



# MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING



Tuesday, April 13, 2021  
7:30pm

**ZOOM – MEETING ID 979 4137 2867**

Join Zoom Meeting Online: <https://zoom.us/j/97941372867>

Meeting ID: 979 4137 2867

Or via phone: (669) 900-6833 and enter/dial 979 4137 2867 followed by # (pound)

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE BOARD OF GREATER TOLUCA LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ON ZOOM AND BE ACCESSIBLE TELEPHONICALLY.

Instructions on how to sign up for public comments will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS			<i>X = Present, AB = Absent, EX = Excused</i>			
<u>X</u>	Hannah Globus	<i>Co-Chair</i>	<u>X</u>	Kelly Cole	<u>X</u>	James Fitzpatrick
<u>X</u>	Katherine Hatton	<i>Co-Chair</i>	<u>AB</u>	Arielle Stern		

<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Start Time <u>  7:34  </u> PM						
<b>2. Attendance</b>	Public in Attendance: <u>  5  </u>						
<b>3. Minutes</b>							
<i>(One (1) Minute per Speaker per Agenda Item)</i>							
a. Review and Approve Committee Minutes							
<p><b><u>MOTION A: Approve the GTLNC Nov 5, 2020 Environmental Affairs Committee Minutes. Full text of the minutes can be found at: <a href="https://www.gtlnc.org/">https://www.gtlnc.org/</a></u></b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>Y</u> Hannah Globus</td> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>Y</u> Kelly Cole</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Y James Fitzpatrick</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton</td> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>E</u> Arielle Stern</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Y – Yes                      A – Abstain                      I – Ineligible</i> <i>N – No                        R – Recusal                      E – Excused</i></p>	<u>Y</u> Hannah Globus	<u>Y</u> Kelly Cole	Y James Fitzpatrick	<u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton	<u>E</u> Arielle Stern		<p><b>VOTE: <u>  4  /  0  /  0  </u></b> First: Hannah Second: Jim</p>
<u>Y</u> Hannah Globus	<u>Y</u> Kelly Cole	Y James Fitzpatrick					
<u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton	<u>E</u> Arielle Stern						
<p><b><u>MOTION B: Approve the GTLNC Jan 5, 2021 Environmental Affairs Committee Minutes. Full text of the minutes can be found at: <a href="https://www.gtlnc.org/">https://www.gtlnc.org/</a></u></b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>Y</u> Hannah Globus</td> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>I</u> Kelly Cole</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Y James Fitzpatrick</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton</td> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>E</u> Arielle Stern</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> </table>	<u>Y</u> Hannah Globus	<u>I</u> Kelly Cole	Y James Fitzpatrick	<u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton	<u>E</u> Arielle Stern		<p><b>VOTE: <u>  3  /  0  /  1  </u></b> First: Hannah Second: Kelly</p>
<u>Y</u> Hannah Globus	<u>I</u> Kelly Cole	Y James Fitzpatrick					
<u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton	<u>E</u> Arielle Stern						
<p><b><u>MOTION C: Approve the GTLNC Mar 2, 2021 Environmental Affairs Committee Minutes. Full text of the minutes can be found at: <a href="https://www.gtlnc.org/">https://www.gtlnc.org/</a></u></b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>Y</u> Hannah Globus</td> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>I</u> Kelly Cole</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Y James Fitzpatrick</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton</td> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><u>E</u> Arielle Stern</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> </table>	<u>Y</u> Hannah Globus	<u>I</u> Kelly Cole	Y James Fitzpatrick	<u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton	<u>E</u> Arielle Stern		<p><b>VOTE: <u>  3  /  0  /  1  </u></b> First: Hannah Second: Kelly</p>
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APPROVED 4 May 2021



**4. Public Comment**

*(Two (2) Minutes per Speaker)*

**5. Committee Member News & Announcements**

*(Two (2) Minutes per Speaker)*

**6. On-Going Business**

*(One (1) Minute per Speaker per Agenda Item)*

a. **Presentation: Green New Deal Neighborhood Council Toolkit** with  
 Caroline Menjivar, East Valley Area Representative, Office of Mayor Garcetti  
 Victoria Simon, Director of Operations, Mayor’s Office of Sustainability  
 Vahid Korsand, West Valley Area Representative  
 [to be made available on new GTLNC youtube channel]

LA is expanding and relaunching the 2015 pLAN as the Green New Deal (avail at plan.lamayor.org) and before the pandemic the mayor’s office put together advisory groups to help ensure the city is going in the right direction and develop toolkits that empower Neighborhood Councils and individuals to participate in achieving the GND goals

There are 10 areas of focus for Action Guides with benefits explanations and opportunities for action (8 have been published, two delayed were related to gatherings and are pending gathering guidance); all published in English and Spanish

This is a living toolkit and the office is interested in getting feedback including requests for other info people want

- Plant Free Trees in Your Neighborhood: ex NC could host a tree adoption event
- Plant CA Friendly Landscaping in Your Neighborhood: ex opportunity to host informational webinars to provide resources
- Make Your Next Car Electric: this is the trend in the auto industry and NC can help get community members on board through education and resources; want to make sure people can find options no matter their financial status, renter/homeowner, etc
- Install Solar Power Where You Live: major goal to clarify legit solar opportunities and scams because people have asked questions/felt uncertain about how to tell
- Grow Your Own Food: LA lacks community gardens, but looking to expand because they provide many benefits from healthy food access to lower emissions; there are “crop swap” options as well; Urban Agriculture Zone program is one the mayor’s office wants to grow
- Reduce Food Waste at Home: from everyday things like how to store produce so it last longer to larger things like community compost options; and this info can also be applied to food use at work/events outside of home
- Help Businesses Go Green: new program from Dept of Sanitation launching April 22 to help businesses get certified as green
- Monitor and Improve Air Quality in Your Neighborhood and Household: California Clean Air Day coming up in the fall [note Oct 6]

Big goal to partner with organizations in the community to put some of these opportunities into action – work with mayor’s Sustainability Office and the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA)

LA Forever is new campaign rolling out on Earth Day to help people understand how we can help the city “live on” forever as a green city

Q&A



## MINUTES

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EAC happy to see action items in the toolkit

Concern about DWP rebates not being fulfilled, DWP has also adjusted billing periods in ways that moved people between tiers unexpectedly

- note that several DWP programs are overseen by other groups like City Plants

Silverlake resident is frustrated by scope of project at Bloomfield/Cahuenga and erosion of CEQA at state/local level, wants to see NC be more activist about preventing overdevelopment

- note that development tends to be under the purview of Planning committee rather than EAC, but EAC does want to see fewer trees removed during development

Community has struggled to see projects move forward because of roadblocks in the bureaucracy that drag these out for years and people cannot sustain energy to jump these hurdles, such as Cahuenga/Addison lot that was proposed as a community garden but hasn't been able to break ground after years

- part of toolkit goal is to provide resources to help projects move forward; but also want to get more info about specific issues that have been encountered

Concern about lack of incentive for landlords to make green improvements and renters have limited opportunity (or incentive) to do it themselves

- renters do have options, such as selecting to pay for your portion of energy to come from solar

Concern that there also wasn't much mention of active transportation when personal car use creates huge emissions in the state; things like rules of sharing the road with bikes and how to use public transit systems

- LA Forever campaign will address mobility, especially making short trips walkable; transportation options is an area of interest for toolkits but isn't part of the initial 10 areas that were selected

Finally, parking permits are a huge waste of plastic because instead of getting a new sticker, multiple times per year a whole new piece of plastic is used for the renewal of the permit

#### **b. West Toluca Lake Environmental Improvements Brainstorm**

Toluca Lake Beautification Partners has come to EAC to explore different ways to partner so we can move forward some sustainable beautification projects in the neighborhood, particularly in West Toluca Lake

Two areas mentioned as needing improvement have been the Vineland Ave median and the 101 on/off ramps, which are comparable as far as size and planting requirements

Vineland median has been of interest for a long time, especially given some dangers related to dying trees; on/off ramps might be something to bring to Universal as something they'd be interested in improving in the area

In order to move forward this fiscal year, info would need to be in hand before EAC May meeting, but would be a good option for next fiscal year too (knowing that there's an election and will be board changeover)

Vineland median being proposed by TLBP is two sections between Moorpark St and the 101/170 overpass (south of Whipple) near the Fire Station

TLBP has been working with MIG on a strategic plan for the area in Burbank and Studio City, and we could maybe engage them to help fund this north of the GTLNC boundaries

EAC is supportive, though remaining GTLNC budget is up in the air given some other NPGs up for votes at the Apr meeting

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Ideally would like to see this continue to extend north on Riverside into NoHo where there's the cutout [next to West Toluca Lake] - TLBP is already meeting with NoHo at council district level but would like to explore NPG too EAC is excited about this project, and will aim to start with Vineland given the on/off ramps will likely require CalTrans coordination that can be slow

- c. Street Safety Issues & Sidewalk Improvements
- d. Earth Day
- f. GTLNC Website "Green Resources" Page

**7. New Business/Future Projects**

*(One (1) Minute per Speaker per Agenda Item)*

- a. Identifying City Council Actions to make comment on as Neighborhood Council (potential Community Impact Statement aka CIS)

**8. Meeting Adjourned**

Close Time: 9:00 PM

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, May 4, 2021 @ 7:30 PM** – via Zoom

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The public is requested to dial \*9, when prompted by the presiding officer, 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 2 minutes per speaker unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

**PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS** - GTLNC agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Discovery Store (Community Kiosk), at the Southeast corner of Forman Avenue and Riverside Drive;
- [www.gtlnc.org](http://www.gtlnc.org); or
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <http://www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index.htm>

**THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

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**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.gtlnc.org](http://www.gtlnc.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 Robyn Allyn, Board Secretary via email at [Robyn.Alyn@gtlnc.org](mailto:Robyn.Alyn@gtlnc.org)

**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

For information on the GTLNC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the GTLNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website [www.gtlnc.org](http://www.gtlnc.org)

**SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION**

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a Robyn Allyn, Secretary of the Mesa Directiva, por correo electrónico [Robyn.Alyn@gtlnc.org](mailto:Robyn.Alyn@gtlnc.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal."