard and multiple streets in the area. Many streets that have been slurry sealed to strengthen the streets and add aesthetics and longevity. Weed abatement was also performed.

The Bright Spot Program has increased activities and they are picking up bulky items and cleaning streets. Please contact our office if you find illegal dumping or see a need for weed abatement.

We continue to work with Caltrans to clean up encampments and the 5 freeway offramps. The clean-up of the Richie Valens area is continuing and it being partnered with the Fire Department and the Mayor's Office along with efforts to vaccinate individuals in the bridge housing community.

You can assist our efforts by reaching out to Caltrans to make sure our community is being heard. 916/654-5266.

There is a citywide Valley Community Hearing tomorrow night, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Registration is required. Please call me or email me for information.

Ms. Carmona solicited any questions from the floor.

Boardmember Hernandez inquired where the encampment residents were relocated.

Ms. Carmona stated that two residents were assisted and the follow-up is pending.

President Avalos thanked Ms. Carmona for her update and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 3e was closed.

- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment  
Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate  
Adriana Cabrera

No Action Taken.

Mr. Rudy Melendez was recognized to speak from the floor and stated that there has been difficulty in receiving ballot for the upcoming elections.

- g. LAUSD Board of Education  
Board Member Kelly Gonez  
Field Deputy: Esmeralda Marcial

No Action Taken.

- h. California State Assembly District 39  
Assemblywoman Luz Rivas  
Field Representative: Brenda Yanez Zamora

Ms. Yanez stated that Los Angeles is moving from the red zone into a less restrictive COVID-19 zoning as of April 5<sup>th</sup>. Local community activities are

being amended. If you need additional information, please call her office. As of April 16<sup>th</sup>, vaccinations for the over 60 group is available for all. The age group of 16 and above must be Pfizer so register and pick a location that provides that service. The two authorized vaccination types are Pfizer and Moderna as Johnson and Johnson is no longer available following the recommendations of the Food and Drug Administration to pause Johnson and Johnson due to possible blood clots. Johnson and Johnson symptoms manifest anywhere from 6-13 days post injection. More details to follow on Johnson and Johnson. Ms. Yanez encouraged everyone to vaccinate, wear masks and social distance.

There is a grant opportunity for the California Youth Research Fund to promote healthier nutrition.

The office of Assemblywoman Rivas is telecommuting at this time and Ms. Yanez provided her contact information to be: [byanez@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:byanez@bos.lacounty.gov). 8189013831

Ms. Yanez solicited any comments from the floor.

President Avalos thanked Ms. Yanez for her update and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 3h was closed.

- i. Office of Los Angeles Mayor  
Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Field Deputy: Caroline Menjivar

No Action Taken.

- j. Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Third District  
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl  
Field Deputy: Jessica Orellana

Arturo Garcia introduced himself as the new field representative and stated that he is looking forward to assisting the community as a resident of Pacoima. He will be focusing on EDD and Caltrans concerns. The office has virtual office hours so please contact the office to sign up. Two upcoming events will be a small business resource conference on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m., and Caltrans will be conducting a mass trash pick-up on Earth Day at the 210 and 118 freeway areas from 8:00 a.m. till 10:00 a.m. If you or anyone you know, would like to volunteer please call 818/503-3411.

Mr. Garcia solicited any comments from the floor.

President Avalos thanked Mr. Garcia for his update and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 3j was closed.

- k. Region 1 Budget Advocate  
Foothill Trails NC President

No Action Taken.

**4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (10 minutes)**

*Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's jurisdiction (Up to two (2) minutes per speaker, the Chair has the authority to adjust, if necessary, to equal time limits).*

Pierre Arrolo, was recognized to speak, and asked for clarification on commenting on agenda items following the item being presented.

Brittney Rivas, was recognized to speak, and stated that resources are available through Our Water LA. There are tax rebates as of May 1<sup>st</sup> and reductions for low-income individuals for safe clean water programs by visiting [briva@laane.org](mailto:briva@laane.org).

Kevin Davis, was recognized to speak, and inquired about MEND services as he is reaching out to other groups in the area for information so that we can work with you for suggestions. Treasurer Justice provided information to work with MEND and Mr. Davis was directed to contact the Pacoima President [President@ftdnc.org](mailto:President@ftdnc.org)

**5. ADMINISTRATIVE/MOTIONS/UPDATES**

**a. Review and possible Board action on submitted Board Member Applications** Current Vacancies:

- i **At-Large Representative:** Stakeholders who live, work, or own property in the neighborhood and who are 18 years or older.
- ii **Community Based Organizational Representative:** Stakeholder who lives, works, or owns property in the neighborhood and is a participating member of a CBO within the PNC boundaries and who is 18 years or older.
- iii **Home/Condo Owner Representative:** Stakeholders who own residential property within the PNC boundaries and who are 18 years or older.

President Avalos stated that no applications have been received and elections are in process and our next meeting will consist of the new board.

**b. Motion/Discussion/vote for the approval Monthly Expenditure Reports (MER) for the month of March 2021. (5 minutes)**

Vice-President Khan made the motion to open this item for discussion that was seconded by Treasurer Justice.

Treasurer Justice gave an outline of current budget status. There is \$12,800 in available funds. \$9,00.00 is allotted for recurring existing expenses with a remainder of \$11,000.00 to roll over to the next board.

Boardmember Venencia provided clarification on the sign program in process as there are only 2 months remaining in this term and stated that moving it to the next fiscal year does not propose a problem for him as he can work with the provider.

Boardmember Hernandez inquired about the expenses of the previous board approved billboards and the \$10,000.00 expense as that is pending in the City Attorney’s office for approval to pay that expenditure. Could this expenditure be reauthorized for the next fiscal year and withdraw this proposal?

Boardmember Garcia stated that the delay in the City Attorney’s Office is a severe handicap, effecting this determination and this board is no longer able to do anything as we will be over our retention budget.

Treasurer Justice called for a vote.

1	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
1	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
1	Anna Justice, Treasurer
1	Alex Morales, Boardmember
1	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
1	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
absent	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
absent	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
1	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
abstain	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember
<b>10</b>	<b>Motion passed 10-0, 2 absent, 1 abstention</b>

**c. Motion/discussion/vote for the approval of the March 2021 minutes by AppleOne minute taker (2 minutes)**

President Avalos made the motion to open this Item for discussion that was seconded by Treasurer Justice. Treasurer Justice stated that she distributed the Minutes by email and received no updates.

1	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
1	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary

1	Anna Justice, Treasurer
1	Alex Morales, Boardmember
1	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
1	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
absent	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
absent	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
1	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
abstain	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember
<b>10</b>	<b>Motion passed 11-0, 2 absent, 1 abstention</b>

**d. Motion/Discussion/vote to issue Community Impact Statement for Public Bank LA. – By Adrienne Griffin (10 Minutes)**

Vice-President Kahn made the motion to open this Item for discussion that was seconded by Treasurer Justice.

Ms. Griffin and Mr. Ben Gordon experience screen sharing difficulties with their prepared presentation and gave a verbal report assisted by co-host Vice-President Kahn sharing an email communication.

Ms. Griffin defined the benefits of utilizing a public bank and the functions of a public bank. Bank of (MBLA) Municipal Bank of Los Angeles underwritten by North Dakota Bank was introduced as their provider and their services were outlined to be a higher rate of return, reduction of bank fees, costs of projects, lower interest rates, and debt services. These reductions and recoveries would be directed back into the community. A public bank pays the city to put monies into Bank of North Dakota. They assist the community without issuing new bonds. Ms. Griffin and Mr. Gordon are requesting the Council draft a Community Impact Statement in support of introducing a Public Bank for Los Angeles.

President Avalos stated that Agendas Outreach Items were not posted correctly and that this information has not been provided to stakeholders for comments and questions.

Board member Morales inquired about the benefit of a CIS supporting a public bank for Pacoima and how does the CIS assist you?

Ms. Griffin stated that AB57 is in progress and the next stage is for the neighborhood councils to send a letter in favor of public government depositing funds. We are collecting the neighborhood councils from



different communities to come together. Our hope is that public bank will be in communities and will be partnering with larger bank and assist small business. This is Public Bank Los Angeles and only for Los Angeles and there will be oversight.

Boardmember Morales asked if this will benefit somebody who wants to open their own business?

Ms. Griffin stated that government begins the process starting with the City of Los Angeles. The second state is partnering and secure different ways to expand and then be accessible to partner with credit unions or community banks.

Mr. Gordon stated that the allocation is one-third small business, municipal financing, and housing and energy infrastructure.

Boardmember Garcia verified with Vice-President Kahn that this information was emailed prior to the meeting and made available to stakeholders? What is the action today? The next meeting will be a new board and there will be no committees until post-election. Boardmember Garcia expressed his concern with the absence of correct posting and the stakeholders not being able to access what is being considered for a vote.

Vice-President Kahn agrees with Boardmember Garcia and we can table to next month or after the election.

Boardmember Hernandez asked when this Item was agendaized for City Council.

Ms. Griffin informed the Council that the deadline is May 11<sup>th</sup> and would appreciate a support letter.

Boardmember Morales stated that this Item should be continued to a special meeting.

Boardmember Garcia stated that this information was not available to stakeholders and should be tabled to a special meeting or the next meeting of the new board. Could it possibly be read aloud to those participating on Zoom phone call?

Boardmember Fannie Long stated to table the Item since it was not properly posted.

Vice-President Kahn screen shared and read the email from April 13<sup>th</sup> explaining the services of public banks and request for the Community Impact Statement.

Treasurer Justice asked for the physical location of the bank.

Mr. Ben Gordon stated that there would not be a physical presence from AB57 and that might change in the future as they support banks and expand services.

Boardmember Morales inquired about the outreach methods to inform the community. What are the transparency and accountability methods that you have mentioned?

Ms. Griffin stated that the outreach is a step-by-step process to increase social media presence to gain neighborhood and support of groups. Publicbankla.com. is our site and we will be doing social media in the next two months. Once the city makes the decision to go forward is when we start hiring and business planning. We are in a beginning place to address the needs of the city of Los Angeles.

Treasurer Justice called for a vote to prepare a CIS

0	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
0	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
0	Anna Justice, Treasurer
0	Alex Morales, Boardmember
1	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
1	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
absent	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
absent	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
0	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
1	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember
<b>6</b>	<b>Motion passed 6-5, 2 absent</b>

President Avalos thanked Ms. Griffin and Mr. Gordon to return for continued outreach in June and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 5d was closed.

- e. **Motion/Discussion/vote for the approval of support letter for Assembly Bill 1270 (Luz Rivas) Methane Leak Reporting. – By Arturo Garcia-Mendoza (10 Minutes)**

No Action Taken.

- f. **Motion/Discussion/vote for the approval for Pool day at Hansen Dam. Officer Avila from LAFD is requesting \$2,500.00 for food and beverages to feed approximately 500 people. - By Outreach Committee (5 Minutes)**

President Avalos expressed continued concern on the absence of Agenda posting on web corner and that this information has not been appropriately provided to stakeholders for comments and questions.

Vice-President Kahn made the motion to amend the Agenda Item to the language of LAPD to correct a typo that was seconded by Boardmember Morales.

Officer Avila stated that the LAPD is planning an outreach event pool day at Hansen Dam for the community scheduled for July 30<sup>th</sup>, post COVID-19 restrictions to host 500 invited families of the San Fernando Gardens. Officer Avalos stated that the majority of invitations will be for the San Fernando Garden community members but we can invite other families so please refer information of other families to me. There is going to be a sign-up process for this invitation only event and the pool will be closed to the public that day.

Boardmember Fannie Long stated that according to the announcements of Governor Newsom, June 15<sup>th</sup> is going to be the day that restrictions will be lifted. Officer Avila stated that the June 15<sup>th</sup> date is a guideline if reporting numbers do not change and this pool event will be posted on Instagram to the Pacoima community.

After discussion many Boardmembers expressed concern regarding:

- Item did not go through the Outreach Sub-committee as stated in the Agenda description;
- Item was not posted correctly in the three designated public places;
- Item contained a typo changing its description;
- To proceed on this Item is in violation of the Brown Act;
- To proceed on this Item is in violation of the Bylaws;
- The absence of posting does not allow input and comment from stakeholders;
- Item should be reagendaized and tabled for a special meeting or the next scheduled meeting.

Boardmember Fannie Long made the motion to table this Item for discussion and action to the next monthly meeting that was seconded by Boardmember Rebecca Long

1	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
1	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
1	Anna Justice, Treasurer
1	Alex Morales, Boardmember
1	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
0	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
0	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
0	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
0	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
1	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
1	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember
<b>9</b>	<b>Motion passed 11-0, 2 absent,</b>

Vice-President Kahn made the motion to table Items g, h, i for discussion and action to the next monthly meeting that was seconded by Boardmember Fannie Long

- g. Motion/Discussion/vote for the approval Pacoima based Gr818er Non-Profit requesting collaboration of \$4,950.00 for Broadus Elementary school, to paint a mural on the outside auditorium wall. - By Outreach Committee. (5 Minutes)**

No Action Taken.

- h. Motion/discussion/vote to approve \$1,000 for purchase of pens needed for Outreach – By Outreach Committee (5 Minutes)**

No Action Taken

- i. Motion/Discussion/vote for the approval Discussion/Possible action for Pacoima based Plaza Comunitaria Sinaloa requesting \$4950.00 for Adult literacy learning materials – By Outreach Committee (5 Minutes)**

No Action Taken.

**5. OFFICER, COMMITTEE, BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS (10 minutes)**

**President's Report** - President Avalos thanked Boardmembers and stakeholders and all who made a difference in the community with your commitment for the last year.

**Vice-President's Report** – Vice-President Kahn thanked everyone and stated that the way we conducted the meeting today is the correct way with the Outreach and Land Use Community. This is great and thank you guys and see all of you on the next board.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Justice thanked everybody for coming and your patience and hope to return next month.

**Secretary's Report** – Secretary Urquiza thanked everyone for your patience and the note taker and please take care - We will get it right

**Public Health and Safety Committee** – President Avalos stated that the Easter bag handouts with Officer Avila was a success, as I was unable to attend, and thank you everybody for reaching out.

**Arts & Culture Committee** – No Action Taken.

**Housing, Economic Development and Land Use Committee** – No Action Taken.

**Youth and Education Development Committee** - No Action Taken.

#### Board Member Comments/Announcements

Boardmember Morales stated that his tenure on the Board has been a good experience and that his departure is due to the fact he is expanding his family and expecting a new baby. Boardmember Morales stated that his Board experience has been great and President Avalos grew during her position and thanked everybody and he will be back in the future.

Boardmember Hernandez thanked the treasurer for her work and the executive board and let's continue tonight's activities with a special meeting.

Boardmember Fannie Long stated that this Board has been productive and thanked everyone.

Boardmember Garcia thanked everyone for their commitment and hard work.

#### 6. **ADJOURNMENT** President Avalos adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the Chairperson.