

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

## PANORAMA CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

### DIRECTORS

Dianabel Gonzalez, Chair • Tony Wilkinson, VCh  
Martin Geisler, Treas • Pamela Gibberman, Sec  
Elsa Barillas • Elizabeth Galán  
Otis Lee Hopson, VP • Michelle Klein-Hass  
Steven Martinez • Saul Mejia, VP  
Viviano Montes, VP • Jose Sandoval  
Faarax Dahir Sheikh-Noor • Angela Sichler  
Jose Soto, VP • Fred M. Whitebook, VP

Vacant seats: 3 Bus, 1 AtLarge, 1 Unlim. AtLarge  
**Youth Representatives:** Manuel Bernal,  
Danilo Guerra



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
MAYOR

## PANORAMA CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

### POSTAL MAIL

14500 Roscoe Boulevard, Suite 400  
Panorama City, CA 91402

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818-714-2133

### ELECTRONIC MAIL

info@pcnc.us

### WEB SITE

<http://panoramacitync.org>

### ALTERNATES

Alt1 Daniel Jiménez • Alt2 Héctor Galán  
Alt3 Lance Holt • Alt4 Juan Salas  
Alt5 Angel Valdivia

## PANORAMA CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, December 15, 2011 -- 6:30 PM

Mission Community Hospital, Medical Office Building, 2nd Floor, Room 208  
14860 Roscoe Boulevard, Panorama City, CA 91402

Public comments on agenda items will be heard when the item is considered. Public comments on other matters within the council's jurisdiction may be made during the Public Comment period. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker. Action may be taken on any agenda item except Public Comment, announcements and reports. Actions may be reconsidered only if a motion for reconsideration is adopted at the same meeting where the action was taken. You may request a copy of printed materials that are distributed at the meeting. You may record the meeting by audio, video or photographic means as long as it is not disruptive. Meeting notices and agendas are posted at the Panorama City Branch Public Library and at other locations (see list below). If you need translation, or accommodation for a disability, please call the city Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at least three business days in advance (213-485-1360, or toll-free 3-1-1). The city is a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you believe the council is not following the law or its own rules you may file a grievance in writing with copies to both the Chair and the Secretary. Please be respectful of others, even when you differ with them.

***Project Living Hope and LAPD's 8th annual SF Valley holiday event is Sunday, December 18, 11 am to 4 pm, at Vista Middle School. This is a HUGE event with entertainment, games and fun! If you can, please bring an unwrapped toy to the PCNC meeting. We will take the toys to the event.***

- 6:30 1. **Call to Order** and Opening Remarks (Chair Dianabel Gonzalez) [3m]
- 6:33 2. **Self-Introductions** of Participants and Guests (***Please sign the sign-in sheet!***) [3m]
- 6:36 3. **Public Comment** and Announcements (***Please limit to two minutes per speaker.***) Public comment on agenda items will be heard at the time the item is considered. [8m]  
(***Please fill out a Public Speaker Card for the Chair so that we may identify your input. A Public Speaker Card is not required in order to make a public comment.***)
- 6:44 4. **Roll Call** of Board of Directors and Alternates (the quorum for Board meetings is 11) [1m]
- 6:45 5. **Adoption of minutes** [4m]
- 6:49 6. **Reports from the Los Angeles Police Department.** We look forward to welcoming the new Mission Area commander, Captain **Todd C. Chamberlain**. Come and meet our new Captain! Officer **Edwin Ayala** (818-838-9854, mobile 818-634-0718, 34256@lapd.lacity.org) is the Senior Lead Officer in Panorama City's Center-West area. Senior Lead Officer **Karen Reade** (818-838-9842, mobile 818-442-3183, 32851@lapd.lacity.org) serves Panorama City's North and Center-East districts. Officer **Fabiola Humphrey** (818-838-9846, mobile 818-731-2553, 34255@lapd.lacity.org) temporarily covers Panorama City south of Roscoe. [16m]

- 7:05 7. **Report from the Los Angeles Fire Department, Fire Station 81.** Fire Station 81 is Panorama City's main station, located behind The Plant shopping center, at 14355 Arminta St., Panorama City, CA 91402 (818-756-8681). Captain David Cohen (david.cohen@lacity.org) asked if a crew could speak to the Board about LAFD and Station 81 issues. (Captain Cohen's shift will not be on duty on December 15.) [6m]
- 7:09 8. **Presentation of recognition awards.** The Board has approved several recognition awards to individuals and local businesses, as recommended by the Commerce committee. The Education committee also has awards to present to people and organizations who helped with the council-sponsored Education Fair. Certificates of recognition will be presented at this time if the individuals and representatives of the businesses and organizations are present. [4m]
- 7:13 9. **Consideration of the Land Use Committee recommendation that the Board SUPPORT the proposed construction of a new 73,500 square foot medical office building with a height of 45 feet (56.5 feet with rooftop mechanicals) at 8120 Woodman Avenue and an addition to the existing medical office building at 13652 Cantara Street (both at Kaiser Permanente Panorama Medical Center), and OPPOSE the city request that Cantara Street and Woodman Avenue be widened in conjunction with the project.** On December 5 the Land Use committee voted 3 yes, 0 no, with the chair abstaining, in favor of this recommendation.

This project will create new medical office building space to facilitate eventual demolition of the seismically unsound hospital tower on Cantara Street. The new medical office building will be located southwest of the new hospital building's entrance, at the corner of Woodman Avenue and Willard Street. Operations now located in the medical office annex to the East of the old hospital tower will move to the new medical office building on Woodman. Operations now located in the base of the old hospital tower will then move to the medical office annex to the East. That medical office annex will get a new Cantara Street entrance, which will include elevators.

This project has an expedited planning case hearing scheduled in January. Construction is planned to start in June or July 2012 and finish in November 2013. The relocation of medical office operations will then take about three months. The formal opening of the new facilities is scheduled for March 1, 2014. Following the completion of this project and the relocation of the medical office operations, demolition of the old hospital tower could start, probably in early 2015. The planning case numbers are **DIR-2011-2558-SPR** and **ENV-2011-2559-EAF**. Kaiser Permanente is represented by **Allen Concepcion** (818-487-6784) in the planning documents. Kaiser Permanente was represented by **Brad M. Rosenheim** of Rosenheim & Associates, Inc. (brad@raa-inc.com, 818-716-2689) before the Land Use committee. The project was designed by CO Architects, **Eyal Parchik**, AIA, Principal (eperchik@coarchitects.com, 323-525-0955). Kaiser Permanente's Project Manager is **Taylor Burch** (taylor.x.burch@kp.org, 818-375-2993). KP's **Skyler Denniston** (skyler.x.denniston@kp.org, 323-259-5415) also appeared before the Land Use committee. Kaiser's Community Relations representative is **Amy Wiese** (818-375-2217, amy.c.wiese@kp.org). [20m]

- 7:33 10. **Consideration and possible action on any applications for vacant positions.** Five seats are vacant: **Business** (term expires 2014), **Business** (two, exp. 2012), **At-Large** (exp. 2012), **Unlimited At-Large** (exp. 2014). Applicants must apply in writing to the Secretary. The Secretary must be able to verify that each applicant is a stakeholder who qualifies for the specific position. Applications and verifications may be made on the day of the meeting. However, the Board has expressed a preference that applicants participate in committees and events before applying for a seat on the Board. It is essential that Board members and Alternates reliably attend monthly meetings in order to assure a quorum. **Edward Serrano** (edward\_serrano@rocketmail.com, 818-891-3542) has expressed interest in applying for a Business seat. **Noel Olazaba** (usmcamf@gmail.com, 818-428-0178) has expressed interest in

applying for the Unlimited At-Large seat as a factual basis stakeholder. [6m]

- 7:39 11. Consideration and possible action on requests to appoint additional Youth Representatives to the Board.** One Youth Representative is required by the council's bylaws. This Youth Representative is a non-voting position with a one-year term that allows a young stakeholder (under 18) to participate on the Board. The bylaws do not prohibit the Board from appointing additional Youth Representatives. If approved, additional Youth Representatives would join **Manuel Bernal** (manuel\_i\_bernal@yahoo.com, 818-271-1782), who was nominated by Saul Mejia and appointed by the Board on August 25 and **Danilo Guerra** (vdsg818@gmail.com, 818-235-9817), who was nominated by Saul Mejia and appointed by the Board on November 17. [3m]
- 7:42 12. Consideration and possible action on any appointments by committee chairs to their respective committees.** Members of each standing committee are selected by the committee chair, subject to approval of the Board, as provided in the council's Bylaws. The council has an informal practice of following the same procedure for its three annually-renewed special committees, City Life, Education, and Public Safety. Although there is no requirement that the Board approve committee officers other than the Chair, Commerce committee Chair Saul Mejia asks that the Board concur in his appointment of committee member **Emily Roberts** as Vice Chair of the Commerce committee. [3m]
- 7:45 13. Consider the financial statements prepared by the treasurer in order to approve them as official council records.** Neighborhood councils are required to review and approve financial statements each month, including purchase card bank statements, to assure that the Board has access to timely financial information. [5m]
- 7:50 14. Consideration and possible action on the City Life committee recommendation that the Board SUPPORT the concept of sidewalk art proposed by the Panorama High School Key Club and encourage a demonstration project on the campus of Panorama High School.** The student concept is an ongoing program where sections of sidewalk would be removed and replaced with artwork panels commissioned by local organizations. There would be a design review process to assure quality and acceptability to the community. The main focus of the example photographs that were presented to the City Life committee was mosaic art panels. Considering the complications of city planning and permits, the cost of work on city sidewalks, and the streetscape work scheduled in the Panorama City Business Improvement District, the committee suggested that a demonstration project on the walkways on school district property in front of Panorama High School would be a good way to introduce the concept to the community. On December 12 the City Life committee voted 3 yes, 0 no, to make this recommendation. [8m]
- 7:58 15. Consideration and possible action on the City Life committee recommendation that the Board OPPOSE any change in the city's current sidewalk repair policy.**

**BACKGROUND:** In 1973 the City of Los Angeles, armed with funds from the federal government, magnanimously took over the responsibility for sidewalk repair, removing this burden from homeowners. The federal money soon ran out. Since then the city has struggled to maintain its 10,750 miles of sidewalks. Faced with an ongoing budget crisis, numerous city councilmembers are once again trying to shift the sidewalk repair burden back to homeowners. The problem is that the city estimates that 42 percent of sidewalks need repair at a cost of \$1.6 billion. Any council action to change the status quo is certain to include a mandatory component that will force property owners to repair permanently sidewalks that today the city usually patches with asphalt. This cost would amount to many thousands of dollars per home. A recent report to the City Council by the Chief Administrative Officer listed numerous options to address the situation. One of those was to do nothing.

On December 12 the City Life committee considered the sidewalk issue and recommended, by a vote of 3 yes, 0 no, that the Board oppose any change to the city's sidewalk repair policy at this time. There has been inadequate outreach to the community on this issue, particularly regarding the nature of funding requirements. The City Life committee believes change should be deferred until the public has weighed in on all of the proposed solutions. [8m]

**8:06 16. Consideration and possible action on the Outreach committee recommendation that the Board approve a certificate of commendation for Panorama High School student musician Jean Castro, for sharing his love of music with others.** This award was suggested by Youth Representative Manuel Bernal, who said that Mr. Castro often practiced at Sepulveda Park and willingly helped other musicians there, that he had won competitive music awards, and that he was helpful in arranging student band participation at the council's Education Fair. At the December 12 Outreach meeting, Dianabel Gonzalez moved and Tony Wilkinson seconded the motion to recommend this award to the Board. The motion passed unanimously. Camille Pili-Jose, Field Representative for Filipe Fuentes, also volunteered to ask for a certificate from the Assemblymember. [4m]

**8:10 17. Consideration and possible action on responses to the City Clerk's Neighborhood Council Election Alternatives Survey. A completed survey approved by the Board is required on or before January 6, 2012 in order to be considered.** [10m]

BACKGROUND: The City Council refused to provide funding for the City Clerk to run neighborhood council elections in the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year, saying that the Clerk's costs were too high. However, the City Clerk is still the only entity allowed to oversee neighborhood council elections. This means that neighborhood councils will be denied the opportunity to conduct their scheduled 2012 elections unless the City Council takes further action. (The only alternative is for NCs to conduct a "selection process" that involves a town hall show of hands or signed, non-secret ballots.) The City Council actually has pending legislation, which it requested, that would delay all NC elections until 2014 and extend all Board terms. There has been widespread opposition among neighborhood councils to the postponement of NC elections. There is an active proposal for oversight of 2012 NC elections to be returned to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

The City Clerk was instructed by the City Council to prepare a report on alternative methods for neighborhood council elections. The Clerk has taken public input at a series of meetings. The Clerk is requiring neighborhood councils to respond to a formal survey on election alternatives by Board action. The survey asks if the council is willing to defer elections to 2014 (PCNC is on record as opposing this), and if not, what are the council's preferences for administering and funding an election process in 2012.

There is also a Stakeholder version of the same survey. Individuals are welcome to complete it and submit their own opinions. PCNC encourages its stakeholders to do so. Say you are part of the Panorama City Neighborhood Council. The Stakeholder survey form is available at: [http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/ncdocs/Stakeholder\\_Election\\_Alternatives\\_Survey\\_10.27.pdf](http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/ncdocs/Stakeholder_Election_Alternatives_Survey_10.27.pdf)

Since the Rules committee ran out of time to consider this survey on Friday, December 9, it was discussed at the Finance committee on December 12. The Finance committee recommended by a vote of 3 yes, 0 no, that the Board approve the following survey responses and authorize either the Chair or the Vice Chair of the Board to sign and submit the survey on or before January 6, 2012.

1. Is your NC willing to postpone elections until 2014...?  
**NO** (The Board already took this position on October 27.)

2. If your NC Board would like to hold a non-City Clerk election prior to 2014, what is your

- Board willing to consider in terms of cost of the election? Please check all that apply.
- Contribute a limited amount of funds toward the cost of the election (e.g., outreach)
  - Cover the full cost of the election
  - Utilize the Town Hall selection process and forgo the election process

3. Who would your NC Board prefer to administer your elections in the future? Please rank the options below in the order your NC would most prefer.

- A) Your NC (using a Town Hall Selection Process)
- B) The Office of the City Clerk
- C) The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)
- D) Independent Election Administrator\*  
\*Supervised by the City Clerk or DONE.
- E) Hybrid administrator (Any combination of options. Please specify.)
- F) Other:

1st [ **D** ]

2nd [ **C** ]

3rd [ ]

4. Which method does your NC Board prefer for electing board members?

- At-Polls Elections
- Vote-By-Mail (VBM) Elections with Neighborhood Voting Centers (Pre-registration required)
- Internet Voting Elections with Neighborhood Voting Centers (Pre-registration required)
- Telephone Voting Elections with Neighborhood Voting Centers (Pre-registration required)
- Hybrid method (Any combination of options). Please specify  
**At-Polls Elections plus Vote-By-Mail**
- Other:

5. As an alternative to the methods above, would your NC Board prefer a Town Hall Election or Town Hall Selection?\*

Town Hall Election (Mandatory secret ballot)

Town Hall Selection\* (Open or public ballot)

\*Due to logistical restrictions, the City Clerk is unable to oversee the Town Hall "selection" method.

6. Please include specific comments from your stakeholders or Board Members that you feel would be valuable as part of this survey:

**Do not cancel 2012 elections. Return elections supervision to DONE, the proven lowest-cost provider.**

**8:20 18. Consideration and possible action on the Outreach committee recommendation that the Board allocate up to \$1,000 for the fifth annual Panorama City Health and Safety Fair.**

This year the fair will have a special emphasis on emergency preparedness. The Ad-Hoc Health Fair committee submitted the following budget for the allocated funds:

- \$ 300.00 Penny Saver (outreach)
- \$ 300.00 LA Fire Department permit
- \$ 300.00 Flyer printing
- \$ 100.00 Subway food for volunteers

On December 12 the Outreach committee voted 4 yes, 0 no, to support this request. [4m]

**8:24 19. Consideration and possible action to create two 2012 Ad-Hoc committees: the 2012 Health Fair committee and the 2012 Youth Summit committee, and to name Board member Jose Sandoval and Alternate Angel Valdiva as the respective committee chairs.**

There is no requirement that the Board create Ad-Hoc committees. (They can be created by the Chair of the Board.) Ad-Hoc committees are set up for specific purposes that have an

ending date. These two committees support long-standing PCNC events. (The Youth Summit is the Gang Summit with a different face, and 2011 was its fourth year. The Health and Safety Fair will have its fifth year in 2012.) It would be good if each of these important committees had the formal support of the entire Board. [3m]

**8:27 20. Consideration and possible action on the Commerce committee recommendation of November 14 that the Board award certificates of appreciation to the sponsors of Fiesta Panorama.** The Fiesta Panorama event was held on Saturday, October 1, on Vesper Street between Chase and Parthenia streets. It consisted of service booths, food trucks and continuous entertainment. Cosponsors included **City Councilmember Richard Alarcon** (whose support is appreciated but for whom a certificate was not requested), **Dr. Barry Leonard Optical, Filipino American Chamber of Commerce - LA, Mission Community Hospital, Panorama City Business Improvement District, Panorama Mall, Plaza Del Valle, Southern California Pilipino Chamber of Commerce, and Team Empowerment & Associates/WFG**, (*This item was inadvertently omitted from the November Board agenda.*) [3m]

**8:30 21. Consideration and possible action on the Commerce committee recommendation of November 14 that the Board award certificates of appreciation to the volunteers at Fiesta Panorama.** The Fiesta Panorama event was held on Saturday, October 1, on Vesper Street between Chase and Parthenia streets. It consisted of service booths, food trucks and continuous entertainment. Volunteers assisted with directing traffic, parking control, and cleanup before and after the event. A list of volunteers for whom awards are sought was not provided by the Commerce committee. (*This item was inadvertently omitted from the November Board agenda.*) [4m]

**8:34 22. Consideration and possible action on the Commerce committee recommendation of November 14 that the Board award certificates of appreciation to the performers at Fiesta Panorama.** The Fiesta Panorama event was held on Saturday, October 1, on Vesper Street between Chase and Parthenia streets. It consisted of service booths, food trucks and continuous entertainment. Performers included "**Gustavo VII**", who served as the Master of Ceremonies, **Mariachi De Mi Tierra**, and the rock band **Solaz**. The Commerce committee asked that the Board award certificates to "all the performers", but did not list other potential recipients. (*This item was inadvertently omitted from the November Board agenda.*) [4m]

**8:38 23. Committee reports** Committees that have business to report (other than the agenda items above) will provide brief reports at this time. The council currently has five standing committees three special committees and two ad-hoc committees. [7m]

**STANDING COMMITTEES (Chair and Vice President)**

Commerce .....	Saul Mejia	saulmejia99@yahoo.com	818-714-2133
Finance .....	Tony Wilkinson	lawilkinson@acm.org	818-785-9355
Land Use .....	Fred M. Whitebook	workcompmaven@yahoo.com	818-894-7841
Outreach .....	Viviano Montes	vivianom@yahoo.com	818-780-4586
Rules .....	Otis Lee Hopson	otishopson@yahoo.com	818-893-6019
<b>SPECIAL COMMITTEES (Chair)</b>			
City Life.....	Jose Soto	joesoto007@aol.com	818-339-2812
Education.....	Dianabel Gonzales	dbelgonzalez@yahoo.com	818-304-4285
Public Safety .....	Jose Soto	joesoto007@aol.com	818-339-2812
<b>AD-HOC COMMITTEES (Chair)</b>			
2011 Youth Summit.....	Angel Valdivia	angval52@mac.com	818-714-2133
Health Fair .....	Jose Sandoval	josand71@hotmail.com	818-984-2133

**8:45 24. Public Comment and Announcements.** (*Please limit to two minutes per speaker.*) [5m]

**8:50 25. Adjournment**

**Council Process:** The council gained its official city role upon certification by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners on March 15, 2007. Everyone who lives, works or owns property within the boundaries of the Panorama City Neighborhood Council, or who declares an interest in the area and the factual basis for it, is a "stakeholder". All stakeholders are members of the Council. Stakeholders elect a Board of Directors to represent them. This Board is recognized as the decision-making entity by the City of Los Angeles. The current Board was elected on March 27, 2010. While the Board is the official decision-making entity, meetings are conducted as much as possible in a town hall spirit. Committees are open to anyone with an interest in Panorama City. Panorama City's neighborhood council is much more than its Board, and it depends on public participation for its success.

**Posting Sites:** Meeting notices and agendas are posted at five locations within Panorama City (three days in advance for regular meetings and one day in advance for special meetings). The posting sites are: (1) **Panorama City Branch Library**, 14345 Roscoe Boulevard; (2) **Panorama Recreation Center**, 8600 Hazeltine Avenue; (3) **Valley Ice Center**, 8750 Van Nuys Boulevard; (4) **Sepulveda Recreation Center**, 8801 Kester Avenue; (5) **Casa Esperanza**, 14705 Blythe Street. You can receive notices and agendas by electronic mail. Please send your request to '[info@pcnc.us](mailto:info@pcnc.us)'. We ask that you please also include your name and telephone number.

**Agenda-related written materials:** The council may occasionally prepare supplementary information to the agenda ("agenda packets"). When this is done, the agenda packets are normally made available both to Board or committee members and to the general public at the start of the posted meeting. In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board or committee *in advance of a meeting* may be viewed by appointment at the Panorama City Neighborhood Council office, 14500 Roscoe Boulevard, Suite 425, Panorama City, CA 91401, (818-714-2133) during normal business hours, or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Pamela Gibberman, Secretary, 14500 Roscoe Boulevard, Suite 400, Panorama City, CA 91402 (818-893-2020, [pgibberman@gmail.com](mailto:pgibberman@gmail.com)).