**North Westwood Neighborhood Council**

**Special Full Board Meeting**

**June 10th, 2020 from 6:30 to 10:00pm**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call-to-order and roll call (2 minutes)**

* Call to order at 6:33 pm. Peters, Skiles, Tarighat, Ranadive, Arciniega, Russel, Rodriguez, Arfin, Ahmed, Reynolds, Hajee, May, Braciszewski, Trifunovic, Navab present. Quorum met.

**2. Announcements (10 minutes)**

* Russel: NPG for Wesley Foundation won’t be heard tonight, it’s a religious non-profit and cannot be funded.
* Peters: Slow streets application has been received by LADOT, is under consideration.
* Skiles: thanks Westwood community for peaceful protests
* Furkan Yalcin: Instagram Live series on hold because of recent events. Asks board to recommend speakers knowledgeable about racial justice protests.

**3. Comments by Public Officials or their representatives**

* **Senior Lead Officer Pete Ojeda, LAPD**
  + Police officer for almost 18 years, 16 serving in West LA division. Here to listen, help, answer questions. Some recent burglaries in Westwood. Jackie Robinson Stadium leased by VA to UCLA for baseball field. Has been used as a staging area/command post for many incidents, including last year’s fires. Instructed to use that area as a command post and field transition area for arrestees. Jails were unable to process the number of detainees.
  + Skiles: What has LAPD done well and would could they have done better?
    - Ojeda: communication with different neighborhoods was great. Could have been more prepared for everything that happened.
    - Would have to direct specific questions about conditions at Jackie Robinson to commanding officer.
  + Sachi Cooper: At what time was UCLA notified of LAPD’s decision to use the Jackie Robinson Stadium for any function? Who within UCLA/UCPD was notified?
    - Ojeda: Decision probably made a day or two in advance, can answer over email.
  + Q+A: What is your response to calls to defund the police / footage of violent police responses to peaceful protests?
    - Defunding the police would not be a good thing, would hurt ability to do programs with the community. Major flow with police response was insufficient training, need to make officers understand how to deescalate and have better communication.
  + Alexis Wells: Works with Noreen and Ernesto on ASUCLA board. Wants specific and clear answers as to why LAPD detained a pregnant woman, took certain actions.
    - Ojeda: Will ask for specific answers from department and commanding officer.
  + Skiles requests that Ojeda return with answers to specific questions asked at a future meeting.
  + Braciszewski: Asks for Ojeda’s personal reflection on detainment of pregnant woman, other LAPD actions in the future.
  + Arfin: Instagram post with half a million likes on Instagram describes treatment of detainees in buses including cavity searches, overly tight zip ties, loud music. Post says that girls were dropped off in the middle of the night at the cemetery. What should LAPD do to hold officers accountable?
    - Ojeda: Bus full of detainees taken towards VA property at Wilshire and Veteran, they were released there. Department following up on training for mass arrests, providing medical attention.
  + Ahmed: Emphasizes importance of clear and honest answers, presence at future meetings.
  + Arciniega: Thanks students who tuned in to make their voices heard.
  + Hajee: Do you believe that you are complicit in the actions of your fellow officers?
    - Ojeda: Complicit if you’re blaming the actions of the LAPD as a whole.
  + Skiles: in Van Nuys, African American store owners called LAPD to prevent looters, news crew saw officers arrest the owners while the reporters pleaded with them. Needs to be a culture of officers listening to the community, asking questions before reaching judgements that threaten people’s lives and liberties. Are you aware of this incident, has it provoked any investigations?
    - Ojeda: Has no insight on the Van Nuys incident. If brought to the attention of the command staff, it is probably being investigated.
  + Q+A: What suggestions will you bring to LAPD to ameliorate police brutality?
    - Ojeda: More training, more interaction with the community.
* Nina Long: How will you specifically take action to make sure LAPD has a stricter policy regarding humane treatment of detainees?
  + Ojeda: as senior lead officer, has meetings with command staff, will get message across.
* **Ara An, Mayor’s Office of Budget and Innovation**
  + 2020 Census update during COVID-19
  + Revised schedule: new, extended deadline is October 31st
  + Service based enumeration and count of people experiencing homelessness need further review and coordination with outside partners and stakeholders
  + Can fill out census online at my2020census.gov, over the phone, by mail
  + Live census self-response rate map at census.lacity.org, updated daily
  + Can volunteer at bit.ly/censusphonebank, participate in social media 9 for 9 challenge, get printed census outreach materials by emailing [ara.an@lacity.org](mailto:ara.an@lacity.org)
  + Call to action for NCs: hold a virtual census/event convening in collaboration with the Mayor’s Office Census 2020 Initiative, spread awareness through social media, see toolkit at thesocialpresskit.com/lacitycensus, asks NCs to organize a national day of action on Wednesday, June 17, 2020
  + Hiring at 2020.census.gov/en/jobs.html, pay $22-25/hr
* **Jasmine Shimolian, Office of Councilmember Koretz**
  + Office still telecommuting, can be reached by email. Peaceful protest in Westwood on Saturday. Difficult few days in the office, other areas of the district hit hard with vandalism and looting. Emergency shelter at Westwood Rec Center, originally 100 capacity, now 51. 40 trailers, only 22 active. Unfortunately, last week there was an outbreak of COVID in the Rec Center, 6 people tested positive but outbreak likely more widespread, everyone in quarantine. People who leave the facility but break quarantine can’t come back. Doesn’t have a lot of information about conditions of people who were detained by LAPD. Commends LAPD for response to looting and vandalism.
  + Braciszewski: Important to prioritize people over property, not commend LAPD while not having any information about the treatment of arrestees.
  + Skiles: Was anyone in your office focused on safety of protestors/detainees?
    - Shimiolian: Yes, office supports peaceful protesting, was involved with LAPD to make sure everyone felt safe. Will get more information from public safety deputy.
  + New planning deputy, Daniel Scolnick. Regular constituent services ongoing, Sunset finally repaved.
  + Alexis Wells: Many of the protests started in Westwood were open and transparent, peaceful. Why bring National Guard to Westwood, but not San Fernando Valley or Pasadena, other areas?
    - Shimolian: National Guard was everywhere, not just in Westwood. Many protests were initially peaceful but a few people took advantage, looted and vandalized commercial areas. Had to prepare for Westwood based on what had happened in other areas.
* Q+A: If you want everyone to feel safe, you need to investigate the LAPD as they are making people unsafe. Situation with the detainees shouldn’t be news after being reported on by LAT, NYT, Daily Bruin.
* Crummy: Carnage took place in Downtown Santa Monica. Nine fires set, small businesses looted and equipment stolen. Not defending what happened between LAPD and peaceful protestors, but other people took advantage and created mayhem. Devastated small businesses without insurance. Police were trying to prevent that. Supports investigation of LAPD but also thankful that the National Guard was deployed, police officers tried to prevent looting.
* Skiles: footage indicated that LAPD prioritized peaceful protests, not stopping looters. Police officers should focus on law enforcement, not peaceful protests.
* Ahmed: Why is Rec Center still open if it has COVID cases?
  + Shimolian: Facility not accepting anyone new, but anyone there is potentially exposed and has to stay there in quarantine.
* **Zac Gaidzik, Office of Supervisor Kuehl**
  + Replacing Erin Seinfeld. 67,064 total cases of COVID today countywide, total deaths of 61, 1,458 hospitalizations. Numbers stable to trending down. Approximately 732,000 have been tested, 8% tested are positive. Medical/isolation sheltering for people testing positive and needing to be quarantine. Project Roomkey has leased 3,601 rooms. 30 more rooms in Venice just signed. People beginning to transition out of Roomkey and into permanent housing. Health orders will be relaxed this week, entering Stage 3. Gyms, campgrounds, museums, entertainment industry production, spectator free sports competitions reopening. Proposed motion to cap fees for 3rd party delivery platforms to protect small businesses. Will issue public health guidance for law enforcement to ensure safety of protestors. Jail population reduced over the last few years and due to the pandemic, new motion to make sure that people leaving jails are connected to housing and work opportunities.
* **Jamie Kennerk, Office of Assemblymember Kamlager**
  + Assemblymember pushing two bills to the floor. AB 2054 establishes a pilot grant program for community based responses to local emergency situations. AB 1950 limits adult probation terms to 1 year maximum for misdemeanors, 2 years for felonies. Probation has become a pipeline for reentry to the carceral system. Both bills reduce participation in carceral state, move away from thinking about public safety as a policing issue, towards community solutions. On Tuesday, Kamlager organized demonstration at Capitol in memory of George Floyd. Co-sponsor of ACA 5, which would put a ballot of Prop 209 on the ballot.
* **Carmen Healey, UCLA**
  + UCLA is still remote working and learning through summer. In the next couple of weeks, will hear plans to re-open campus. Graduation taking place this weekend, will hold in-person commencement at a later date. Incident at Jackie Robinson Stadium violated UCLA values, university task force will make sure it doesn’t happen again.
  + Skiles: In 2016, funding was appropriated for UCPD to get bodycams but UCLA PD doesn’t have them. Do you know what the status is for that?
    - Healey: Will get back to us with answer.
  + Sachi Cooper: Are there any student representatives on the task force? Facilities commission should be represented in a conversation about facilities.
    - Healey: Task force will include students, faculty, staff, community members.

**4. Multiple Agenda Item Comment Period. (Up to 3 minutes per speaker)**

* Aidan Arasasingham
  + External Vice President of USAC, representing over 30,000 undergraduate students. Strongly supports the People’s Budget and police brutality motions. Past two weeks have shown us the brutality of racism in society and public institutions. A week ago, Westwood residents subject to excessive force and detainment by LAPD. Need to refocus public dollars to community services. Stands in solidarity with Afrikan Student Union, Black students. Coalition includes ethnic student organizations and student government leaders. Urges support for both motions. Should invest in communities and color, build a just and equitable community for all.
* Arden Dressner Levy
  + Bruin, Westwood tenant, member of Jewish community. Speaking in support of items 17 and 18 in support of divestment from the LAPD and People’s Budget for LA. Police shouldn’t have to act as traffic enforcement, social workers, therapists.
* Abe Soane
  + UCLA student, speaking out in favor of measures 17 and 18, support of People’s Budget and divestment from LAPD, UCLA separation from LAPD. In the past, was texting a friend threatening suicide, called UCPD and asked for help. Their response was to ask him if he was okay, hear his answer, and leave despite textual evidence of suicidal intention. Need people who are trained to respond to crises instead of officers out of their depth in most situations.
* Kourtney
  + UCLA student, Westwood community member. Supports measures 17 and 18. UCLA postures itself as diverse and welcoming but does little to support marginalized communities. This is an opportunity to hold UCLA accountable to its own values by asking that they cut ties with violent LAPD and reallocate funds from UCPD to services for Black students. This would follow the lead of other schools which have cut ties with police departments and moved cops off their schools. No conscionable reason why half of the city budget should go to LAPD. Should instead invest in housing, healthcare, schools. 600+ people in LA have been killed by LAPD in the past 7 years, shouldn’t funnel more money, equipment, training into LAPD.
* Furkan Yalcin
  + Who can be appointed as Budget Representatives? Can community members serve?
    - Russel: Only open to board members.
* Officer Ojeda
  + Apologies for not being prepared earlier, encourages public to email him questions, hopes that answers will be sufficient next meeting.
* Sachi Cooper
  + Was disgusted by decision to use a UCLA facility named after a civil rights icon for LAPD. Students, USAC, faculty, alumni, Afrikan Student Union, Black Graduate Student Union. People’s Budget provides a unique opportunity for council to rethink system of governnace. Funds for homelessness and basic needs being spent elsewhere, sometimes creating the problem. Reallocation of city funding means investing in people, addressing root causes of crises that create unsafe conditions. Urges support of items 17 and 18.
* Nina Long
  + Political Advocacy Coordinator for Vietnamese Student Union, staff member of USAC EVP. Urges support of items 17 and 18. LAPD does not make our community safer, especially for Black students. Measures reflect the demands of ASU and BGSU, listen to Black students.
* Alexis Wells
  + Thanks council for pushing items 17 and 18, hopes they are passed. At UCLA, John Higgins and Bunchy Carter were Black Panthers, killed on campus. Racism on campus and in our community. Item 18 would allow more funding to go to the community. Hopes Westwood can be a model for other communities.
* UCLA student
  + Over 75% of LA crimes are property crimes, Black residents are 9% of LA population but 46% of LAPD Metro arrests, 31% of LAPD arrests. Restorative justice is proven to be more effective and humane than violent policing. LAPD budget is not justified. Law enforcement has been enabled by passivity of community commit acts of brutality disproportionately targeting Black community. Need to defund police, invest in care and infrastructure for vulnerable communities. Supports items 17 and 18.
* Lauren Valles
  + UCLA student, member of USAC EVP office, political science student in support of People’s Budget. Housing security, public health, mental welfare should be prioritized over traditional forms of policing which endanger vulnerable populations. Urges support of People’s Budget for LA.
* Louise
  + Westwood community member, UCLA student. Echoes fellow students in voicing full support for UCLA separating ties with LAPD, endorses People’s Budget for LA. Resources should go to community services, not police. Concerned that LAPD arrested students, officer couldn’t speak to inhumane 5 hour detainment.
* Skiles
  + Thanks students and community members who gave public comment. Good to know that community cares about what we do, is engaged.

**5. General Public Comment (Up to 2 minutes per speaker)**

**6. Discussion and possible approval of May 2020 monthly expenditure report. (7 minutes)**

* Russel moves that the NWWNC approve the May 2020 monthly expenditure report, Skiles seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**7. Discussion and possible appointment of two Budget Representatives to the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates. (7 minutes)**

* Russel: Budget Representatives can vote and run in elections for LA Budget Advocates. Elections are in two weeks.
* Skiles nominates Russel, Ahmed, and Arfin as Budget Representatives.
* Russel withdraws himself from consideration.
* Arfin: believes strongly in the People’s Budget, wants to create budgetary change, have money go to more productive uses.
* Ahmed: wants to create a more transparent budgetary process moving forward
* Skiles moves to appoint Ahmed and Arfin as the NWWNC’s Budget Representatives, Russel seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**8. Discussion and possible approval of a set of objective guidelines which all NPG applicants must agree to be bound by when receiving an NPG, as well as a set of recommended board actions for violations of these guidelines by non-profits which have received such grants (15 minutes)**

* Russel: Discussed in Budget Committee, council has had difficulty communicating with some nonprofits that received NPGs but then had to pay it back because of coronavirus. Agreeing on a set of guidelines would help open communication.
* Public comment
  + Steve Sann
    - Proposed language of guidelines requires that check be given back, but that is very restrictive, check can’t always be given back, ex. Friends of Westwood Library needed a stop payment order, funds can be given back other ways. Suggests extending 7 day deadline to at least 14 or even 30 days.
* Russel: City Attorney will work out the actual language, this is just a guideline.
* Russel moves that the NWWNC adopt the following objective guidelines for monitoring compliance with organizations receiving NPGS, Skiles seconds.

The NWWNC Neighborhood Council, seeking to ensure the proper usage of public funds, create objective and uniform guidelines for dealing with organizations receiving NPGs, and ensure transparency between NPG recipients, the council, and the public, requires the following of all NPG recipients:

1. All NPG recipients must send a monthly email of the current status of the NPG project/what progress has been made on the project during this month to the Treasurer and the chair(s) of the Budget Committee, via email. This email is due one day before the monthly meeting of the council on the first of Wednesday, and must be issued until the NPG project has been completed.
2. All NPG recipients must inform the NWWNC within 72 hours if the proposed Budget, end date, event date, event location, or any other major aspect of the NPG has been substantially changed. This notification must be to the Treasurer and the chair(s) of the Budget Committee, via email. The NWWNC may agendize the NPG in question at its next monthly meeting to determine whether the project being pursued by the organization is still compliant with the original NPG application or whether or not the money must be returned.
3. All NPG recipients must complete the Project Completion Form within 10 days of the completion of their event or tend days of the usage of the entirety of their grant funds, whichever comes first.
4. Any failure to send a monthly email shall receive one warning email from the Treasurer that the email must be sent within 24 hours, by the time of the NWWNC monthly meeting. Should a monthly email fail to be sent by the time of the NWWNC monthly meeting, it shall be viewed as a violation of the NPG agreement by the NWWNC, which will work with the City Clerk’s Office to ensure the money is returned for the organization for the full amount of the grant.
5. Any failure to inform the NWWNC within 72 hours of changes to the NPG will be viewed as a violation of the NPG agreement by the NWWNC, which will work with the City Clerk’s Office to ensure the money is returned for the organization for the full amount of the grant.
6. Any failure to complete the Project Completion Form within the timeline delineated above will be viewed as a recommendation by the NWWNC to refuse all future NPG applications from this organization.
7. Any failure to issue a refund check by the organization in question within 30 days for violating the NPG agreement in any way will be viewed as a recommendation by the NWWNC to refuse all future NPG applications from this organization.

* Motion carries unanimously.

**9. Discussion and possible approval of an NPG of $5,000 to Wesley Foundation Serving UCLA for the purchase of basic needs and technology grants for UCLA students, alumni, and stakeholders during the COVID-19 crisis (15 minutes)**

* Skiles moves without objection to recess the meeting until such time as the special meeting to consider the WVIA’s NPG application is adjourned, Ahmed seconds.
* Call to order at 9:34 pm.
  + Russel, Skiles, Ranadive, Lewis, Arciniega, Trifunovic, May, Navab, Crummy, Braciszewski, Rodriguez, Arfin, Ahmed, Reynolds, Hajee, Peters present. Quorum met.

**10. Discussion and possible approval of an NPG of $5,000 to Parents, Educators/Teachers & Students in Action (PESA) to fund the COVID-19 Hero Series, addressing social distancing and anti-racism education for the Teen Court Program at the Los Angeles Superior Court. (15 minutes)**

* Seymour Amster, Araksya Nordikyan
  + Provides presentations on racial issues, targeting of people with accusations of causing coronavirus, racist/insensitive remarks. Experienced in infusing art projects into programs.
  + NPG to reach out to UCLA students and student groups, cause a discussion on race/insensitive remarks, recruit UCLA students.
* Navab: What is your approach/strategy when encountering people who are racist/making insensitive comments?
  + Members trained at Museum of Tolerance. Tremendous amount of experience, target those who are not accepting to start conversations.
* Russel: Budget Committee found the application to be sufficient
* Russel moves that the NWWNC approve the NPG $5,000 to Parents, Educators/Teachers & Students in Action (PESA) to fund the COVID-19 Hero Series, addressing social distancing and anti-racism education for the Teen Court Program at the Los Angeles Superior Court, Braciszewski seconds. Motion carries unanimously with Crummy not voting.

**11. Discussion and possible approval of an NPG of $5,000 to Meals on Wheels of West Los Angeles to fund food and refrigerator purchases and ensure meal delivery during the COVID-19 crisis. (15 minutes)**

* Ellen, director of Meals on Wheels West LA
  + Numbers are up because of COVID-19, about 92 individuals a day to 145 a day. 15-20 within our council area. Used to serve a hot sandwich meal to homebound individuals. With coronavirus, many volunteers self-isolating. Their kitchen, St. Vincent’s Meals on Wheels, had to convert to frozen food, only have one per client. Connected with new source for fresh meals. Had to convert both fridges into freezers, no longer have a fridge to store fresh meals. Want to purchase a full size refrigerator. Food costs have also gone up.
* Russel: Budget Committee found that the application was satisfactory
* Russel moves that the NWWNC approve the NPG of $5,000 to Meals on Wheels of West Los Angeles to fund food and refrigerator purchases and ensure meal delivery during the COVID-19 crisis, Skiles seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

Rodriguez and Braciszewski left.

**12. Discussion and possible approval of May 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report. (15 minutes)**

**13. Discussion and possible approval of Encumbrance Request Form, as well as a discussion of which expenditures should be encumbered/rolled over from the 2019-2020 NWWNC Budget to the 2020-2021 NWWNC Budget. (15 minutes)**

* Russel moves that the NWWNC approve the Encumbrance Request Form for fiscal year 2019-2020 encumbering $1,117.53 to Westwood Copies, $4,995.11 to Far Out Presents, $5,000 to Friends of the Westwood Library, $4,431.50 to West Cal Academy, $1,800 to UCLA Conferences and Catering, $2,000 to Facebook, Inc., and $3,250 to Daily Bruin/Bruin Media Group for a total of $22,594.14, Skiles seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**14. Discussion and possible resolution that while Covid mitigation is taking place, restaurants in North Westwood should be allowed to set up tables and chairs outside their spaces to offset expected indoor occupancy loss and to ensure customers feel safe while dining. Possible further resolution that if sidewalks are not wide enough for tables and chairs and pedestrian access, then parklets should be created on the street in front of the businesses. Possible further resolution that bike lanes in Westwood Village should be piloted to encourage people to visit the district. (15 minutes)**

* Skiles: Land Use Committee unanimously voted to support a resolution affirming all of the above. High vacancy rate and businesses going out of business in the Village, one impediment is lack of outdoor seating, restrictive zoning, lack of pedestrian traffic.
* Skiles moves that the NWWNC resolves that restaurants in North Westwood should be allowed to set up tables and chairs outside their spaces to offset expected indoor occupancy loss and to ensure customers feel safe while dining, further that if sidewalks are not wide enough for tables and chairs and pedestrian access, then parklets should be created on the street in front of the businesses, further that bike lanes in Westwood Village should be piloted to encourage people to visit the district, Crummy seconds.
* Motion carries unanimously.

**15. Discussion and possible resolution that due to all of the businesses lost due to the Covid shutdown and the already excessive vacancy rates in Westwood Village that some or all requirements of the Westwood Village Specific Plan, excluding historic preservation requirements, be suspended for a 36 month period. (20 minutes)**

* Andrew Thomas: The Westwood Village Specific Plan has been an impediment to leasing and development. Working to amend the Plan on food use definitions and parking requirements. Since that time, COVID-19 has devastated retail and restaurant uses. Small tweaks to WVSP not enough to support existing businesses and encourage new ones. WVIA board decided that all of the WVSP excepting section 6, historical preservation, should be suspended for 36 months.
* Crummy: Need as much flexibility as possible for businesses to come in, should remove impediments. In short term, send a message that we’re open for business.
* Public comment
  + David Kan
    - Resident of Westwood since 1993, lives on Bentley and works on Wilshire and Glendon. Really wants there to be live music and dancing in Westwood. Need more interaction between artists and general population, not less. For the suspension of the WVSP. UCLA is filled with artists, musicians, poets. Village should enable that, not limit it.
* Steve Sann
  + WVSP doesn’t limit music, poetry, art, or spoken word. This is a common misconception.
* Trifunovic: WVIA board made up of business owners and residents. This may sound like a radical idea to suspend the WVSP, but we would have 36 months to come up with ideas for regulations. For now, scrap it and let the free market decide what it wants. Trust that the NWWNC and WVIA will recommend good businesses coming in. Last thing we need now is to let any business think there are restrictions that could motivate them to open elsewhere.
* Skiles: This wouldn’t get rid of all zoning, still regulations of Community Plan, General Plan, California ABC.
* Trifunovic moves that the NWWNC recommends the suspension of the WVSP for 36 months excluding historic preservation requirements, Skiles seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**16. Discussion and possible resolution and Community Impact Statement concerning the March 27, 2020 Los Angeles City Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee motion to extend all Conditional Use Permits for a period of 12 months after the expiration of the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration, to suspend any requirement that a property owner or business provide additional parking in connection with a change of use where such change of use occurs during the 12 months after the expiration of the Emergency Declaration, to suspend requirements for off-site or valet parking for a period of 6 months after the expiration of the Emergency Declaration, and to implement an amended Restaurant Beverage Program to be made retroactive to include pending applications to include in commercial districts recent changes implemented by the City of Santa Monica to reduce the need for Conditional Use Permits, streamlining the permitting process and providing greater flexibility for both restaurants and nightlife establishments. (20 minutes)**

* Andrew Thomas: At the end of March, Councilmember Blumenfeld introduced a motion to extend Conditional Use Permits for a period of 12 months after the expiration of the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration. CUPs are critical to businesses, difficult and expensive to get. Motion also sought to suspend requirements that businesses provide additional parking for a change of use. Third effect was to suspend requirements for off-site or valet parking. Final item was to implement the Restaurant Beverage Program to make the process of getting alcohol permitseasier, will save restaurants time and money. WVIA wants to go even further, follow the model of Santa Monica which has streamlined permitting for alcohol sales.
* Skiles: Land Use Committee unanimously recommended this position.
* Skiles moves that the NWWNC resolve and authorize its president to file a Community Impact Statement Statement reflecting this resolution concerning the March 27, 2020 Los Angeles City Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee motion to extend all Conditional Use Permits for a period of 12 months after the expiration of the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration, further resolving that requirements that a property owner or business provide additional parking in connection with a change of use where such change of use occurs be suspended during the 12 months after the expiration of the Emergency Declaration, further resolving that requirements for off-site or valet parking be suspended for a period of 6 months after the expiration of the Emergency Declaration, further resolving that the City of Los Angeles should implement an amended Restaurant Beverage Program to be made retroactive to include pending applications to include in commercial districts recent changes implemented by the City of Santa Monica to reduce the need for Conditional Use Permits, streamlining the permitting process and providing greater flexibility for both restaurants and nightlife establishments, Peters seconds.
* Motion carries unanimously.

**17. Discussion and possible resolution concerning Police Brutality in Los Angeles, proposed changes to UCPD/LAPD policing tactics and the use by LAPD of UCLA leased Jackie Robinson Field as a “field jail” following recent Westwood Protest. (20 minutes)**

* Peters: LAPD is neither protecting nor serving the community. In recent days, we’ve seen wanton violence, inhumane detention conditions, and deprivation of constitutional rights. UCLA should cut ties with UCPD.
* Russel: Should stand in solidarity with the demands of the Afrikan Student Union and Black Graduate Student Association
* Lewis moves that the NWWNC resolve as follows:

WHEREAS protests, demonstrations, and peaceful rallies are taking place across the country to denounce police brutality and racial injustice following the murder of George Floyd while detained by Minneapolis Officer Derek Chauvin.

WHEREAS the LAPD has responded to peaceful protests citywide with wanton violence, including beatings, the use of rubber bullets, pepper spray, and tear gas, and indiscriminate arrests.

WHEREAS the LAPD held dozens of detained protesters in the parking lot of a UCLA-leased athletics facility ('Jackie Robinson Stadium') Monday, June 1st following a peaceful protest in Westwood. The detainees, including a pregnant woman and a woman suffering from epilepsy, sat handcuffed in cramped cages inside buses for several hours without access to water, food, bathrooms, or medical attention.  
  
WHEREAS UCLA officials were aware that the VA allowed the LAPD to use the stadium parking lot Monday as a staging area, according to a Wednesday statement from Chancellor Gene Block and other UCLA officials.

WHEREAS UCLA has since condemned the use of the Jackie Robinson Stadium as a field jail and has claimed that LAPD did not have UCLA's permission to use its property in this way.

BE IT RESOLVED that the NWWNC recommends that UCLA sever official ties with LAPD, an agency that has demonstrated its disregard for the health, safety, and constitutional rights of Angelenos and which has improperly used UCLA property as an unsanctioned and inhumane field jail.  
  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWWNC calls for the University of California, Los Angeles to reallocate funding for UCPD to student services, particularly those serving the Black student community.  
  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWWNC encourages UCLA to conduct and publish a report of all abuse of power incidents involving the UCPD or LAPD and UCLA students or Westwood community members since these police agencies have been granted contracts with UCLA.

* Ahmed seconds.
* Arfin: In 2016, UCPD was supposed to have body cams on all officers. UCPD has a history of racial profiling incidents, misidentified sexual assault suspect as Black and arrested Black student at Roebling block party.
* Arfin moves to amend,
  + adding “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWWNC recommend that the UCPD make body cameras mandatory for every police officer.
  + BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED sponsor a Change.org petition to bring both awareness and demand to issues regarding body cameras.”
    - Lewis seconds
    - Motion to amend fails to pass 0-11-0.
* Motion carries unanimously.

**18. Discussion and possible resolution endorsing the People’s Budget for Los Angeles, which shifts resources away from policing and directs them towards essential social services to promote the safety and wellbeing of Los Angeles residents. (20 minutes)**

* Hajee moves that the NWWNC resolve the following:

**WHEREAS** the North Westwood Neighborhood Council stands in solidarity with Black Lives Matter and demands justice for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, and countless others who have lost their lives at the hands of police brutality, racism, and white supremacy.

**WHEREAS** LAPD officers have been observed needlessly escalating confrontations with and deploying repressive violence against peaceful protestors across Los Angeles, including usage of tear gas, shooting plastic and rubber bullets at close range, running into demonstrators with LAPD vehicles, among other acts of aggression and violence.  
  
**WHEREAS** after ordering Westwood protestors to move from the 405 Freeway to Wilshire Boulevard, LAPD officers subsequently declared the peaceful demonstration to be an unlawful assembly.

**WHEREAS** LAPD officers fired rubber bullets and detained at least 10 peaceful protestors in Westwood.

**WHEREAS** these detainees, including a pregnant woman and another suffering from epilepsy, were held in close quarters for several hours, left handcuffed, and denied access to food, water, or medical attention at UCLA’s Jackie Robinson Stadium.  
  
**WHEREAS**, although UCLA claims that it did not grant permission for LAPD to use Jackie Robinson Stadium as a field jail, it did allow the property to be used as an LAPD command post, making UCLA complicit in the police response.

**WHEREAS,** despite widespread public anger at LAPD and numerous documented acts of recent police brutality, Mayor Eric Garcetti chose to approve a budget increase to $1.86 billion for law enforcement for the 2020-21 fiscal year, an increase of $122 million compared to the prior year, despite austerity cuts to all other City departments.

**WHEREAS,** amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, $230 million were cut from services imposing furloughs on nearly 16,000 workers. Programs essential to ensuring safe distancing and protecting vulnerable populations, along with the general public, saw significant cuts at a time when they must be increased. Housing programs were cut by 9.4%, job programs by 8.9%, and homelessness programs by 6%; all while boosting expenditure on police by 7.1%.

**WHEREAS** City Council President Nury Martinez has already proposed the decrease of the LAPD budget by $100 to 150 million.  
  
**WHEREAS** Councilmembers Ryu, Bonin, and Harris-Dawson have also expressed interest in reducing the LAPD budget during Budget Committee deliberations.

**WHEREAS** the People’s Budget LA Coalition, led by Black Lives Matter Los Angeles, has taken urgent steps to engage in a public process of participatory budgeting, and with over 10,000 people participating in this process has identified divestment from police and policing as a top priority.

**WHEREAS** racialized police violence and mass arrests in tandem with cuts to municipal social services in the midst of a global pandemic creates a threat to public health, particularly for Black communities throughout Los Angeles.

**WHEREAS** a reduction in aggressive proactive policing during the 2014-2015 NYPD strike actually caused a reduction in major crimes such as burglary, felony assault, and grand larceny.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Westwood Neighborhood Council endorses the People’s Budget for Los Angeles, shifting resources away from policing and directing them to essential social services to promote the safety and wellbeing of Los Angeles residents.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Westwood Neighborhood Council recommends that LA City Councilmember Paul Koretz move to amend the Los Angeles City budget in accordance with the changes delineated in the People’s Budget.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Westwood Neighborhood Council recommends there be further transparency in the annual budgeting process of Los Angeles City Council, with proactive efforts from Los Angeles City Council and the Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to facilitate a process for active community input through neighborhood councils.

* Peters seconds.
* Russel: Budget Committee recommended the adoption of the resolution.
* Motion unanimously carries

**19. Nomination and possible appointment of standing committee members. (10 minutes)**

* Navkaran Gurm
  + Seeking appointment to Transportation and Safety Committee. Second-year economic and public affairs student. Involved in USAC, Bruin Political Union, Sikh Student Association. Worked on two successful city council campaigns and at City Council in Fresno, as congressional intern.
* Skiles: What would you change about Westwood’s transportation?
  + Gurm: Protected bike lanes important for safety for bicyclists. Interested in work on vehicle dwelling and safe parking.
* Skiles appoints Gurm to the Transportation and Safety Committee and moves that the NWWNC confirm his appointment, Peters seconds.
* Motion carries unanimously.

**20. Adjournment**