



# MINUTES GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 5, 2022  
6:30pm



**ZOOM – MEETING ID 979 4137 2867**

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

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IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 361 (RIVAS) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY WITH A CALL-IN OPTION OR INTERNET-BASED SERVICE OPTION.

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>	Katherine Hatton	<i>Co-Chair</i>	<u>X</u>	Kelly Cole	<u>X</u>	Shawn Besharaty
<u>X</u>	Tess Taylor	<i>Co-Chair</i>	<u>X</u>	Reynold Blight		

<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Start Time ____ PM						
<b>2. Attendance</b>	Public in Attendance: __						
<b>3. Minutes</b> ( <i>One (1) Minute per Speaker per Agenda Item</i> )							
<p>a. Review and Approve Committee Minutes (Materials can be found at <a href="https://www.gtlnc.org/">https://www.gtlnc.org/</a> under committee meeting documents)</p> <p><b>MOTION A: Approve the GTLNC March 1, 2022 Governmental Affairs Committee Minutes, as amended.</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Y</u> Kelly Cole</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y Shawn Besharaty</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Y</u> Tess Taylor</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Y</u> Reynold Blight</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Y – Yes                      A – Abstain                      I – Ineligible</i> <i>N – No                      R – Recusal                      E – Excused</i></p> <p><i>Kelly Cole arrives at 6:37PM</i></p> <p><i>Request to remove reference to public comment time and possible new committee member, comment is struck from the minutes.</i></p>		<u>Y</u> Katherine Hatton	<u>Y</u> Kelly Cole	Y Shawn Besharaty	<u>Y</u> Tess Taylor	<u>Y</u> Reynold Blight	
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<u>Y</u> Tess Taylor	<u>Y</u> Reynold Blight						
<b>4. Public Comment</b> ( <i>Two (2) Minutes per Speaker on relevant subject not on agenda</i> )							
<i>David Wheatley emphasizes importance of open governments, asks that people disclose their conflicts of interest and ex parte meetings.</i>							
<b>5. Committee Member News &amp; Announcements</b> ( <i>Two (2) Minutes per Speaker on relevant subject not on agenda</i> )							
<i>Tess mentions upcoming workshops organized by the Southern California Association of Governments (“SCAG”) about accelerated housing production, these are more related to Planning &amp; Land Use Committee but with Governmental Affairs Committee crossover.</i>							
<b>6. On-Going Business</b> ( <i>One (1) Minute per Speaker per Agenda Item</i> )							
<p>a. Discussion re CA SB 1100, proposal to amend Brown Act related to disruption at public meeting <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB1100">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB1100</a></p>							

APPROVED 3 May 2022



*Discussion of balancing need to track & understand bills from inception vs being premature to analyze it now as many changes may occur before it will be considered by State Gov. later this summer. Stakeholder expresses preference for tracking from inception.*

*Recommendation that Government Affairs Committee (“GAC”) interact with our state senator and assemblymember on issues important us and invite their legislative analysts to our meetings.*

*Definition of interruption from proposed SB 1100 read (36:38), it’s a broad definition, not sure how it would be interpreted. Concern expressed that some forms of protest involve intentionally disrupting meetings and some forms are civil and peaceful. Hope expressed for broadest possible acceptance of the public as long as they act reasonably and respectfully. If passed, will need clarification as to what qualifies as “willfully disruptive.” Suggestion to address state legislature directly with any concerns before bill is passed.*

b. Discussion re possible Letter of Action to request City Council support legislation to remove statute of limitations to prosecute or bring civil suit re elder abuse

*Tess has researched Lee’s situation and discussed it with him, new information has come to light which needs to be analyzed before she can make a recommendation, suggests that this item be tabled for now.*

*Jo Ann Rivas (elaborates on what has given rise to Lee’s request). Concern re lack of government accountability and transparency, especially within the District Attorney’s office, can’t get a Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged or answered, complaints disappear, no one can find case paperwork. Statute of limitations is not the main issue, it’s how someone can be victimized, have everything taken but can’t get help because that person is poor and a senior. Expresses frustration that the government would have such discretion over who they will or won’t help or prosecute. Feel the government is not doing its job protecting us, and when complaints are lost or ignored if you can’t afford expensive attorneys.*

*Tess suggests the best authority for accountability for the DA is likely the public integrity unit of the Attorney General of the State of CA.*

*Specific case may not be appropriate for GAC, but a Letter of Action (“LOA”) may still be.*

c. Discussion re SB 9 and SB 10 planning & land use legislation

SB 9: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220SB9](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB9)

SB 10: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220SB10](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB10)

*Follow-on legislation has come up, primarily planning issues:*

- *Enhance density bonuses, additional bonuses could be problematic.*
- *Affordable housing preservation including tax credits for apartments and mobile homes*
- *Compliance monitoring of affordable housing. With so many legislative requirements for affordable housing there appears to be insufficient follow up on who is obeying the law, this bill addresses that.*
- *Housing cost reduction initiative programs, some allow higher density on certain zoned properties,*
- *Effectiveness of state low income tax credit, needs to be studied. Developers’ use of tax credits, needs review, public needs to know what’s going on.*
- *Reduction of parking requirements for religious institutions, allows development of affordable housing on parking lots of religious institutions.*

*These impact our community, all bills still in early stages; Planning & Land Use committee will track.*



*Discussion of Community Impact Statements (“CISes”). We can file a CIS which goes into the city’s legislative process related to City actions. To affect statewide legislation, we can support or oppose state legislation through city’s legislative agenda which has power in Sacramento.*

*The Chief Administrative Officer tracks state legislation for council members and mayor. If City takes a position, we can oppose or support it. If they haven’t, then we can ask them to take position on something. Our councilmember can help us.*

*Discussion re viability of GAC tracking city and state legislative agendas and referring bills to GTLNC committees; consensus this will be impractical. Ideally each committee will track and propose CIS/Letter of Action as appropriate.*

*Katherine and Colby are authorized CIS submitters via City portal; any committee can propose a CIS then take it to the full board for consideration and approval. Proposal to create resource packet so other committees know where to look to track and find legislation, include How-To for Letter of Action vs. CIS, explain options.*

*Question re who determines if a bill is “AB” (Assembly Bill) or “SB” (Senate Bill)? Answer – generally Assemblymember or State Senator who proposes bill gets his name on it. Then it has to pass at house of origin, then it goes to the other house, and must pass in both houses for it to become legislation.*

*Question- What’s our state district?*

*Assembly District 46, there is a tiny portion of Toluca Woods in another Assembly district. Senate District 18*

*Question re who receives CIS. For a CIS, we submit to the full Los Angeles City Council in city Portal; CIS are specific to city council files.. May submit Letter of Action to request they take action or a position. Also have option to write LOA to our state senator or assemblymember.*

*Question about an action related to District Attorney Gascon. This was likely a LOA or Letter of No Confidence, not CIS.*

*Concern expressed about negative impact of above “follow on” bills, request to ensure these are on agendas*

*d. Update re planned closure of Toluca Lake Post Office*

*No response from John Alford, Chief of Staff in Congressman Sherman’s district office or from Don MacDonald, Chief of Staff in DC office. Alford delegated this matter to someone in his office.*

**7. New Business/Future Projects (One (1) Minute per Speaker per Agenda Item)**

*a. Identifying Standing Rules to draft*

*Previously passed 2-part update to bylaws in February and March, these are submitted to city for approval. We passed two Standing Rules in relation to agenda-setting and vacancies (notifications, application process). Consider them to be in effect now.*

*Requests to prioritize Standing Rules re adding people to committees and annual meeting procedures at next GAC meeting, including notification at preceding meeting so people understand what’s coming.*

*Discussion of certificates of appreciation distributed at annual meetings, last year city suspended this practice.*

*Request for Standing Rule that each committee agenda have an item for a report on pending legislation affecting the community*



*Request GTLNC create CIS to address policies that stakeholder claims interfere with police ability to perform their job, referred to as “Gascon Policies” and “COVID Ordinances.” Refer to public safety committee. Stakeholder has requested this at public safety, says nothing shows up on agendas.*

*Request for education component to meetings, have experts talk for 10 minutes on topics related to committee’s area to provide macro context.*

*Meeting minutes submitted by Tess Taylor*

**8. Meeting Adjourned**

Close Time: 8:04 PM

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, May 3, 2022 @ 6:30 PM** – via Zoom

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The public is requested to dial \*9 or use the “Raise Hand” option, 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.

**AB 361 UPDATES**

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, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council’s control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

**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 <https://www.lacity.org/government/subscribe-agendasnotifications/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, assistive listening devices and 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 Robyn Allyn, Board Secretary via email at [Robyn.Allyn@gtlnc.org](mailto:Robyn.Allyn@gtlnc.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.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.Allyn@gtlnc.org](mailto:Robyn.Allyn@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 la Mesa Directiva, por correo electrónico [Robyn.Allyn@gtlnc.org](mailto:Robyn.Allyn@gtlnc.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal."

**NOTICE TO PAID REPRESENTATIVES**



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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](https://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)

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