



Northridge East Neighborhood Council

18401 Lassen St.
 Northridge, CA 91325
 818-527-2913
 Email: info@NENC-LA.org
 Website: www.nenc-la.org

**NENC Board Meeting
 Draft Minutes
 January 15, 2025
 7:05PM-10:05PM**

Zoom Virtual Meeting
 Meeting Access Information:
<https://zoom.us/j/92753645271>
 Meeting ID: 927 5364 5271
 Password: no password required
 Toll Free number 888-475-44999

Boardmember	Roll Call	Funding Vote Eligible*	Category
Samuel Avendano	Joined in Item 3	No	Youth
Glenn Bailey President	Present	Yes	At Large Stakeholder
Judy Diamond Treasurer	Present	Yes	At Large Stakeholder
Todd Jackson Jr.	Present	No	Resident Boardmember
Sean Laird	Present	Yes	Resident Boardmember
Stephanie Mills 1 st Vice President	Present	Yes	Property Owner
Shefali Mistry	Present	Yes	CSUN Faculty
Barbara Nitkin	Absent	Yes	Resident Boardmember
Ken Ross 2 nd Vice President	Present	Yes	Property Owner
Keiry Saravia	Absent/Excused	Yes	CSUN Student Body
Sydney Thiroux Secretary	Present	Yes	Resident Boardmember
Christopher Meredith	Present	Yes	Alternate 1
Garry Fordyce	Present	Yes	Alternate 2
Vacant			Alternate 3
Vacant			Resident Boardmember
Vacant			Resident Boardmember
Vacant			Resident Boardmember
Vacant			Business Owner or Employee
TOTAL: 10 +02 Alternates	PRESENT 10-Absent 02+ Alternate-02 Absent-00		

1. Start Recording, Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Welcome to Stakeholders; Introductory Comments (audio/visual participation and recusal reminders; public comment) **The meeting was called to order at 7:10PM. Glenn Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was postponed. There is a roundtable section during the meeting in regards to the wildfires.**
2. Roll Call, Seating of Alternate(s), Determination of Quorum, Voting Eligibility (Ethics, Funding, Code of Conduct, Anti-Bias, Gender Expression and Gender Identity; view Board member training status at www.EmpowerLA.org/NENC); Abstentions="No." **Quorum was reached Jackson is ineligible to vote. Mr. Meredith was seated in a Vacant Resident Seat. Mr. Fordyce was seated in the Vacant Business Owner or Employee Seat**

NENC ITEM: 2 Roll Call		
Present-08+ 02 Alternates	Absent-02	Excused-01
Bailey, Diamond, Jackson, Laird, Mills, Mistry, Ross, Thiroux, Alternate: Fordyce, Meredith	Nitkin	Saravia

- a. Board member remote participation requests for this or any upcoming NENC meetings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(f) ([AB 2449](#)). [NOTE: If applicable, disclosure of anyone age 18+ also present is required.] - possible MOTION **-No Action Taken**

Barbara Nitkin joined the meeting at 7:17PM

- 3. Notice of NENC Board Vacancies - Three Resident seats (2027), one Business/Employee seat (2025), one Youth seat (2025) and one Alternate 3 (2025). Qualified Stakeholders interested in serving may obtain more information by emailing: info@NENC-LA.org Documentation will be required. Per NENC Bylaws, appointment is made by the President and approved by the Board. - possible MOTION(s)-

**Attends Granada Hills Charter High School. He takes rigorous classes. He is on the Speech and Debate team. He feels learning is a privilege. He is working on his Associates Degree at Pierce College
Scott Schmerelson lead the Neighborhood Council Pledge for the new Boardmembers.**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed

NENC ITEM 3. Motion to approve the appointment of Samuel Avendano to the vacant Youth Seat expiring in 2027. Moved: Diamond Seconded: Ross				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-02
Bailey, Diamond, Laird, Mills, Mistry, Nitkin, Ross, Thiroux, Alternates: Fordyce, Meredith	None	None	Jackson	Saravia

- 4. Agenda Setting Meeting 1/10/2025 was cancelled due to declared emergency and other logistical challenges.- **Reviewed**

- 5. Approval of Minutes – November 20, 2024, December 18, 2024 and any other earlier dates-**Item Postponed**

- a. Links to Zoom recordings of Board meetings are posted on NENC [Agendas and Minutes webpage](#)

- 6. Financial Item(s) - Discussion and possible action:

- a. Approval of December 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) - amount spent: \$ 5,272.40.

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed

NENC ITEM 6a. Motion to approve the Approval of December 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) - amount spent: \$ 5,272.40. Moved: Diamond Seconded: Nitkin				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-02	Absent-01
Bailey, Diamond, Laird, Mills, Mistry, Nitkin, Ross, Thiroux, Alternates: Fordyce, Meredith	None	None	Avendano, Jackson	Saravia

(All NC MERs are posted on City Clerk's [NC Funding System Dashboard](#); click on MER tab. Recent NENC MERs with back up documentation are also posted on the NENC website under Finance Committee: <https://www.nenc-la.org/committees/budget-and-finance-committee/>)

- b. Possible consideration of Neighborhood Purposes Grant Application from the California State University Northridge Foundation for the CSUN Food Pantry to purchase non-perishable food items; amount requested \$5,000. - possible MOTION or referral to Committee-**Item Postponed**

7. Announcements/Presentations/Guest Speakers

- a. **Neighborhood Council Election 2025 - Vote by Mail Only:** NENC Seats open in 2025 are: *At-Large (1); *Property Owner (1); *Resident (3) - (*Four-year terms)

Business Owner and Employee (1); **Youth (1); Alternate (3) - (Two-year terms)

Candidate filing January 17 to March 3, 2025. Voter registration for Vote by Mail Ballot March 21 to May 11, 2025. Ballots must be returned (postmarked) by May 20, 2024 (Region 2 [Election Day](#)).

[Regional timelines](#) and further details are in the [2025 Neighborhood Council Election Handbook](#)

City Clerk [NC Elections webpage](#):

<https://clerk.lacity.gov/clerk-services/elections/neighborhood-council-elections-Reviewed>

Region 2 NC Election Information Session held 1/13/2025; recording to be posted

City Clerk NC Election Administrator for NENC: Musa Khan - musa.khan@lacity.org

- b. **New Proposed Project:** Five-story, 230-unit apartment building on a 35,786 square-foot lot located at 17715-17719 Kinzie Street. [Case No. CPC-2024-8146-DB-VHCA](#) [NOTE: Related [article posted by Urbanize LA on 12/20/2024](#)]-**Reviewed**

Public Comments-

- a. **Tom- This is against the Master Plan and is concerned about the lack of parking**
- b. **Pat Lopresti-The Neighbors need to be informed**

- c. **Round Table Discussion on Recent Wildfires in the City of Los Angeles**

- i. City homepage features emergency information: <https://lacity.gov/>
- ii. County emergency webpage: <https://lacounty.gov/emergency/> (sign up for notifications)
- iii. Discussion of various issues and concerns including but not limited to:

24 new Motions in regards to the fires were submitted to the City Council yesterday.

1. Notifications (including erroneous ones), evacuation routes and locations-
Northridge Re Center was being used by Firefighters.
Many comments were made about evacuation centers
There needs to be better communication
2. Adequacy of water supply and pressure (fire hydrants)-
DWP is in charge of the water.
Preparation is important
3. City budget for LA Fire Department - unfunded requests?
4. \$150 billion in property damages (estimated) - fiscal impact to the City?
5. Supporting first responders (local Fire Stations); LAFD Foundation
There needs to be better communication so people a support traveling Firefighters.
6. Other non-profits: Red Cross, Salvation Army, Hope the Valley, etc.
7. LAUSD and school campuses- **Scott Schmerelson-**

The schools in your region Andasol, Balboa, Darby, Dearborn, Holmes, and Northridge Academy High School are all open. The closest school that is still closed is Lanai Elementary in Board District 4. All of the other closures happen to be in the Palisades Area- Canyon Charter Elementary, Kenter Canyon Elementary, Palisades, Charter Elementary, Marquez Charter, Topanga Charter, Lanai Road Charter, Paul Revere Middle School, and Palisades Charter High School.

We reopened the schools after changing the air conditioning filters, putting the schools on inclement weather schedules, limiting outdoor activities, limiting outdoor athletic activities and we continue to advise students and staff with respiratory or chronic health conditions, to consult with health care providers before they return to school and to support our families. The district has set up a family hotline at (213) 443-1300 is available Monday through Friday to provide resources to answer questions and offers of assistance.

We understand the importance of timely updates during emergencies. Families can visit LAUSD.net for the latest information about closures, safety protocols, and other important. This week we are focused on strengthening preparedness. Thank you to the first responders for their support, and thank you for putting your trust in LAUSD.

Mills-asked for better communication, some parents kept their kids home due to the fires and power outages. Ross-asked if the schools can be used as evacuation centers. He wants them pre assigned before an emergency. (Mr. Schmerelson will get back to them).

Fordyce-Asked if any schools are being used to provide services for fire victims (not at this time)

8. Animals and the West Valley Animal Shelter

Assembly member Pilar Shiavo, David Geihs, Assembly member Shiavo recently co-authored 2 bills related to the fires. The 1st is Ab. 238. It's the Mortgage Deferment Act.

So, under this act borrowers are entitled to request an initial forbearance of their monthly mortgage payments for up to 180 days, and may request an additional 180 days, and during this period there would be no late fees, penalties, or additional interest assessed, and foreclosure proceedings are prohibited, giving homeowners time to recover from financial hardships caused by the wildfires.

The second bill which she co-authored is AB239 It's the State led Disaster Housing Task Force.

Its primary purpose is to assist with coordination between the Federal State agency and departments and local municipalities. And this bill is modeled after FEMA guidance that each state establishes.

Glenn Bailey mentioned SB411 and the need to have it continued.

- iv. [CF 25-0030](#) (Acting) [Mayor's Declaration of Local Emergency](#), dated January 7, 2025, relative to the existence of a local emergency as the City of Los Angeles is impacted by windstorms and an extreme fire weather system. – MOTION- **No Action Taken**
- v. Consideration of a possible MOTION to authorize an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the purchase of emergency items, including supplies, refreshments, snacks, evacuation shelter amenities, etc. as requested by the City (Fire, Police, Emergency Management, and/or Recreation and Parks departments) and/or by non-profit service providers such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Hope the Valley, etc. during this declared City/County/State emergency - possible MOTION

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed

NENC ITEM 7v. Motion as amended to authorize an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the purchase of emergency items, including supplies, refreshments, snacks, evacuation shelter amenities, etc. as requested by the City (Fire, Police, Emergency Management, and/or Recreation and Parks departments) Los Angeles Animal Services, (West Valley Shelter) by and/or non-profit service providers such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Hope of the Valley, World Central Kitchen, etc. during this declared City/County/State emergency. Moved: Mills Seconded: Diamond

Yes-09	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-02	Absent-01
--------	-------	------------	---------------	-----------

Bailey, Diamond, Laird, Mills, Mistry, Nitkin, Ross, Thiroux, Alternates: Meredith	None	Fordyce	Avendano, Jackson	Saravia
--	------	---------	-------------------	---------

- 8. Public comments on non-agenda items within the NENC’s subject matter jurisdiction (up to two minutes per speaker)
 - a. **Ms. Ruiz- Shelter Manager at Ritchie Valens Recreation Center- Salute to Recreation Family Festival Is interested in getting funds for the event. It will be held in mid-May, possibly 16th,17th,and 18th.**
 - b. **Lionel 24 New Council Files you must be at City Hall to give Public Comment. An LAFD Bond Measure is being initiated**

9. Comments/Reports from Representatives of Public Officials [CD 12](#) Myrka Martinez

Councilmember John Lee's Committee Assignments:

Chair of Public Safety Committee

Vice Chair of the Government Operations Committee

Member of:

Planning and Land Use Management Committee

Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Ad Hoc Committee on Unarmed Crisis Prevention, Intervention, and Community Services

Legislative Updates:

Councilmember Lee co-introduced nine motions with Councilmember Park related to the January 2025 wildfires.

- 1. Instruct CLA and LA County to procure an outside entity to prepare a comprehensive After Action Report of the City and County emergency response.**
- 2. Instruct LADWP to establish a formal protocol with LAFD to provide weekly updates to LAFD on all water reservoirs and critical water infrastructure to ensure that LAFD is fully informed of any potential gaps in water resources that may impact firefighting capabilities during emergencies.**
- 3. Request the Department of Recreation and Parks to immediately close all parks in the City's Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones during the current Red Flag Warning ending January 15, 2025 at 6:00 PM.**
- 4. Instruct LAFD to report to Council on the current status of the Department, its ability to manage wildfires of this magnitude, and any issues they encountered in their efforts to protect life and property.**
- 5. Request that the City Attorney prosecute all misdemeanors related to the fires including curfew violations, evacuation order violations, and impersonation of public safety personnel.**
- 6. Request the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance amending the LAMC to include penalties for housing/lodging price gouging; this also includes a request for a report on the status of available resources to prosecute and outreach efforts.**
- 7. Instruct Bureau of Engineering and Bureau of Sanitation and all necessary departments to assess debris flow and landslide risks in the Palisades Fire burn area and report to Council with a plan to mitigate these risks.**
- 8. TO PUBLIC SAFETY: Instruct EMD, LAFD, and all relevant departments to report to Council on a comprehensive Emergency Preparedness Plan in preparation for mudslide risks following all future wildfire(s) including evacuation plans, SOPs, best practices, assigned responsibilities, an implementation timeline, and any current lack of resources to protect life and property due to mudslides.**

- 9. **TO PUBLIC SAFETY & ARTS/PARKS: Request the City Attorney to prepare and report on an ordinance that would amend LAMC to close parks in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones when Red Flag Days are declared, as well as enforcement options for both compliance and camping.**

I've also included the link to our newsletter release today that provides legislatives along with the council files.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=4e170c2c45&view=lg&permmsgid=msg-f:1821535321481968064&ser=1>

10. Comments/Updates/Announcements by Representatives of City Departments

- a. **DONE** (NEA Octaviano Rios octaviano.rios@lacity.org), **The Department Manager has been sending out resources in regards to the fires. Neighborhood Council Presidents are able to spend up to \$1,000 during a declared emergency without a vote of the Board. A Board vote is taken at the next Board meeting. There is a lot of fraud so stick to nonprofits you know. You need to turn in the receipts and the BAC.**
- b. CSUN reports and updates - TBA and Keiry Saravia-**Shefali Mistry has returned and will be the CSUN Representative.**
 - i. [Associated Students](#) update- **No Report**
 - ii. CSUN has applied, for the vacation of Etiwanda Avenue from Vincennes to Halsted and Lindley Avenue from Plummer to Halsted as well as seven other small street segments to the City of Los Angeles Planning Department. Case No. E1401458. The previously approved application also included various covenants to protect the surrounding residential neighborhood.
- c. NC Budget Advocates: **DONE** "Budget 101 Town Hall" is scheduled for Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. - [registration](#). NCBA Monthly [Report to NC](#) (posted once released). Current Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget Council File is [CF 24-0600](#). NENC City budget and service priorities. Budget Representatives (Glenn Bailey/Garry Fordyce). www.budgetadvocates.org/ **Reviewed**

11. Committee Reports - Standing: Beautification and Weed Abatement (Baker); Education (Peterson); Executive (Bailey); Finance (Diamond); Homelessness (Ross); Outreach (Mills); Planning and Land Use (Diamond/Nitkin); Public Safety (Thiroux/Nitkin) and Sustainability (Bailey/Nitkin). Ad Hoc: Animal Welfare (Ross/Diamond); Bylaws (Bailey/Mills); Dearborn Park (Diamond/Nitkin); NC Election; Van Nuys Airport (Nitkin/Diamond) - Discussion and possible action:

- a. Establishment of new and/or dissolution of existing Ad Hoc committees-**No Action Taken**
- b. Appointment of Committee Chairs or Co-Chairs by President subject to confirmation by Board- **No Action Taken**
- c. Approval of Committee members as requested by Committee Chair/Co-Chairs

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed

NENC ITEM 11. Motion to approve Sydney Thiroux as an alternate on the Education Committee Moved: Meredith Seconded: Diamond				
Yes-11	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-02
Avendano, Bailey, Diamond, Laird, Mills, Mistry, Nitkin, Ross, Thiroux, Alternates: Fordyce, Meredith	None	None	Jackson	Saravia

- d. Announcement of upcoming Committee meeting dates: Education 2/8/2025, 9:00 am; Executive 2/14/2025, 4:00 pm (all dates/times subject to confirmation)- **Reviewed**
 - e. Outreach: upcoming 2025 NC Election-**Reviewed**
 - f. Beautification: **No Action Taken**
 - g. Public Safety: Neighborhood Watch meetings posted on NENC website-**Reviewed**
 - h. Dearborn Park update-**No Action Taken**
 - i. Planning: Update on new/pending or previously considered cases within/adjacent to NENC including but not limited to: (see Informational Items below)
 - i. **Variance reportedly filed for 18175 Chatsworth Street (existing storage facility). Case No. ZA-2024-7832-ZV per Zimas (unable to find on City Planning website).- Reviewed**
 - j. Reports by other Committees listed in item 11 above- **No Reports**
12. NENC President, NC Liaisons, and NC Alliances/Coalitions Reports including, but not limited to: (Discussion and possible action)
- a. President's Report-**No Report**
 - b. NC Liaisons Reports and approval of additional and/or replacement NENC Liaisons-**No Action Taken**
 - c. NC Alliance and Coalition Reports:
 - i. VANC 1/9/2025 meeting featured wildfires - [link to recordings webpage](#). **Reviewed**
13. Council Files (CF) and City Council Motions - Community Impact Statements (CIS) - Discussion and possible action:
14. Informational Items/Announcements
- a. CD 12: Weekly newsletter with community updates: <https://cd12.org/>
 - b. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners [upcoming meetings](#)
 - c. LAFD: [Community Emergency Response Team \(CERT\)](#) classes
 - d. LAPD: Neighborhood Watch meetings via Zoom (see NENC [website](#) for details); there are four [Basic Cars/Senior Lead Officers](#) who cover portions of NENC: 17A95 (SLO Knopp), 17A67 (SLO Zamora), 17A35 (SLO Parker), and 17A49 (SLO Andrachick) - Email: DevonshireSLO@lapd.online
 - e. LAPL Northridge Library: [upcoming events](#); **library has been closed since 10/1/2024 for repairs**
 - f. Recreation and Parks: [Board of Commissioners upcoming meetings](#); next Valley meeting **3/6/2025 (Granada Hills)**
 - g. Sanitation: North Valley [S.A.F.E. \(Solvents/Automotive/Flammables/Electronics\) Center](#) collection site, 10241 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, open every weekend 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for residents to drop off their household hazardous waste and electronic waste.
 - h. Northridge Vision met 1/8/2025; next virtual meeting 2/12/2025, 2 pm
 - i. Aliso Canyon Disaster Health Research Study: [UCLA website](#), including study overview, research timeline, and information about the study team is now live. Also, Environmental Health Research is a related non-profit organization; its [website](#) includes newsletter sign-up
 - j. Planning: Update on previously considered or new/pending cases within/adjacent to NENC including but not limited to:
 - i. Case No. [PAR-2023-4028-AHRF-ED1](#) located at 17829 Halsted St - New construction of a 230 (255?) unit 100% affordable housing project, measuring 7-stories in height with a total residential floor area of 158,817 square feet. (Informational item - no hearing date set yet) [NOTE: Related [article posted by Urbanize LA on 3/11/2024](#)]
 - ii. [Northridge Community Plan](#) was last updated in 1995.
 - k. Planning: Department liaisons email: Planning.Liaison@lacity.org.

- l. NC Liaisons Reports: Animal Services (Ross/Diamond); Data (Kaiser/Bailey); Emergency Preparedness; Film (Dagort); Homelessness (Diamond/Laird/Ross/Bailey); Public Works (Bailey); Purposeful Aging (Thiroux); Resilience (Lundquist)
- m. NC Alliance and Coalition Meetings/Reports: [Valley Alliance of NCs](#) (VANC) (next meeting 2/13/2025, 6:30 pm); [DWP MOU/Advocacy Committees](#) (next meeting 2/1/2025, 8:30 am); [LA NC Coalition](#) (LANCC) (next meeting 2/1/2025, 10 am); [PlanCheckNC](#) (next meeting 2/8/2025, 10 am); NC Emergency Preparedness Alliance (next meeting 1/25/2025, 10 am); [NC Sustainability Alliance](#) (next meeting 2/9/2025, 6:30 pm) and NCSA Trees Committee (next meeting TBA (likely January), 1:30 pm via [Zoom](#))
- n. Upcoming NC or NENC Co-sponsored Events:

15. Public comments on non-agenda items within the NENC's subject matter jurisdiction (continued from item 8; up to two minutes per speaker)- **No Public Comments**

16. Board Member announcements and requests for future agenda items/reconsideration of any motion
- a. **Meredith- They have restriped Lassen from Balboa to Woodley. Heritage Christian School has painted some red curbs and added no parking signs.**
 - b. **Bailey-They have resurfaced Reseda in front of the new apartment complex. Trader Joe's says they will be opening soon.**
 - c. **John and Michele Hales mentioned the Northridge South Neighborhood Council Meeting on Sober Living Homes.**

17. Adjournment- **The meeting was adjourned at 10:05PM**

Next NENC Board regular meeting (third Wednesday): February 19, 2025 (virtual)

Subsequent Board regular meetings: March 19, 2025 (virtual) and April 16, 2025 (virtual)