

**Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council
Governing Board Members**

President - Jennifer DeVore
Vice President - John Gresham
Secretary - Erika Stuart
Treasurer - Patricia Carroll
Asst. Secretary - Dave Cavalier

Area 1 - Brookside: Tony Gittelson
Area 2 - Citrus Square: Erika Stuart
Area 3 - Country Club Heights: *Vacant*
Area 4 - Fremont Place: Julia Dalton
Area 5 - Hancock Park: Jennifer DeVore
Area 6 - La Brea-Hancock: Sixto Sicilia
Area 7 - Larchmont Village: Natalie Irby
Area 8 - Melrose: Richard Gano
Area 9 - Oakwood/Maplewood/St. Andrews:
Rochelle Lewis
Area 10 - Ridgewood-Wilton/St. Andrews Square:
Patricia Carroll
Area 11 - Sycamore Square: Conrad Starr
Area 12 - Western-Wilton: MJ Anderson
Area 13 - Wilshire Park: John Gresham
Area 14 - Windsor Square: Gary Gilbert
Area 15 - Windsor Village: Drew Kiesow
At Large: Mark Alpers
Renter: Dave Cavalier
Business: Romi Cortier
Education: Scott Appel
Religion: Charles D'Atri
Other Nonprofit: Brian Curran

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**



**GREATER WILSHIRE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**Environmental & Sustainability
SPECIAL Meeting Minutes**
Monday, February 9, 2026 6:30 p.m.
Memorial Branch Library,
Community Room,
4625 W Olympic Blvd, LA, 90019
www.greaterwilshire.org/SCdocs/

GWNC Sustainability Committee:

Chair - Polly Estabrook (Area 14)
Secretary - MJ Anderson (Area 12)
Julie Dalton (Area 4)
Julie Kim (Area 15)
Andy Galan (Area 12)
Anders Waalen (Area 5)
Multiple Vacancies

Direct Committee Inquiries to:

(323) 539-GWNC (4962)
sustainability@greaterwilshire.org
info@greaterwilshire.org

월세 광역주민의회
환경 & 지속가능성 위원회
정기회의 의제

*Concejo Vecinal de Greater
Wilshire - Comité de medio
ambiente y sostenibilidad -
Agenda de reunión ordinaria*

The Neighborhood Council system enables civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an elected advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, made up of volunteer stakeholders who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities and bringing government closer to us.

I. WELCOMING REMARKS

- A. **Call to Order** (Polly Estabrook) Called to order (18:43)
- B. **Roll Call** (MJ Anderson, J. Dalton, A. Waalen, P. Estabrook, J. Kim entered remotely 18:55)

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Conrad Starr (as member of public) mentioned GWNC Survey and distributed GWNC information cards

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. **Approval of Minutes** from prior Sustainability Committee meetings:
 - i. Special meeting on 11/10/2025
 - ii. Special meeting on 12/04/2025

Both approved by unanimous consent.
- B. **Stakeholder Committee Member Required Training:** All Committee members have completed required training. Any new non-GWNC Board members on the ESC would need to complete the following training:
 - i. **Code of Conduct** – available at <https://greaterwilshire.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2023-1-Code-of-Conduct-Form.pdf>, send signed copy to secretary@greaterwilshire.org.
 - ii. **Ethics** – Ethics Training Link: <https://localethics.fppc.ca.gov/>

III. OLD BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. **Report on Upcoming Meetings with CD-5 & CD-13 City Councilmember staff on Pesticides and their use on LA City Property.** CD-13 meeting scheduled with Kate Pynoos on Wed Feb. 11th at 3:30 PM. All committee members are encouraged to attend. CD-5 meeting date not finalized.
 - i. **Presentation & discussion of materials on pesticide issue to be given to City Councilmember Staff.**
As a trial run, A. Waalen showed presentation regarding the risks of pesticides, the lack of regulation, and a call to action to be given at 11 February meeting mentioned in III. A. Ran 20 minutes and errors noted for later meetings. Intent is knowing their willingness to help.
 - ii. Presentation approved for showing by committee 4-0-1. (Julie Kim left before vote.)
- B. **Report on Transit Day.**
 - i. D Line station opening date is being finalized in March 2026. Next steps include applying for approval with the city and the insurance questions from our previous attempt. Also C. Starr reported Palms NC had similar struggles with City Clerk approving a Transit Day; we will make contact for further information. ESC will be updated by April 2026 meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. **Transition from gas powered to electric gardening equipment - one more attempt to expedite.**

Background: In 1998, the City of Los Angeles banned the use of gas powered blowers within 500 feet of a residential property per [LAMC section 112.04\(c\)](#). In 12/2021 the [California Air Resources Board \(CARB\) required NEW small off-road engines, AKA leaf blowers, lawn mowers, etc to be zero emission in 2024](#). In June 2023, the Hancock Park Homeowners Association encouraged this transition by offering a \$100 rebate to their residents when they showed proof of purchase. However the use of gas powered gardening equipment continues. More information on this topic can be found in [LAist article](#) on 12/1/2025.

Impact: The noise produced by gas powered leaf blowers is dangerous: “The decibel range of gas-powered blowers exceeds noise safety standards established by the World Health Organization and the EPA.” Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention. In addition the exhaust created by the two stroke engines contains PM 2.5 particulates, carbon monoxide, and other gases. •According to calculations in a [2021 fact sheet](#) by the California Air Resources Board, operating the “best-selling commercial **lawn mower**” for one hour results in as much ozone-forming emissions as driving a 2017 Toyota Camry about 300 miles. Even worse, operating the “best-selling commercial **leaf blower**” for just one hour results in as much ozone-forming emissions as driving a staggering 1,100 miles.

Possible Solution: The South Coast Air Quality Management Board (AQMD) offers [rebates](#) when consumers and commercial enterprises exchange their gas powered equipment for electric equipment. In addition, home and apartment owners can purchase electric equipment, at least leaf blowers, inexpensively now (\$150 - 250 depending on model).

Discussion: What actions would our Committee be interested in pursuing to help expedite this transition?

- i. Conrad Starr mentioned that the Highland median has gardeners who use gas powered mowers. Polly Estabrook to check with Cindy Chvatal whether the HOA or the City pay for the Highland median to be maintained. Possible committee actions could include flyer

distribution subject to full Board approval for the flyer reproduction. Reporting back at April 2026 meeting.

B. Motion unanimously Approved: GWNC ESC will contact B. Funderburk via email to discuss sustainable energy efforts as they come up in front of LA City Council.

V. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

- A. Report on any other sustainability or environmental issues not on the agenda.
- B. Announcement from Sec. MJ Anderson: At a recent CD 5 event there was a booth for the US Green Building Council of America. There is funding for getting businesses to be certified sustainable. Flyer to be distributed and given to Business Representative at GWNC board meeting.

VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Regular Committee meeting date: Thursday, April 2, 2026, 6:30 PM. via Zoom. *Note: regular meetings are held on even-numbered months, alternating between Zoom and in-person.*

VII. REQUESTS FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT (19:52)

VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING INSTRUCTIONS / PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – Every person wishing to address the Board/Committee should dial (669) 900-6833 or (877) 853-5257 and enter 928 2781 1179, then press # to join the meeting.

The GWNC shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public that requests an accommodation to participate in the meeting, by providing a publicly accessible physical location for the member of the public to participate from, providing access to technology necessary to participate in the meeting, or identifying locations or resources available that could provide the member of the public with an opportunity to participate in the meeting.

To address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes action on that item, the public is requested, when prompted by the chairperson, to dial *9 (if connecting by phone) or press the “raise hand” button (if using the Zoom app). 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 but which are within the Board’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. The Board is prevented from acting on a matter brought to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, it may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the chairperson.

Public comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting. Only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, or if members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council’s control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

SB 411 Updates: 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. (C) 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. (D) 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. (E) (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 (D), 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.

TRANSLATION SERVICE – If you need translation service, please contact the GWNC Secretary at (323) 539-4962 or info@greaterwilshire.org at least 72 hours before the event.

번역 서비스 - 번역 서비스를 요청하려면 행사 개최 72시간 이전까지 주민의회에 알려주시기 바랍니다. 이사회 사무국 연락처 (323) 539-4962 또는 info@greaterwilshire.org 에 접촉하시기 바랍니다.

SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN – Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al concejo vecinal 72 horas antes del evento. Por favor contacte al secretario de la mesa, al (323) 539-4962 o info@greaterwilshire.org.

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the committee 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 meeting.

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS

GWNC agendas are posted for public review in the following locations:

- **Our website**
- **Display case at the Wilshire Ebell Theater**
- **Via e-mail** - subscribe at www.greaterwilshire.org
- **By subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at / L.A.** <https://lacity.gov/government/subscribe-agendas/neighborhood-councils>

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 assisted 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 you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email: NCSupport@lacity.org or phone: (213) 978-1551.

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 at <http://www.greaterwilshire.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 info@greaterwilshire.org or (323) 539-4962.

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS – For information on the GWNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the GWNC Bylaws. The bylaws are available at our Board meetings and on our website at <http://www.greaterwilshire.org>.

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 §§ 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.