Neighborhood Council Governing Board

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Alexander Bell, Area F
Maria del Carmen Sanchez, Area G
Vacant, Area H

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



CALIFORNIA

DEL REY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



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Del Rey Neighborhood Council (DRNC) Board of Directors General Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 14, 2025, 7:00pm Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85401379040

Dial (888) 475-4499 to Join the Meeting Then Enter This Webinar ID: 854 0137 9040 and Press #

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Sara Siegal, Secretaria, por correo electrónico sara.siegal@delreync.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE OCTOBER 6, 2023 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 411 (PORTANTINO) AND LA CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL ON NOVEMBER 1, 2023, THE DEL REY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.

Every person wishing to address the Board must dial (888) 475-4499, and enter 854 0137 9040 and then press # to join the meeting. When prompted by the presiding officer, to provide public input at the Neighborhood Council meeting the public will be requested to dial *9 or use the Raise Hand option, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered.

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 1_minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

SB 411 Updates:

If a Neighborhood Council has a quorum of board members in a physical location, board members who wish to join the meeting via teleconferencing must adhere to AB 2449 rules and regulations. If a Neighborhood Council does not have a quorum of board members in a physical location, they must adhere to SB 411 rules and regulations.

In the event of a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the eligible legislative body's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service

option, the eligible legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

The eligible legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comments in real time.

Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the eligible legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

- (i) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph, to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.
- (ii) An eligible legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.
- (iii) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

Public Documents for all agenda items can be found online via the **delreync.org** website or directly at: http://tinyurl.com/DRNCdocsAugust2025

Spanish translation is available for this meeting through Zoom captions.

1. **Call to order and Introductions:** President Ravi Sankaran called the meeting to order at **7:02 p.m.** Secretary Siegal called the roll and quorum was met.

<u>Members Present</u>: Sankaran, Richards, Siegal, Hoffman, Treacy, Forsberg, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez, Bell, Sanchez.

Members Absent: NONE.

2. Update on Board activities and announcements

- a. Update on prior motions and/or events
 - i. Member Sankaran noted the Culver Median stormwater application was a massive undertaking with Heal the Bay staff, Ballona Creek Renaissance and CD11. Sankaran stated they won't hear about it until January or February but will continue to do outreach.
- b. Upcoming events
 - Mar Vista Gardens Back to School event, Saturday, August 16, 10am-12pm Member Sankaran stated the \$500 funding was approved and people need school supplies as times are tough right now. Member Hoffman noted pens, pencils, notebooks, highlighters and whiteout were items given out.

ii. Del Rey Day, Sunday, October 26, Bill Rosendahl Park (subject to board approval)

Member Sankaran stated Del Rey Day will be from 12 to 4 p.m and **Connor Treacy** led the first committee meeting without former board chair Daniel Perez, and they are off to a good start.

3. Government Reports and Presentations

- a. LAPD Pacific Division SLOs Aceves & Ramirez
- b. LA City Council District 11: Matthew Halden, Field Deputy, Matthew.Halden@lacity.org
 - i. Halden stated they are excited about the Del Rey Culver Median stormwater capture application. Halden noted there has been progress in CD11 but not the 90 Freeway, Inglewood and Mesmer regarding homelessness and Bird Island has become a large encampment with operations disrupted due to city budget cuts. Halden stated Braddock, the 405 Freeway and Sawtelle are areas of concern as well with vehicles.
 - ii. Halden stated LAUSD began their first day of school with 4118 keeping schools as safe places and to inform the office about any ICE activity around schools. Halden stated there are 47 trees on Mesmer that need to be addressed and two that need removal but they need \$28,000 to make it work. Halden noted since the LAPD is no longer on tactical alert, neighborhood watch meetings are being planned.
 - iii. Member Sankaran asked how many people are camping around the 90 Freeway. Halden stated Inside Safe has done several rounds of outreach but needs documentation to offer housing. Member Rosenthal asked if Bird Island is organized, Halden stated it is a difficult, massive population in a high severity fire zone. Member
 - iv. **Hoffman** noted a demolition sign in Area E, **Halden** stated they reached out to building and safety with no response. Member **Damata** stated they don't think Inside Safe is adequate and asked how the DRNC can help. **Halden** stated they don't have any other good options and have to play by a strict set of rules but can lobby government officials Isaac Bryan, Lola Smallwood-Cuevas and Governor Newsom.
- c. LA Mayor's Office: Marian Ensley, West Area Representative, Marian.Ensley@lacity.org
- d. LA County Supervisor Holly Mitchell: Tracy McGee, Constituent Engagement Deputy, tmcgee@bos.lacounty.gov
- e. CA Assemblymember Isaac Bryan: Karen Calderon, Senior Field Representative, karen.calderon@asm.ca.gov

- f. CA State Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas: Carlos Penilla, District Representative, <u>Carlos.Penilla@sen.ca.gov</u>
- g. US Congressman Ted Lieu: Aurelia Friedman, Senior Field Representative, Aurelia.Friedman@mail.house.gov

Friedman stated there is a service academy event at Da Vinci schools in El Segundo on Aug. 23. **Friedman** noted the 90-year anniversary of social security and the **H.R.1.** bill will affect health insurance for 2 million people in California. **Friedman** stated residents can inquire the office regarding ICE raids in the area.

h. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE): Erica Gatica, erica.gatica@lacity.org

Gatica stated they are in the evaluation phase post election, there is a Congress of Neighborhoods network event on Sept. 27th from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the bylaw application has opened.

4. Public comment on Non-Agenda items – Members of the public will have 2 minutes to speak on any non-agenda subject.

Kalani Whittington noted the danger of E-Bikes, stating a nine-year-old boy died and his brother got injured recently. Whittington stated the need for mandating treatment for homeless individuals.

Melanie stated their five-year-old neighbor approached them and asked if Del Rey would hold a Del Rey tour de France bike race sometime.

Edwina stated they are trying to find more about the Vista community.

Jeffrey Tropp stated it is not a great idea to blast music at homeless. The people on Bird Island were promised housing and want to be indoors but don't have anywhere to go.

Alexis clarified to the audience it is only time for public comments and no questions will be answered immediately.

- **5.** Consent Calendar- Items that are routine in nature and do not require debate; any item may be pulled from the consent calendar for debate at the request of any Board Member
 - a. **Approval of Minutes** from July 10th, 2025 General Board Meeting.
 - b. **Motion (Kevin Hoffman):** The DRNC approves the July 2025 Monthly Expenditure Reports (MER).
 - c. Motion (WRAC/Ravi Sankaran): The DRNC, a member of the Westside Regional

Alliance of Councils (WRAC), supports <u>CF 25-0002-S19</u> to oppose CA State Senate Bill 79 (Weiner) and calls on the City Council to add to its State Legislative Program for 2025-26 opposition to SB 79 unless amended to exempt municipalities with a state-approved and compliant Housing Element.

d. Motion (WRAC/Ravi Sankaran): The DRNC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC), supports changing the Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 56.15 BICYCLE RIDING – SIDEWALKS to read:

"No person shall ride, operate or use an e-bicycle on a sidewalk or boardwalk in the City of Los Angeles."

The DRNC requests that Councilmembers Park, Yaroslavsky, Hutt and Raman who represent WRAC neighborhoods submit a motion to amend LAMC 56.15 to ban e-bicycles (e-bikes) from sidewalks and boardwalks in the City of Los Angeles to address public safety concerns and rising accidents, injuries and deaths from collisions between e-bikes and pedestrians.

The DRNC requests that the Mayor of Los Angeles suggest and/or approve a new ordinance banning e-bikes from the sidewalks or boardwalks and to enforce such new City ordinance.

- e. **Motion (Ravi Sankaran):** The DRNC appoints Hernan Martinez as its representative to the WRAC Homelessness Committee.
- f. **Motion (Ravi Sankaran):** The DRNC appoints Kevin Forsberg as its representative to the WRAC Transportation Committee.

Member Sankaran set a **motion** to **approve** the **Consent Calendar. Seconded** by member **Richards.**

Motion passed with 11 yeses from members Sankaran, Richards, Hoffman, Siegal, Treacy, Forsberg, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez and Bell.

*Member Sanchez cannot add to the vote currently.

6. New Business:

a. Motion (Ravi Sankaran):

WHEREAS, in late July 2025 an access point to the Marvin Braude Bike Path and Yvonne B. Burke Park in Marina del Rey was blocked by construction of a cinderblock wall in the lot adjacent to the Ralph's grocery store at 4311 Lincoln Blvd.

WHEREAS, this entry point had provided safe access to the Marvin Braude Bike Path for Del Rey residents for decades, and the new wall blocks this entry point and renders access to the bike path dangerous for Del Reyans and others, including children and seniors, with higher risk for collision with vehicles and bodily injury.

WHEREAS, cyclists who were once able to utilize the Ralph's lot access point must now cycle on Lincoln Blvd to Bali Way to access the bike path without designated bike lanes, putting their safety and well-being at risk.

WHEREAS, the DRNC acknowledges the vital importance of maintaining safe and open access to the bike path for both current and future residents.

WHEREAS, the wall was constructed by Bayview Property Management at the direction of the property owner Marina Pointe Commercial, with little to no stakeholder

input taken prior to the decision to build the wall and no consultation with DRNC.

WHEREAS, the California Coastal Commission provides for public prescriptive right of access across private property in cases where public access has occurred 1) for a period of five (5) years or longer, 2) without asking or receiving permission from the owner, and 3) with the actual or presumed knowledge of the owner. However those public access rights have now been impaired with construction of the wall.

THEREFORE, the DRNC calls on the City of Los Angeles to work with the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors, who has jurisdiction over the Marvin Braude Bike Path, and the private property owners to immediately restore safe access to the bike path whether at this same entry point or a different location, for the protection of the hundreds of residents who access the bike path on a daily basis, and to restore public prescriptive coastal access rights that have been taken away.

Seconded by member Rosenthal.

Public Comments:

Edwina stated the wall is denying public access for the community.

Jeffrey Tropp stated they work in pet-care and dog-sit near the apartments, and the wall blocks the path they take.

Austin, an avid bike rider, stated they use the access point to get to the marina and it is frustrating to go around and more dangerous with no bike lanes and the wall cuts off half of the city.

Emma stated they use the path to walk their dog, walk to shops and the wall blocks off businesses, a lose-lose for all.

Gabriel stated they walk across every single day, many people use the bike path, it is a necessity for the community, and they find it utterly offensive.

Manuel stated they are pro wall, it is a dangerous place for people to be walking through and unhoused people near Ralphs has decreased since the wall was put up.

Lily stated they are working with organizations for a petition and the letter will be sent out on Friday to city/county officials.

Kalani stated they were disappointed the public was not given an option to voice before the wall went up and if the Berlin Wall can be taken down, we can do this one. **Kalani** stated this highlights other issues such as the need for better sidewalks and that homeless are not outside but inside Ralphs now.

Mandy, a frequent walker, stated the wall adds 26 minutes to their path to the shops and they will have to drive now.

Heather stated there was a fence 25 years ago that was reopened and asked who is going to maintain it since there is already graffiti, a hole in the wall and it is not solving any problems but more of a burden to the community.

Mike's wife, a Del Rey Resident, stated their kid goes to the daycare near Ralphs and the monthly walk to the library has now ceased with more homeless near the daycare.

Justin stated for safe access to the bike path, a reasonable fence can stay with small opening for bikes to safely pass but school kids cannot take the path to library now.

Luke stated they live on Lincoln and Maxela and enjoy walking to the marina and asked what is the next step to cause action to have the wall taken down.

Board Comments:

Member Sankaran stated anyone can access the meeting folder through the agenda or online calendar to view the documents and permits for the wall.

Matthew Halden stated the wall is privately owned, the community is clear they don't like the wall and hopes to find a happy median.

Member Rosenthal stated they should get together to sign a petition and present it to Marina Point.

Member Damata stated it is going to be in violation of codes if it's still up and continues to be vandalized.

Member Siegal asked if no gates or doors prevent it from being a public space.

Halden stated access issues are where the coastal commission comes through.

Member Sankaran set a motion to **amend** "impair" to "improve." **Seconded** by **member Siegal**.

Public Comments:

Kalani Whittington stated it should say improve.

Gabriel stated it should say rights prevented, removed or impaired.

Harry stated Bayview Management is the owner of the wall and a letter from the Dept. of Beaches and Harbor stated the wall was built without authorization.

Luke stated public foot traffic on the path is a deterrent to homeless activity.

Amendment approved with 11 yeses from members Sankaran, Richards, Hoffman, Siegal, Treacy, Forsberg, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez and Bell.

Motion passed with 11 yeses from members Sankaran, Richards, Hoffman, Siegal, Treacy, Forsberg, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez and Bell.

b. Motion (WRAC/Ravi Sankaran/Kevin Forsberg): The DRNC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) opposes the two proposed Monorail Options (Alternative 1 and Alternative 3) of the Sepulveda Transit Corridor (STC) project due to their significantly lower ridership projections and capacities, and their significantly slower speeds and longer travel times, and supports the proposed underground Heavy Rail subway mode of transportation through the Sepulveda Pass because it will carry significantly more passengers and operate at higher speeds. The Heavy Rail mode of transportation is described in the STC project's Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), released by Metro on June 2, 2025, in the discussion of Alternatives 4, 5 and 6. Comments on the STC DEIR are due August 30, 2025. Seconded by member Sankaran.

Member Sankaran stated once the RAC board and eight member councils approve, then it becomes an official RAC position.

Member Forsberg stated they are close to eight and the reason is just to get more cars off the road, move people quicker and suggested heavy rail options.

Member Siegal stated they are getting a lot of emails about it, it is the most environmentally friendly option, and they support it.

Kalani Whittington stated they support a mixed monorail above ground and subway through the mountains on the other side and a monorail would attract more people to use it.

Motion passed with 11 yeses from members Sankaran, Richards, Hoffman, Siegal, Treacy, Forsberg, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez and Bell.

c. Motion (Executive Committee/Ravi Sankaran): The DRNC appoints Doug Barish as Land Use Officer. Seconded by member Hoffman. **Barish** stated they served as the Land Use Officer from 2019-21, have been a decade long Del Rey homeowner, was born in LA, went to UCLA, USC, and feel strongly about the job and will do their best, try to be fair.

Member Sankaran stated Barish handled tough situations, projects in their one year of working together.

Member Damata stated they spoke with Barish and noted their sensible approach and how it is refreshing and will bring a little bit more advocacy to land use.

Barish stated back in 2019, they had a lot more umph, a lot of developers came through and they had a good relationship with the city council. **Barish** stated they brought beneficial things to the community, greenspace, aesthetics, transportation, and helped create the Green Committee and got a lot of good work done.

Member Sankaran stated Barish will help the DRNC pivot to advocacy, policy and state legislation.

Edwina stated Barish has a strong sense of community and wants to be really involved in Del Rey.

Motion passed with 11 yeses from members Sankaran, Richards, Hoffman, Siegal, Treacy, Forsberg, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez and Bell.

d. Motion (Executive Committee/Ravi Sankaran): The DRNC appoints Devora Rogers as Area E Director. Seconded by member Richards.

Rogers stated they grew up on the westside and love the neighborhood as it is very dear to them. **Rogers** stated they are a writer, work in marketing and hope to have conversations about important things and make things better.

Member Richards stated they spoke at length with Rogers and think they're well briefed on issues and endorse the candidacy.

Member Hoffman stated they are a resident of Area E, "the wild westside," and hope to help clean up the area.

Rogers stated they are really good at writing letters.

Motion passed with 11 yeses from members Sankaran, Richards, Hoffman, Siegal, Treacy, Forsberg, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez and Bell.

e. **Motion (Executive Committee/Ravi Sankaran)**: The DRNC appoints Sue McGinley as Area H Director. **Seconded by member Siegal**.

McGinley stated they missed the candidacy filing period but has stayed in touch since then and the meeting has made them more excited. **McGinley** stated they've lived in Del Rey for 18 yrs, talk to a lot of people, see a lot of things, very observant, and all about beautifying the area as a green space environmentalist. **McGinley** stated they are excited about the opportunity to better the community.

Member Sankaran stated it is not an easy area with Bird Island, Mesmer, the 90 Freeway.

Motion passed with 11 yeses from members Sankaran, Richards, Hoffman, Siegal, Treacy, Forsberg, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez and Bell.

f. **Motion (Ravi Sankaran):** The DRNC appoints Alexander Bell as chair of the Green Committee. **Seconded** by **member Hoffman**.

Jeffrey Tropp stated Joana Reynolds should be appointed co-chair for the committee as they co-chaired the Green Committee last term.

Member Sankaran stated they can put them in touch with Joana Reynolds. Members **Damata** and **Kroskrity** expressed the same sentiment.

Motion passed with 11 yeses from members Sankaran, Richards, Hoffman, Siegal, Treacy, Forsberg, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez and Bell.

g. Motion (Kevin Hoffman) - The DRNC approves an event budget of \$10,000 for Del Rey Day 2025 on Sunday, October 26, at Bill Rosendahl Park. Seconded by member Richards.

Kalani Whittington stated they would like to see more outreach on community events, yard signs and appeal to adults as well as children.

Member Sankaran stated the DRNC had their first Del Rey Day committee meeting last Tuesday.

Motion passed with 11 yeses from members Sankaran, Richards, Hoffman, Siegal, Forsberg, Treacy, Damata, Rosenthal, Kroskrity, Martinez and Bell.

h. **Discussion and Motion possible (Ravi Sankaran):** The DRNC plans for in-person and virtual board meetings for the rest of 2025:

September 11, 2025 In-person
October 9, 2025 Virtual
November 13, 2025 In-person
December 11, 2025 Virtual

Public Comments:

Jeffrey Tropp stated they don't think they should have in-person meetings because of respiratory illnesses but talked to those who's only access would be in-person only for participation.

Kalani Whittington stated they appreciate the reasoning to have online meetings but also the need to meet the public.

7. Area Director Reports

- **A Damata** stated the stop sign on Ida and Moore still needs work and to watch out for coyotes and skunks running around.
- **B Rosenthal** stated they had a coyote in the area recently.
- **C Kroskrity** stated a property on Louise has been an issue, more people want neighborhood watch and there have been skunk sightings.
- **D Martinez** stated they've been speaking with stakeholders, picking up bulky items with Joana and Jeffrey and hope to build a community run club and promote beautification of the bike path.

F Bell stated SoCal Gas has been jackhammering in the area.

8. Executive Committee Member Reports:

- a. President's Report (Ravi Sankaran)
- b. Vice-President (Quenton Richards) Glad to have a full board again.
- c. Treasurer (Kevin Hoffman) Budget restoration in effect.
 - i. Budget link: https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/Dashboard.html
- d. Secretary (Sara Siegal)
- e. Outreach Officer (Connor Treacy)
- f. Communications Officer (Kevin Forsberg)
- g. Land Use Officer (Vacant)

9. Committee Reports

- a. Land Use and Planning Committee TBD
- b. Executive/Outreach/Budget & Finance Wednesday, August 27, 7pm, Zoom
- c. Green Committee Tuesday, September 2, 7pm, Zoom (tentative)
- d. Education Committee Thursday, September 4, 7pm, Zoom Row club, Venice Arts.

- 10. **Next Board Meeting**: Thursday, September 11, 2025, 7pm, Marina del Rey Middle School Library
- 11. Motion to Adjourn: President Sankaran adjourned the meeting at 9:53 p.m.

The Americans with Disabilities Act - As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation 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 availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org.

Public Access of Records -In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: www.delreync.org 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 Sara Siegal, Secretary, at email at: sara.siegal@delreync.org.

Public Posting of Agendas – Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- https://wwwdelreync.org/agendas-and-docs
- Members of the public can also receive agendas via email by subscribing to the City of LA's Early Notification System (ENS): https://lacitv.gov/government/subscribe-agendas/neighborhood-councils

Notice to Paid Representatives -

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

Reconsideration and Grievance Process -

For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website www.delreync.org.