



## WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

c/o Winnetka Convention Center  
20122 Vanowen St., Winnetka, CA 91306  
[WinnetkaNC.com](http://WinnetkaNC.com) @WinnetkaNC



Chair		Vice-Chair		
David Uebersax		John Poer		
Committee Members				
Steven Fuhrman	Olav Hassel	Victor Lerma	Jojo Pewsawang	Vacant

## PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

(Due to Memorial Day Holiday, please see substitute date and venue below)

Tuesday, May 26, 2015, 7:00 PM

Pizzeria Factory, 19755 Vanowen ST, Winnetka, CA 91306

The Winnetka Neighborhood Council PWT Committee holds its regular meetings on the fourth Monday of every month and may also call any additional required special meetings in accordance with the Winnetka NC Bylaws and the Brown Act. The agenda for a regular or special meeting is posted for public review within Winnetka, 91306, at the following location: **Winnetka Recreation Center**, 8401 Winnetka Ave.; and might also be posted at: **Winnetka Bowl**, 20122 Vanowen St., **Express Pack & Ship**, 7657 Winnetka Ave., **Fulton Cleaners**, 20109 Roscoe Blvd., **Gil's Barber Shop**, 20433 Sherman Way.

The public may comment on a specific item listed on this agenda when the Committee considers that item. When the Committee considers the agenda item entitled "Public Comments," the public has the right to comment on any matter that is not specifically listed on this agenda yet is within the Committee's jurisdiction. The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Committee on any agenda item before the Committee takes an action. The Speaker Card ensures that each speaker's name is complete and correct in the meeting's Minutes. Public Comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, but the Committee has the discretion to modify the amount of time for any speaker. Before a Committee vote on any item, any member of the public who has not filled out a Speaker Card will be accorded 1 minute to make a statement. This period will last no longer than 5 minutes total.

1. **Convene Meeting, Roll-Call, Introductions, Meeting Rules & Announcements**
  - ❖ Convened: 7:05pm
  - ❖ Present: David Uebersax, John Poer, Steven Fuhrman, Victor Lerma
  - ❖ Stakeholders: Holly Poer
  
2. **Public Comments:** Comments from the public on any items not specifically listed on this agenda. Board Members should not address or discuss these comments other than to direct matters to the appropriate Winnetka NC committee or other government agency
  - ❖ Holly Poer: Commented that a Twitter entry indicated Oso/Strathern intersection was repaved two months ago, but lines for stop & crossing not repainted. Holly forwarded this to Jenny Portillo who said she would address it.
    - ❖ Chair commentated on "overtime" issues related to the crew that stripes the streets.
    - ❖ Chair offered question: "Would some form of coordination between the paving crews and the striping crews improve efficiency and lower overall costs?"
    - ❖ Steven Fuhrman: Noted that pick up crews only pick up items that are specifically mentioned, and leave others behind.
  - ❖ Victor Lerma asked if email re Corbin at Sherman Way had been addressed?
    - ❖ Chair expanded the mention: President Lewis had received an email from: Maurine Sindel <[renieotv@yahoo.com](mailto:renieotv@yahoo.com)> complaining that "the sidewalks on Sherman Way at Corbin. The area between Fallas and the end of the strip mall is strewn with garbage and overgrown plants. Could someone arrange to have it cleaned up as soon as possible? While they're at it please have them clean up the alleyway behind the building it's equally filthy."

- ❖ Eric Lewis advised us that it had been sent to Jenny Portillo and indicated that he tries to forward these requests immediately to her office.
  - ❖ Eric Lewis asked about status of new computer. Steven Fuhrman indicated that the purchase was still waiting for a check to Dell.
  - ❖ Chair and Lewis noted that 2016 budget will include additional \$5000 in funding due to actions of Terrence Gomes (LANCC) and a group that included Lydia Grant. The new budget will be \$42,000.
  - ❖ John Poer reported that he had used MYLA311 to request clean up and graffiti removal at old AT&T property at Winnetka and Vanowen (Service Request Number: **2626237**). Request was accepted, then removed (Please be advised - we have reviewed the request to remove the graffiti (**2626237**) that was reported on **May 21, 2015** at **6800 N WINNETKA AVE** and determined that the request should be cancelled). Jenny Portillo indicated it had been referred to Building and Safety for action (Service Request number is **350766**).
  - ❖ Lewis related issue of a “cul-de-sac” street cleaning issue where cars had to park very far away and were being vandalized. Stakeholder requested that only half be cleaned each time so parking could use other half. No resolution reported.
  - ❖ Chair suggested need for “form letter” replies to frequent email requests for help from council and committees. Lewis concurred. This concept was recommended for Board Agenda for July.
3. Discussion and approval of the minutes for prior committee meetings.
- ❖ Steven Fuhrman noted misspelling of “Park” as “Pair” on item 6. Corrected.
    - **MOTION:** Move to accept minutes as corrected.
    - Motion by : John Poer, Second by: Steven Fuhrman
    - **APPROVED : Yes - 3 / Abstain - 1**

#### 4. Chair’s Report (Uebersax)

- Discussion and possible action as to filling current/impending committee vacancies.
  - ❖ Chair noted that Committee has lost Bettie Ross-Blumer, and will soon lose Olaf Hassel after June meeting. Suggested communication with stakeholders Delmont Neal and Lidia Govea, (who has participated in “Spring Clean Events”). Chair will contact Lidia
  - ❖ Chair noted that while it was decided that the certificates from 2014 Spring Clean would be shelved since they were not able to be quickly completed and presented shortly after the event, one colleague in another setting was among those volunteers, and that she had asked about the certificates for herself and her participating children. Committee discussed that perhaps we should print and deliver certificates for 2014.
    - ❖ (Motion and vote below).
    - ❖ John Poer suggested having certificates printed and using laser printing to add names and dates. Possibly better than printing certificates with laser or ink jet.
    - ❖ Chair asked if we can use money from 2014 clean to purchase certificates and frames as there was a line item of \$300. (See ITEM 9 of the Agenda).
- Discussion as to safety, security, and aesthetics of the Los Angeles River Bikeway and Headwaters per the concerns expressed by a Stakeholder
  - ❖ Chair commented on Josh Harris email requesting “more police patrols along the LA River (Headwaters Greenway and/or Bikeway). For example, previous discussions with adjoining agencies and LAPD Topanga Police Station (Canoga

Park NC, LA County Public Works/Flood Control and others) had addressed specifically an area on the north side of the river between De Soto and Owensmouth (though this is not within the boundaries of WNC.

- ❖ A man has made permanent camp under the De Soto overpass. This is both dirty and potentially dangerous” which was follow up to a February email from his wife.
- ❖ Chair proposed starting discussions of a “LA River Watch” program similar to, or coordinated with “Neighborhood Watch”, using walkers, bikers, dog walkers, etc., with Safety Committee Perhaps this would improve situation when people misusing the areas were aware of being observed.
- ❖ Furhman feels that it would be more like the parks situation where Police are unable or unwilling to “do something”, and compared it to issue with shopping carts and suggested need for requiring all shopping carts be equipped with magnetic perimeter locks.
- ❖ Holly Poer noted that current council action is addressing the issue to allow the city to take “abandoned” material from parks.
- ❖ Chair asked if anyone objects to the idea of “LA River Watch”. There were no objections.
- ❖ Question from Chair: Does the committee want to add \$500 for vests and hats and other ID materials for LA River Watch, Clean Up, etc.?
  - **MOTION:** Moved that the Committee add a line item of \$500 for vests or hats or other ID/Safety items for that can be customized to represent WNC-PWT events.
  - Motion by: Victor Lerma, Second by: John Poer.
  - **APPROVED** by consensus.

#### 5. Vice-Chair’s Report (Poer)

- Current issues and pending items:
  - ❖ **“Mr. Delmont Neal, stakeholder, advised the committee that recent work on Roscoe Boulevard between Calvin and Desoto has left a large depressed area in the street which causes problems to drivers. He requests that the city properly complete the repairs.” Jenny advised me that the location is in Reseda and she will confer with “my colleague Safi Lodin, who oversees Reseda” and investigate issue.**
  - ❖ **“Mr. Kobeswar Silla, stakeholder, advised the committee that the alley behind the homes on Covello, between Corbin and Oakdale is in very poor condition and requests the city to investigate and remedy.” Jenny Portillo indicated that she would drive through the area herself and determine what can be done. (She has not provided further information.)**
- Distribution of Letter, propagation and lobbying regarding impact of development density on utilities infrastructure, and resources such as water and energy at a time of conservation.
  - ❖ John Poer reports that letter has been sent to Coucilmember Blumenfield, Mayor Garcetti, and adjacent Neighborhood Councils.
  - ❖ Letter has been sent to Wendy Moore for posting to website and is present as a PDF.
  - ❖ The letter should be sent to or delivered to: Glen Bailey, Amber Meshack and Stephen Box from DONE, OPA staff, LANCC President Terrence Gomes, and chairs for DWP Committees (including MOU Oversight Committee) Tony Wilkinson, and Jack Humphreville.
  - ❖ Chair advises that Rate Payer Advocate has been contacted and his staff, and they want to do more and LANCC wants to do more.
  - ❖ Chair will try to prepare to bring to June LANCC meeting.

- Distribution of Letter regarding Metro Bus service in Winnetka and surrounding areas on Sundays and holidays and subsequent propagation and lobbying.
  - ❖ John Poer reports that letter has been sent to Councilmember Blumenfield, Mayor Garcetti, LA Metro Board members, and adjacent councils.
  - ❖ Letter has been sent to Wendy Moore for posting to website and is present as a PDF.
  - ❖ Only responses received were automated, except from “Canoga Park NC” who have invited us to come to their meeting and present the letter.
  - ❖ Chair noted presence of “Transit Coalition” on Facebook who have monthly dinner meetings with various agencies to discuss such issues.
- 6. Winnetka Avenue Parking restrictions following 2012 bridge renovation/street widening, and proposed bike lanes.
  - Coordination with Ken Firoozmand, DOT Transportation Engineer, Valley Operations Bureau, West Valley District
    - ❖ Chair wants to draft an email to Firoozmand and Selena Reynolds, and Councilmember Blumenfield, requesting the status of the issue, and telling us how soon it can be done, and what we can do to assist.
    - ❖ Long discussion concerning the agreements made with Local, State, and Federal agencies for the bridge over the LA River on Winnetka Avenue in 2012. Apparently signage was put in place and citations issued without prior notice and some reparations have been discussed in the past. Councilmember Denis Zine promised to work on reversing the fines. The parking is still limited at certain times of day, and the bike lanes have never been installed or replaced since construction was completed. Neighbors and stakeholders are still concerned about when this will change, or IF it will change.
    - ❖ There are currently three traffic lanes and no parking during rush hour, and no bike lane at all. Winnetka Avenue is currently an “Arterial Green Street”.
    - ❖ Community is still requesting action on this issue.
    - ❖ Wording suggested:
      - “In 2012 we had concerns from stakeholders along Winnetka Avenue during the construction related to the bridge widening over the LA River. At that time they expressed a concern that at that time that promised bike lanes had not been designated, and that there were new parking restrictions placed in front of their homes, further that the timing of the signs of the restrictions were such that they did not have notification that they needed to move their vehicles. The signs were put up and citations were written. The previous councilmember (Dennis Zine) had promised to work with the stakeholders in terms of reversing the resulting fines and the WNC Board-PWT Committee, Bicycle Advocates and others have been trying to determine how this situation can be remediated.”
      - “The funding for the widening was part of a number of things that came from federal grants and it was determined that conditions of the grant were such that projects needed to be related to mitigating traffic. At that time the third lane of traffic was proposed to meet terms of the grant. We have talked to the DOT, congressional staff, city councilmembers past and present, general manager of DOT, Ken Firoozmand, DOT Transportation Engineer, Valley Operations Bureau, West Valley District as to when these stripes for the third lane of traffic can be removed and the street returned to two lanes of traffic at all times and parking returned to the previous state,

and the bicycle master plan would be applied and continued from Gault Avenue South toward Ventura Avenue.”

- ALTERNATE WORDING:
- Re Bridge Widening:
- We understand that there are many other issues including the fact that the third lane of traffic that was introduced at that time which have been very controversial present complexities related the federal funding. The stake holders would like to have a status report and know what is happening.

- ❖ John Poer to write letter and submit to Chair, for presentation at the June WNC Board meeting.
- ❖ Holly Poer advised that Andrew Pennington suggested any letters should be short and concise.

- Bicycle Master Plan information - <http://www.bicyclela.org/>

- ❖ <http://planning.lacity.org/cwd/gnlpln/transelt/NewBikePlan/Txt/LA%20CITY%20BICYCLE%20PLAN.pdf>

- ❖ Chair: This was informational only.

7. Traffic Calming as discussed following presentation at November WNC Board meeting, and possible proposals of a Parthenia Street Diet.

- <http://winnetkanc.com/news/proposed-parthenia-road-diet>

- ❖ Traffic Calming on Parthenia is part of Phase 2 of 2010 Master Plan. Discussion of possible effects, good and bad, of “calming” on Parthenia. Possible diverting of traffic to side streets versus limited fast and through side streets in the affected area.
- ❖ Discussion and examination of previous presentation by DOT, and discussion of the document provided.
- ❖ Questions presented re effectiveness of the process, and comments about other similar projects having been successful.
- ❖ Questions re changes in parking on the project area.
- ❖ Comments offered re: desire for “protected” bike lanes in the project area/
- ❖ Chair noted that WINNETKA AVENUE, which crosses Parthenia is a designated *Arterial Green Street*.
- ❖ No Motion was presented after discussion.
- ❖ Chair will talk with David Somers with Planning for answers to questions,

8. Discussion and possible action for creation of a Community Impact Statement per the following:

- Council File: 13-0936 - 60 Day Billing Cycle to 30 Day Billing Cycle / Department of Water and Power

- <http://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=13-0936>

- ❖ The committee expressed concern that the C.I.S. should include comments requesting the study of elimination of the practice of “Estimates”, and that the billing cycles spread more evenly (“Rolling Billing”) be used to guarantee a more steady income flow versus an intermittent income flow. Committee also has concerns about the Spark Meter test project in Winnetka.
- **MOTION:** Moved that the Committee supports Council File: 13-0936 – “60 Day Billing Cycle to 30 Day Billing Cycle / Department of Water and Power”, and recommends that the Winnetka NC Board submit a C.I.S. supporting the file with the discussed comments.
- Motion by: Steven Fuhrman, Second by: John Poer
- **APPROVED: by consensus.**

- Council File: 15-0198 – “Committee on Cooling and Urban Heat Impacts”  
<http://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=15-0198>
  - ❖ The committee agreed that seeking a goal for limiting urban heat issues was good, and urges continued focus on less hardscape, more trees, more tree maintenance, review of stakeholder responsibility for watering city trees in the face of continuing water issues, and increased consideration of “Livability versus Densification.”
  - **MOTION:** Moved that the Committee supports Council File: 15-0198 - Committee on Cooling and Urban Heat Impacts, and recommends that the Winnetka NC Board submit a C.I.S. supporting the file with the discussed comments.
  - Motion by: John Poer, Second by: Victor Lerma.
  - **APPROVED: by consensus.**
- Council File: 15-0467 - Health of Trees in Los Angeles / Urban Forest Management Plan  
<http://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=150467>
  - ❖ REDUNDANT – already passed by WNC BOARD at May 12, 2015 meeting.
- Council File: 14-0078-S5 - Utilizing Recycled Water from Hyperion Treatment Plant  
<http://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=14-0078-S5>
  - ❖ REDUNDANT – already passed by WNC BOARD at May 12, 2015 meeting.

9. Discussion regarding scheduling for the PWT 2016 'Spring Cleaning' event.
- ❖ Committee continued discussion of the need for giving out the promised certificates for the 2014 “Spring Clean” event. Discussion of purchase of inexpensive frames, and printing of certificates.
  - ❖ Committee continued discussion for possible need for identification and safety items, such as vests and hats for various events in the near future.
  - **MOTION:** WNC – PWT Committee will request budget line item of \$1000 for 2016 “Spring Clean”.
  - Motion by: Stephen Fuhrman, Second by: John Poer
  - **APPROVED:** by consensus.

10. Watch Items:

- Signalization at intersection of DeSoto and Saticoy.
  - ❖ NO REPORT
- Traffic signalization and related issues in the West Valley.
  - ❖ NO REPORT

11. Good of the Order

- ❖ Chair offered comments on upcoming budget requests, and read a list of goals from previous year.
- ❖ Suggestion that Committee should use “Sign In” sheets to provide contact with stakeholders and officials who bring business before the committee, and that the Board should also use them.
- ❖ Discussion re: purchasing computer for the PWT committee for agenda and minutes.
- **MOTION:** WNC-PWT Committee will request budget line item of \$2000 in 2016 budget for purchase of computer and multi-function printer to be used for committee agenda, minutes, and other documentation needs.
- Motion by: David Uebersax, Second by: Steven Fuhrman
- **APPROVED:** by consensus.

12. Future Agenda Items & other Calendar Events

- ❖ June 4, 2015, 6pm, Library at Vanowen, meet with Councilmember Blumenfield and representatives from DWP re: “Stay Water Wise”
- ❖ Steven Fuhrman: Recycling location on NW corner of Arminata & Winnetka, by “for profit” organization, was “tagged” but was cleaned within 24 hours, but he cannot

get action by Council Office on how to remove the “bin”. Undeveloped lot. Need future discussion of livability issues at N.W. corner of Arminta & Winnetka.

- ❖ Mention of shed at 7803 Winnetka. Building houses tools to keep property mowed, but owner doesn't pay for trash service, uses a “green waste” bin without paying appropriate taxes. “Theft of service”.

### **13. Adjournment Time: \_\_\_ 9:35pm.**

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Members of the public may request and receive, without undue delay, copies of any documents that are distributed to the Board, unless there is a specific exemption under the Public Records Act that prevents the disclosure of the record. (Govt. Code § 54957.5)

The Winnetka Neighborhood Council complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. Upon request, the Winnetka Neighborhood Council will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure the availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Secretary at 818-718-0629, or please send an e-mail that states the accommodations that you are requesting to [jpoer@winnetkanc.com](mailto:jpoer@winnetkanc.com).

*SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 Dias de trabajo (72 horas) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA AYUDA CON ESTA AGENDA, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL (310) 562-3268.*

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### **PROCESS FOR RECONSIDERATION**

The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed on the agenda if that reconsideration takes place immediately following the original action or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: (1) Make a Motion for Reconsideration and, if approved, (2) hear the matter and Take an Action.

If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: (1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and (2) a {Proposed} Action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken can only make a motion for reconsideration.

If a motion for reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Brown Act.

### **PROCESS FOR FILING A GRIEVANCE**

Any grievance by a Stakeholder must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall then within no more than 30 days refer the matter to an ad-hoc grievance panel comprised of 3 Stakeholders who are randomly selected by the Council Secretary from a list of Stakeholders who have previously expressed an interest in serving from time to time on such a grievance panel. The Secretary will coordinate a time and a place, not to exceed 10 days, for the panel to meet with the person(s) submitting a grievance and to discuss ways in which the dispute may be resolved.

Thereafter, a panel member shall promptly prepare a written report to be forwarded by the Secretary to the Board to be heard at the next board meeting outlining the panel's collective recommendations for resolving the grievance. The Board of Directors may receive a copy of the panel's report and recommendations prior to any meeting by the Board, but the matter shall not be discussed among the Board members until the matter is heard at the next regular meeting of the Board pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

This formal grievance process is not intended to apply to Stakeholders who simply disagree with a position or action taken by the Board at one of its meetings. Those grievances can be aired at the Board meetings. This grievance process is intended to address matters involving procedural disputes, e.g., the Board's failure to comply with the Board's Rules or Bylaws, or its failure to comply with the City's Charter, the Plan, local ordinances, state law, and/or federal law.

In the event that a grievance cannot be resolved through this grievance process, the complainant has the right to appeal the matter to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment for consideration or dispute resolution.