

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
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

Regular Board Meeting
Virtual Meeting via Teleconference

Wednesday March 17, 2021 • 6:30 p.m.

1. WELCOMING REMARKS: (5 minutes)

Boardmember Reuben Garcia guided the Council to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Call to order (5 minutes)

A public meeting of the Pacoima Neighborhood Council was convened on March 17, 2021 via Zoom webinar and called to order at 6:38 p.m. President Avalos presided as moderator.

b. Roll Call by Treasurer Justice

1	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
1	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
1	Anna Justice, Treasurer
1	Alex Morales, Boardmember
0	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
1	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
1	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
0	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
1	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember
11	Directors were present and a quorum was attained. 26 members of the public/speakers/stakeholders were present

2. 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

No Action Taken

- 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 informed the Council that year-to-date there has been a 13% decrease in crime. Crimes of property, auto, and home burglary are of concern. The Chevy Silverado is a high demand auto theft. The Glen Oaks freeway offramp has quality of life issues. We are working with the DMV and Caltrans to get the area cleaned. The Richie Valens Park area is also a focus area of clean-up as the back side has been cleaned and unhoused have been placed by LASA.

Officer Munguia updated the Council on the increased theft of catalyst converters and there was a large arrest last week. Catalyst converters don't have a serial number so when recovered, they cannot be returned to an owner. We are working on the Sierra Project and creating a home list and met with Sanitation today. That area used to be cleaned weekly, but now less frequently. Overall crime is down 16%; however, property crime is increasing.

Sargent O'Hara stated that they have met with Sanitation and due to budget deficits, services have diminished and we have to strategize on problem locations and try to be more effective in the areas that we cover. Let us know if you see any issues so we can do the best we can. Sargent O'Hara provided his email and contact information to be: 818/756-8866 or 33272@lapd.online. We are addressing the increased theft of catalyst converters and auto detectives are working on a program to etch a driver's license number on catalyst converters so that it can be tracked and returned back to the owner. This crime fluctuates and the etching program is in a conceptual phase.

The jury selection for the George Floyd trial is beginning. We are preparing

for any possible social unrest if necessary, assuring that all of our gear is updated and ready and we have received shield training.

Sargent O'Hara also stated that the department has seized over 113 guns, and shooting are going down in the Foothill Division; however, aggravated assaults are rising.

Officer O'Hara solicited any questions from the floor.

Boardmember Moran inquired how the LAPD will be handling any summer unrest or issues and has there been any operational changes or training to address some of these issues?

Sargent O'Hara stated that inspections of gear, helmets, visors and all equipment needed for officers, is in place if the call comes to respond to unrest. We have received training on mobile force tactics and the new shields.

Stakeholder Michelle Rochell was recognized to speak and stated that the Foothill Station is doing a great job.

Mark Ross, a neighborhood prosecutor for the City Attorney's Office, was recognized to speak and stated that they work with problem individuals and locations and try to take a fresh look to end the cycle of violence. We work in conjunction with LAPD and the Council Office. We are working on abatement lawsuits; nuisance activity, and repeated non-compliance issues. We are working on gang violence, and trying to get good results. Our efforts are tailored to a specific location for a better outcome and solutions to improve the quality of life to neighbors and the community. We address problems as simple as installing security cameras, at times. Please feel free to reach out to me with your concerns. Mr. Ross provide his email address to be: Mark.ross@la.city.org.

Boardmember Garcia asked Mr. Ross what is necessary to get the wheels rolling to get effective clean-up, as COVID-19 infection rates are lowering and encampments are growing in some area. The rules that we have been told about in the past are not being enforced. Homelessness is not a crime, but it does not give anyone permission to break the law.

Mr. Ross stated that they are working with Caltrans to address the homeless encampments as this is a community problem. We are working in the areas of Bradley and Del Sur to diminish congregation in that area and working with the Council Office to possibly change the parking situation.

President Avalos thanked Mr. Ross for his update and invited him to present at another meeting.

President Avalos thanked Officers Nunez, Munguia and Sargent O'Hara for their updates and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 2c was closed

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

Officer Luis Garcia gave an update on the San Fernando Gardens. Officers are actively patrolling and performing searches. Last night at 2:00 a.m., there was a traffic stop that involved one individual on probation, narcotics found (methamphetamine and cocaine), marijuana, a large amount of US currency, and a high-capacity magazine Glock pistol. Two of the three occupants were arrested on possession of firearms and drugs.

April 2nd we will be hosting an Easter and back to school event at Pacoima Charter School. We are giving away school supplies along with candy and goodies. We are expecting and preparing for 500 vehicles.

President Avalos asked Officer Garcia if the Council can partner with the upcoming giveaway with face masks and hand sanitizer. Officer Garcia requested that President Avalos email the Council logo and he will have it placed on the Easter/back to school flyer.

Sargent O'Hara updated officer Garcia's report and stated that last night's arrest was triggered by the fact that the bad guys caught the attention of officers because they were driving around with their car lights out. The confiscation of the high-powered weapon most likely prevented a shooting.

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 2d 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 pop-up vaccination sites have been kicked off in Sylmar, Pacoima, and Sunland and the cycle will be repeated. Over 2100 vaccines were distributed for our district and we verified resident eligibility. Qualifying candidates are seniors, medical personnel, first responders, teachers, food handles, custodians and janitors, and public transportation workers. The 16-64 age group with underlying conditions now also qualify. Call our office to verify eligibility and we will inform you on the documentation to bring.

Councilwoman Rodriguez' Office has COVID-19 care kits and a home drop

off can be arranged.

Street resurfacing is in progress in the area behind Food for Less and around the Senior Center in the Mercer Street area.

The Bright Spot Program is doing an amazing job in the Glen Oaks and Paxton Street areas around Glen Oaks and Van Nuys. The Bright Spot Program is bringing life back to these areas. Ms. Carmona screen shared successful clean-up projects.

If anyone has fireworks concerns in their community around the 4th of July, please use the 311 platform to have residents report concerns.

Ms. Carmona stated that Councilwoman Rodriguez' Office introduced a motion for funding for \$2M for COVID-19 accessible mobile hotspots for individuals who may need vaccination for school or work-from-home.

Ms. Carmona also stated that Councilwoman Rodriguez is working on a strategic plan to address overall crime in the area and when it is finalized, Ms. Carmona will update the Council.

Ms. Carmona solicited any questions from the floor.

Boardmember Garcia stated that there is an immediate need for a deaf unhoused individual on San Fernando Road and Osbourne. LASA and LAPD and your office have reached out to him and he refuses all help and his encampment is getting larger every day. Can you assist this individual?

Ms. Carmona stated that a lead staff member, Christian in our office, is working very hard to assist this individual, and it is challenging. Services have been cut from Sanitation that have scaled down our proactive work and all we can do is continued outreach. He is deaf and we provide those communication services. When homelessness issues arise, please call in during scheduled Council Meetings and address the Council. It would be good to hear from the community members from our district at the meetings. Ms. Carmona will share the upcoming Council dates and agenda items so you can call in and talk about it at a Council meeting.

Boardmember Hernandez stated that it would be helpful if the 311-app information could be printed on utility bills so that city residents could get the helpful information.

Stakeholder Michelle Rochell was recognized to speak and stated that the area of Glen Oaks and Arroyo would benefit from cleaning as there are a lot of vendors in that area.

Mr. Carmona provided phone and email contact information to be: Susan.carmon@lacity.org or 818/485-0600.

Ms. Carmona solicited any questions from the floor.

President Avalos thanked Ms. Carmona for her update and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 2e was closed.

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

Ms. Adriana Cabrera introduced herself as the new Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate and stated that there has been a transition of department staff, as staffing has decreased by eight individuals. Julian Anthony is the new Director and she would like to invite the new Director to a Council meeting.

Elections begin April 20th. There is a vote by mail option that begins on April 13th. The candidate filing period ended in February. Visit the City Clerk to receive a ballot. Our ballot drop-off location is the Pacoima Library located at 13605 Van Nuys Boulevard. Voting begins Friday, April 16th at 9:00 a.m. and closes on Tuesday, April 20th at 9:00 p.m.

Ms. Cabrera provided her contact email and phone information to be: Adrianna.Cabrera@lacity.org or 213/473-7469.

Ms. Cabrera solicited any questions from the floor.

President Avalos thanked Ms. Cabrera for her update and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 2f was closed.

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

Ms. Marcial updated the Council stating that Boardmember Gonez was elected last year to Board President. Schools are preparing for hybrid learning within the perimeters of state and county. Tutoring, special needs, language immersion, and athletic training have already begun. We have opened 8 vaccination sites for employees so we can safely reopen. We have installed filters, Plexiglas barriers, and spaced-out seating and will provide PPE equipment. We are scheduled to open next month on the elementary level with high schools opening later. Parent have been notified and received a link to a form to stay in-distance learning or participate in the hybrid model. This Friday is the last day to fill out the form. Parents can switch every 2 weeks from hybrid to in-person. Please visit achievelausd.net for additional information.

Ms. Marcial solicited any questions from the floor.

Boardmember Moran asked if there any specific plan or action to address mistrust in the community.

Ms. Marcial stated that all efforts are being made to inform families from coffee with the Principal, updated websites, and links and picture clips of the newly designed classrooms to make parents comfortable. Our campuses will be extremely safe. Please help us spread the word.

President Avalos thanked Ms. Marcial for her update and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 2g was closed.

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

No Action Taken.

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

Field Deputy Caroline Menjivar introduced two students from the Mayor Youth Council to give reports, Ms. Hernandez and Jacqueline Corona.

Ms. Hernandez outlined a newly developed program for homeowners to provide rental housing to seniors. Ms. Jacqueline Corona stated that the Mayor is hosting a gun turn in event this Saturday. Gift cards will be distributed in exchange for weapons.

Ms. Menjivar stated that emergency rental assistance will become available for applications beginning March 30th and updated the Council that veterans are eligible for vaccinations.

Ms. Menjivar provided her contact information to be 310/268-4900.

Ms. Menjivar solicited any questions from the floor.

President Avalos thanked Ms. Menjivar for her update and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 2i was closed.

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

No Action Taken.

- k. Region 1 Budget Advocate
Foothill Trails NC President

No Action Taken.

3. 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).

Member Venencia stated that Boardmember Pacheco previously shared information about overflow vaccines and many Boardmembers were able to acquire overflow vaccinations.

President Avalos solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 3 was closed.

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

President's Report

President Avalos stated that she has responded to a vast number of questions by emails from the community. The Pacoima Safety Council had a drive-in and face masks and hand sanitizer were distributed with our logo.

Vice-President's Report

Vice-President Khan requested that all committees provide meeting dates.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Justice stated that the MERs, outreach items and web corner expenses are current. The outreach items should be received in about a week. The billboard contract is being reviewed and there will be a decision by Friday before the meeting. The payment will be in full and not carry over to the next Council.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Urquiza stated no update at this time.

Outreach Committee - Announce Upcoming Meeting Date

Boardmember Venencia stated that the meeting last week was postponed. Our meetings are the second Tuesday of the month. Tammie Reese was going to be our speaker; however, she will be presenting later in this meeting for possible grant. Ms. Reese is the nutrition director at the multipurpose senior center and oversees all the nutrition programs for senior adults.

Public Health and Safety Committee - Announce Upcoming Meeting Date

President Avalos is working with Officer Nunez and Police Department and will announce the upcoming meeting date, they are brainstorming an event for the community.

Arts & Culture Committee - Announce Upcoming Meeting Date

No Action Taken

Housing, Economic Development and Land Use Committee - Announce Upcoming Meeting Date

Vice-President Khan stated that the next meeting is Thursday, March 25th and will post the agenda.

Youth and Education Development Committee - Announce Upcoming Meeting Date

Boardmember Moran stated that the committee has not met and there is no update at this time. Returning to school safely is one of their priorities.

Chairperson Board Member Comments/Announcements

Boardmember Ruben stated that the Council's mail has not been picked up on a regular basis. There is old mail regarding liquor licenses and camouflaged cell towers that have not been addressed on in a timely manner.

Treasurer Justice and President Avalos stated that they have been going to pick up the mail weekly and their staff changes and sometimes don't recognize us as Council members.

Boardmember Ruben reminded the Council to be cautious when using the word donate and preface the conversation with the work partner.

Board member Moran thanked Boardmembers who have been tagging the Neighborhood Council in their community participation on social media.

President Avalos solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 4 was closed.

Presentations (10 minutes):

- a. **Associate Director of Outreach Programs for Climate Resolve - Presentation on extreme heat resources available to residents of LA - by Gabriel Varela (15 Minutes)**

Mr. Gabriel Varela from Climate Resolve gave a PowerPoint presentation addressing our era's extraordinary challenge or the urban heat island effects and how we can protect our community. The effects of extreme heat influence our health and the valley will be most impacted. People who work outdoors are more vulnerable and individuals that do not have air conditioning will also be impacted. Trees provide canopies and there is a program called City Plants that distributes free trees. There is also a Cool Roof Ordinance through LADWP/safe for roofing rebates for homeowners who install efficient roofs. The used electric vehicle rebate program offers rebates to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases. Increased urban air temperatures from both urban heat island effects and climate change mean more smog, wildfires, poor air quality, respiratory illness, heart related illness, and hospitalizations. Heat is the leading health related cause of death as it is hard for our bodies to adjust to heat. Mr. Varela provided his

email address and phone number to be: gvarela@climateresolve.org
213/634-3790x107.

Treasurer Justice asked about City Plants free trees and if there were any local offices.

Mr. Varela informed Treasurer Justice to contact their website and there are offices everywhere.

Stakeholder Michelle Rochelle was recognized to speak and stated that the presentation was informative and how is this information being distributed to the community? Ms. Rochelle stated outreach be conducted at community parks.

Mr. Varela stated that COVID-19 has made it difficult to disperse information but we are presenting at local communities to outreach. Our website has information.

President Avalos thanked Mr. Varela and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 4a was closed.

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.

b. Motion/Discussion/vote for the approval Monthly Expenditure Reports (MER's) for:

- i. February 2021

Treasurer Justice stated the MERs were for operations and the web corner fees.

Vice-President Kahn made the motion to approve the February MERs that was seconded by President Avalos.

Treasurer Justice called for a vote:

1	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
absent	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
1	Anna Justice, Treasurer
1	Alex Morales, Boardmember
0	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
1	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
1	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
0	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
recused	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember
9	Motion passed 9-0, 1 recused, 2 absent, 1 absent at the time the vote was called

c. Motion/discussion/vote for the approval of the February 2021 minutes

Boardmember Fannie Long made the motion to approve the February 2021 Minutes as submitted that was seconded by Vice-Chairperson Kahn.

Treasurer Justice called for a vote:

1	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
1	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
absent	Anna Justice, Treasurer
1	Alex Morales, Boardmember
0	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
1	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
1	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
0	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
1	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember
10	Motion passed 10-0, 2 absent, 1 absent at the time the vote was called

d. Motion/discussion/vote for the approval for 4500 to sponsor hot meal program for the elderly at Alicia Broadus Duncan Multipurpose senior center located at 11300 Glenoaks Blvd - By Daniel Valencia

Ms. Tammie Reese Williams, Executive Nutrition Director gave a presentation on the Valley Inter Community Council Nutrition Program. The VIC creates positive change within communities in the greater San Fernando Valley as we serve, support, and engage others through unity and faith in action. They distribute meals to North East Valley, Northwest Valley, Mid-Valley, and Sherman Oaks. When COVID-19 hit, all 19 centers were shut down, and 4 senior centers became distribution centers. At this time there is increased food insecurity with older adults. At this time, we distribute 950,000 meals weekly and ran out of funding in February 2021. We now have 178 seniors on a waiting list. Our request of \$4,500 would cover meals for one month for 37 seniors in our community.

Ms. Williams thank the Council for their consideration and stated that they could partner with the Neighborhood Council and insert flyers or materials into the food bags to distribute to the community as a courier service in the meal bags. Ms. Williams also invited the Neighborhood Council to participate post COVID-19 at their senior centers when it is safe to meet in person.

Board member Garcia commended Ms. Williams on her dedication and good work in the community and asked if additional funding is available to her program through the Presidential Relief Package or City Council.

Ms. Williams stated the funding is provided through the County and there is a qualification process. We received additional help for Thanksgiving meals and the Holidays.

Treasurer Justice asked Ms. Williams if she has reached out to MEND and she will email her contact information. Treasurer Justice updated Ms. Williams that funds for MEND cannot be allocated to payroll, only food.

Vice-President Kahn verified with Ms. Williams that 178 seniors are on the waiting list and 37 seniors are not receiving any food right now. Vice-President Kahn thanked Ms. Williams for her community service.

Galaxy A21 was recognized to speak and thanked Ms. Williams for her community service to seniors. It is sad to see 178 seniors on a waiting list to receive basic food and stated that the organization Food Forward is a possible resource.

Treasurer Justice requested that Pacoima Neighborhood Council be partnered on their website.

President Avalos thanked Ms. Williams for her presentation and solicited any additional questions from the floor. Seeing none, Item 5d was closed.

President Avalos made the motion to approve the request for 4500 to sponsor the hot meal program for the elderly at Alicia Broadus Duncan Multipurpose senior center located at 11300 Glenoaks Blvd that was seconded by Boardmember Venencia.

Treasurer Justice called for a vote:

1	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
absent	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
1	Anna Justice, Treasurer
1	Alex Morales, Boardmember
0	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
1	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
1	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
0	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
recused	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember
9	Motion passed 9-0, 2 absent, 1 absent at the time the vote was called, 1 recused

e. Motion/Discussion/vote to approve Billboard artwork – by Outreach Committee.

Boardmember Venencia stated that his is working with John Hernandez and screen shared the proposed draft artwork versions. The proposal is for 20 junior billboards scattered throughout Pacoima guiding viewers to Instagram and Facebook pages.

After viewing the Council concluded to move forward with the billboard project stating that the Neighborhood Council webpage be included as that is the location for the posting of the Agendas; however, at times the webpage is not up to date. Billboard #2 was selected and the changing of the word “will” was discussed.

Boardmember Garcia stated that the web corner invoice is being paid and that they should perform their function and update our page. Boardmember Garcia also inquired about the turn-around time from payment to installation.

Boardmember Venencia stated that once the invoice is paid, the turnaround time is approximately two weeks. Treasurer Justice stated that she is awaiting approval on Friday and making payment on Monday.

Michelle AX 21 was recognized to speak and stated that the website should include the webpage.

Treasurer Justice made the motion to approve #2 with the addition of the webpage and the insertion of the word “will” that was seconded by Boardmember Garcia.

Treasurer Justice called for a vote:

1	Elisa Avalos, President
1	Mikayeel Khan, Vice President
absent	Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
1	Anna Justice, Treasurer
1	Alex Morales, Boardmember
0	Fannie Long, Boardmember
1	John Hernandez, Boardmember
1	Daniel Venencia, Boardmember
1	Mireya Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireyari Pacheco, Boardmember
1	Mireira Moran, Boardmember
0	Rebecca Long, Boardmember
1	Reuben Garcia, Boardmember
10	Motion passed 10-0, 2 absent, 1 absent at the time the vote was called

Boardmember Garcia stated that the April meeting will be the last meeting of this term, as the May meeting will be after the election. Boardmember Garcia also suggested that Boardmembers read their job descriptions prior to the election.

Boardmember Morales stated that he is not running in the upcoming election and thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve with them.

6. ADJOURNMENT: President Avalos adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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