Greater Valley Glen Council ("GVGC")
13654 Victory Blvd., #136, Valley Glen, CA 91401
www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 9, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Concorde Career College
12412 Victory Blvd.
North Hollywood, CA 91606

Officers
Sloan Myrick      President
Jean Chadwick    Vice President
James Casey      Treasurer
Mickey Jannol    Secretary

Board Members
Michael Ashkinadze      Youth Rep
Joseph Barmettler       At-Large Rep
James Casey             District 6 Rep
Julie Casey             District 6 Rep
Doug Chadwick           At-Large Rep
Jean Chadwick           District 2 Rep
Joanne D'Antonio        District 1 Rep
September Forsyth       At-Large Rep
Stanley Friedman        Religious Institutions Rep
Walter Hall             Community Organizations Rep
Derek Iversen           District 5 Rep
Mickey Jannol           Commercial Property Rep
Malky Kertis            District 4 Rep
Sloan Myrick            District 5 Rep
Thomas Newton           Community Organizations Rep
Cosmo Moore             District 4 Rep
Linda Wehrli            Commercial Property Rep

Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Required Disclosures:
1) A Quorum for any GVGC Board Meeting is 13 Board Members.
2) Motions (or Official Actions) pass with a Majority of the sum of Yes and No votes cast.
3) The attached Vote Tally Sheet on Page 9 shows how each Board Member voted.
Call to Order was at 7:05 p.m. and commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Douglas Chadwick.

1. Board Roll Call. Fourteen (14) members present: Ashkinadze, Barmettler, James Casey, Julie Casey, D. Chadwick, J. Chadwick, D’Antonio, Forsyth, Hall, Jannol, Myrick, Moore, Newton, and Wehrli. Three (3) members absent: Friedman, Iversen, and Kertis. Member Sargent submitted her resignation several days before the start of this Board meeting. A quorum was achieved.

2. Possible Nomination and Board Approval of new Board members. There were no nominations. Please see the attachment Item 2 (pages 10-12) which appears after the Vote Tally Sheet. This attachment contains a listing of the 8 vacant Board seats, the link for eligibility applicable to the seats, how stakeholders can be nominated to fill the seats, and boundary maps for the District Rep seats.

3. President’s Comments Part 1. President Myrick thanked members of the Public for coming to this meeting since the location had to be changed due to LA Valley College’s schedule.

4. Board approval of February 5, 2018 minutes. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by J. Chadwick. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. Planning and Land Use Committee (“PLUC”) Chair D. Chadwick may supplement minutes with PLUC report. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Voice Vote. 14 Ayes, 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions, 0 Ineligible. Motion passes.

5. Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer James Casey reported that as of the beginning of this Board meeting and before any approval of Funding Actions at this meeting, there remained $4,500 Funding Actions to commit by the City of Los Angeles’ fiscal year end June 30, 2018. [Secretary’s Note: This compares to $12,900 as of the start of the March 2018 Board meeting]. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. There was some discussion as to whether the City of Los Angeles/EMPOWER LA would allow neighborhood councils to roll over or “bank” unused funds up to $5,000. Barmettler commented that the City continues to encourage NCS to spend all their allocated funds within the fiscal year; no roll over of funds is currently allowed. Business then proceeded to motions.

A. Motion for Board approval of February 2018 MERs as per DONE requirements. MERs are found on the following link: https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/display.cfm?id=609&type=5. Motion made by James Casey. Seconded by Jannol. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Funding Action. Roll Call Vote: 12 Ayes, 0 Nos, 1 Abstention (D’Antonio), and 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.

B. Motion for Board approval of expenditures of $380.53 to reimburse Sloan Myrick of out of pocket expenditures for food and refreshments at (Feb-March 2018) Committee Meetings at Uncle Tony’s Pizzeria. Motion made by Jannol. Seconded by Barmettler. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Funding Action. Roll Call Vote: 11 Ayes, 0 Nos, 2 Abstentions (D’Antonio and Myrick), and 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.

C. Motion for Board approval of expenditures of $33.71 to reimburse Joanne D’Antonio of out of pocket expenditures for food and refreshments at a Committee Meeting at Uncle Tony’s Pizzeria. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by Barmettler. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Funding Action. Roll Call Vote: 12 Ayes, 0 Nos, 1 Abstention (D’Antonio), and 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.

D. Budget Advocate Report. There was no Budget Advocate present and there was no report.

6. LAPD Senior Lead Officer (“SLO”) Reports. No SLOs were present. No reports.

7. Government Representatives Reports.

A. EMPOWER LA. Representative Vanessa Serrano reported that 6/1/18 is the last day for NCs to apply for payments by check. This is being done to coincide with the fiscal year 6/30/18.
B. LA City Councilmember Paul Krekorian. Council District 2 (CD2). Sahag Yedalian, Filed Deputy sahag.yedalian@lacity.org was not able to attend this Board meeting but continues to assist GVGC on pending items.

C. Congressmember Tony Cardenas. No representative present to report.

D. Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian. Vanessa Carr, Field Representative for the Assemblymember, introduced herself as the new representative. Vanessa discussed pending State legislation that the Assemblymember is sponsoring, constituent services, and promotion of self-defense workshops on April 14 and 15, 2018. Public and Board Comment covered a wide array of issues including requests for the Assemblyman to do something about wait times at Department of Motor Vehicles, the pending construction of a sound wall at the 170 Freeway in Districts 5 and 6, and homelessness at the 170 Freeway on/off ramps where CalTrans is responsible for maintenance.

E. City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Prosecutor. Tamar Galatzan Neighborhood Prosecutor for most of the GVGC area, provided an update on quality of life crimes/issues in the GVGC area. Tamar discussed some specific neighborhood crimes she is working on but indicated that most of her workday is spent on attempting to resolve disputes between neighbors in the GVGC area. This has become a major issue as new households move into neighborhoods where existing homeowners have lived for a long time. Quite often, it is hard for the lifestyles of households in formation, to coexist peacefully with long-time residents. Disputes may involve noise, parking, and a variety of things related to quality of life. Tamar indicated that the City of Los Angeles does not currently have a dispute resolution service, so her case load is growing. Tamar took questions about disputes, issues with Airbnb where homeowners are renting out several bedrooms, and neighborhood watch. [Secretary’s note: Any questions on quality of life issues that cannot be resolved within a neighborhood may be directed to Tamar Galatzan at tamar.galatzan@lacity.org. Naturally, it’s better to work things out because it appears Tamar’s case load is rising].

8. Guest Speaker. Diann Corral, President, Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association (“LGNA”). Diann Corral made a detailed slide-presentation on the history and current status of the subdivision application of Laurel Grove Neighborhood Council “LGNC”). LGNC seeks to be certified as a neighborhood council (“NC”). Proposed boundaries would cover the same boundaries as LGNA which are: Victory Blvd. (north), Colfax Ave. (east), Burbank Blvd. (south), and Whitsett Ave. (west). LGNA was created in 1999 and has represented the interests of the historical community of Laurel Grove (with previously mentioned boundaries).

Ms. Corral reported that LGNC applied for NC certification in January 2017. Its application was submitted to EMPOWER LA, and was denied. The application was re-submitted in March 2018 and authored by Board member Hall, who is a member of LGNA. The application was submitted to and reviewed by EMPOWER LA. It was denied for the same reason it was denied in 2017. Denial was based on the proposed NC area not having the required population of 20,000. Ms. Corral discussed how “minimum population of 20,000” is not called out by the City’s Plan for NCs. Instead, the Plan calls for a “minimum of 20,000 stakeholders,” a much broader term than population. Ms. Corral indicated that LGNC is considering “next steps” which could include appeal or a re-application for certification next year.

The significance of this application to GVGC is that part of LGNC’s application includes annexation of a portion of a portion GVGC’s eastern area; the area bounded by Victory Blvd., the 170 Freeway, Burbank Blvd., and Whitsett Ave. This represents a small portion of District 5 and about half of District 6 Out of a total of 6 GVGC districts. IF GVGC were to approve this annexation, and if other NCs agreed to have their territory annexed to help form LGNC, LGNC would be able to continue the process of certification.

There was some Public and Board Comment. Comments included clarification of any request by LGNC/LGNA of GVGC. Ms. Corral clarified no request of support is being made of GVGC at this time. Other comment included a need of EMPOWER LA to establish funding equity among NCs so that NCs with small population do not receive the same amount of funding as NCs with a population of 50,000 (like GVGC) or 100,000+. They currently do. Board member Barmettler indicated that this is something the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners is working on. The Secretary will make efforts to obtain a PDF of Diann Corral’s slide-presentation to make it available on the GVGC website.
9. **Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda.** Annabelle Whettam, who lives on Sylvan Ave. east of Whitsett Ave. is trying to get speed humps. Her neighborhood’s application is pending.

10. **President’s Comments.** None.

11. **Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUC) – D. Chadwick, Chair**

   **A. Committee Report.** No report. No motions. Public Comment from Judy Price about a massage business on Victory Blvd. near Starbucks applying for a variance to the Valley Glen Q Conditions, namely the conditions that prohibit massage businesses. Board member PLUC Chair D. Chadwick agreed to gather information on the matter and agendize it to for the next PLUC meeting. D’Antonio reported she attended the Planning Commission meeting that considered the height variance request for the apartment complex at 13724 Victory Blvd. She reported that variance was approved pending a sound assessment.

12. **Community Outreach Committee – J. Chadwick, Chair**

   **A. Committee report.** Chair J. Chadwick announced that planning for the Spring Festival in June is ongoing pending a President’s Motion (Item #19). She passed around draft flyers and the Committee will be finalizing publicity. There were no motions.

13. **Government Relations Committee – W. Hall, Chair**

   **A. Committee report.** Chair Hall moved to motions.

   **B. Motions for Board approval.**

   **Motion B.1.** The Greater Valley Glen Council supports the Resolution presented by Councilmember Ryu and seconded by Council President Wesson (Council File 18-0002-S13) for inclusion in the City's 2017-18 State Legislative Program, opposition to SB 827 (Weiner) which would override local control of planning decisions and allow the construction of housing developments without compliance to local land regulations, including construction of buildings four to eight stories high, with no parking minimums, even within single-family neighborhoods. [CIS the same.] In addition, a letter to Senator Hertzberg advising him of our council’s opposition to SB 827 and asking him to oppose it is to be sent. Motion made by Hall. Seconded by Myrick.

   Public Comment. Scott Schmerelson, resident and LAUSD Board member, commented that regardless of this pending bill, the State is still bound by eminent domain laws and cannot simply take a property without due process and fair compensation. Judy Price commented that this pending bill is all about the State trying to exert control over local zoning. Zoning should stay local. Board Comment. Julie Casey encouraged all to send letter to their State representatives regarding this bill. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Non-Funding Action. Voice Vote: 14 Ayes, 0 NOS, 0 Abstentions, and 0 Ineligible. Motion passes.

   **Motion B.2.** The Greater Valley Glen Council opposes implementation of the in-lieu fee concept (Council File 16-0461) unless the following applies:

   1. The in-lieu fee be sufficient to cover ALL costs necessary to successfully establish replacement trees, including watering, staking, mulching, weeding and juvenile pruning of the replacement trees for at least five (5) years;
   2. An Urban City Canopy Assessment and complete Urban City Tree Inventory, performed by an expert contractor, be conducted and include identification of available space for planting;
   3. An Urban Forest Management Plan is drafted, implemented and enforced;
   4. A tree replacement plan is in place for No Net Loss of Tree Canopy for the City; and
   5. The Urban Forestry Division is provided adequate funding to hire required staff and acquire sufficient resources necessary to fully implement its responsibility to safeguard City trees, including the In-Lieu Fee alternative. Motion made by Hall. Seconded by D’Antonio.
Public Comment. Annabelle Whettam expressed concern about planting trees that have roots that end up breaking sidewalks. Board Comment. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Non-Funding Action. Voice Vote: 14 Ayes, 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions, and 0 Ineligible. Motion passes.

C. Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (DWP) representative report. Chair Hall submitted a report appearing on page 13 as Item 13C.

D. City Sustainability representative report. Board member D’Antonio submitted a report appearing on pages 14-15 as Item 13D.

E. Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) report. No report this month. Barretttler reported that there was a VANC Mixer on 3/8/2018 at CBS Studios in Studio City.

14. Parks, Community Improvements, and Medians Committee – S. Myrick, Chair

A. Committee report. No report. Board member D’Antonio commented that the City’s mulch supply has decreased significantly due to mulch suppliers affected by the recent fires. No motions.

15. Arts and Education Committee – L. Wehrli, Chair

A. Committee report. Chair Wehrli updated the Board that she and President Myrick are in contact with the artist who painted the utility box on Fulton Ave. and Burbank Blvd. Once the Board purchases the graffiti coating, they will ask the artist to do some touch-up painting. Then, the new graffiti coat will be applied. Chair Wehrli hopes to complete this by early May 2018. The Committee will be discussing other locations for utility boxes, as well as other education projects. No Public or Board Comment. No motions.

16. Community Safety Committee – Chair To Be Determined

A. Committee report. Committee member Julie Casey indicated that the Committee will continue its work on a public safety survey. Chair Casey also discussed safety issues at Laurel Grove Park as well as possible drug issues near Varna Ave. and Hartland Ave. She also reported that SLO Bailey is on leave for 3 months. Members of the Public expressed interest in the Committee and wanted to know if they could attend. Chair Casey invited the Public to attend and also noted that they are welcome to become members of the Committee. No Board Comment. No motions.

17. Ad hoc By-Laws Committee – T. Newton, Chair.

A. Committee report. Chair Newton indicated that the deadline for submitting Bylaw changes continues to be April 15, 2018 and that it will pass without the Committee recommending any Bylaw changes at this time. Chair Newton inquired of EMPOWER LA Rep Serrano as to when the next deadline will be. Serrano responded that she would get back to the Board with an answer on that matter. Chair Newton indicated he Committee will continue to meet over the next several months to methodically review the Bylaws and come up with recommendations, hopefully before the next EMPOWER LA deadline. No Public or Board Comment. No motions.

18. Board member comments on items not on agenda. Board member Moore commented that Erwin Street School will be installing T-Bars and security lights to address loitering and suspicious activity in its parking lot

19. President’s Motions.

Motion A for Board approval. Motion not to exceed $300 to purchase stainless steel plates engraved with GVGC copy to be attached to all dog waste bag dispensers. This is a branding opportunity for GVGC. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by D’Antonio.

Public Comment. Diann Corral commented that this is an excellent branding/outreach idea. Board Comment.
Barmettler asked about putting the GVGC logo on the plate. President Myrick accepted the suggestion and will look into how much extra this would cost. James Casey commented on how EMPOWER LA promotes branding. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Funding Action. Roll Call Vote. 12 Ayes, 0 Nos, 1 Abstention (Hall), 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.

**Motion B** for Board approval. Motion not to exceed $300.00 to purchase additional Pet Waste Bags. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by J. Chadwick.

Public Comment. A suggestion was made that GVGC build this expense into the permanent budget so park patrons can rely on a regular supply of bags. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Funding Action. Roll Call Vote: 13 Ayes, 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions, 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.

**Motion C** for Board approval. Motion not to exceed $5,000 to create a GVGC Spring Festival. The focus of the festival is outreach and free family fun. The event will take place on in early June and will be the council’s first big event since the park reopened. The event will also have a pay it forward opportunity for residents to bring food and clothing items for the homeless. The funds will be used for DJ, promoting the event, bounce house, SWAG and other supplies. This supersedes President’s Motion “2” that was board-approved on March 3, 2018. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by James Casey.

Board member Jean Chadwick discussed the Festival and the planned date of Sunday, June 3, 2018. There will be food trucks, a petting zoo, a bounce house, an obstacle course, and other activities. As mentioned before, publicity is underway.

Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Funding Action. Roll Call Vote: 13 Ayes, 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions, 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.

**Motion D** for Board approval. Motion not to exceed $3,000 to for a series of 4 Movie Nights in the Valley Glen Community Park during the June/July to September/October 2018 period (specific dates TBD). Estimated breakdown of cost per Movie:

a) Up to $400 for flyer production and delivery  
b) Up to $300 for refreshments  
c) Up to $35 for food for volunteers  
d) Up to $15 for movie.

Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by J. Chadwick.

Public Comment and Board Comment led to asking EMPOWER LA Rep Serrano if this action would be looked at an encumbering of funds. Serrano answered that while the motion may be a good idea for planning purposes, the funding aspect is problematic because the motion asks to encumber this fiscal year’s funds for next fiscal year’s activity. Without objection, President Myrick withdrew the motion and will come back with a request next fiscal year, which starts on July 1, 2018, to get funding for movie nights in July through early Fall. Motion withdrawn.

**Motion E** for Board approval. Motion not to exceed $3,600 to purchase AV equipment including DVD player, inflatable projection screen and accessories, microphone, and speakers. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by Wehrli.

President Myrick explained that GVGC needs to purchase its own equipment for movie nights and other activities, and cannot always rely on the City Council Office’s equipment as other NCS and community groups use it. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Funding Action. Roll Call Vote: 11 Ayes, 2 Nos (Barmettler and D’Antonio), 0 Abstentions, 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.

20. **Adjournment.** Motion to Adjourn made by Myrick. Seconded by J. Chadwick.

Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Voice Vote: 14 Ayes, 0 Nos, 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions, 0 Ineligible. Motion passes.
Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. Next Board meeting (unless preceded by any Special Meeting) and location will be back at LA Valley College, Fireside Room in Campus Center on Monday, May 7, 2018.

Submitted May 4, 2018,

Mickey Jannol
Greater Valley Glen Council Board Secretary
Disclosures provided with the Agenda for the March 5, 2018 GVGC Regular Board Meeting:

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board acting 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 items not appearing on the agenda within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment will be limited to two minutes per speaker, unless waived by the Board President. The President reserves the right to further limit public comment time, depending on number of speakers. No person may assign their speaking time to another.

This Agenda is posted for public review: on website www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org and at Uncle Tony's Pizzeria, 13007 Victory Blvd., in Valley Glen. Per Title 11 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate based on disability. Upon request, reasonable accommodation will be provided to ensure equal access to GVGC 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 EMPOWER LA at (866) 584-3577.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS- In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Uncle Tony's Pizzeria, 13007 Victory Blvd Valley Glen, CA 91606, at our website: www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org or at a scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Sloan Myrick, Board President, at (818-442-8924) or email at smyrick@greatervalleyglencouncil.org.

See the Following Pages for Vote Tally Sheet for Board Member Votes (page 9), Vacancies per Item 2 (pages 10-12), and Government Relations Committee Reports per Items 13C (page 13), and 13D (pages 14-15).
## 04-09-2018 VOTE TALLY SHEET

**Legend:**

- **P** = Present
- **Y** = Aye or Yes
- **N** = No
- **A** = Abstain
- **I** = Present but Ineligible to Vote
- **R** = Recused
- **=** = Absent, or not yet seated

**Board Member Votes for:**

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Agenda Item 2. Vacancies

The GVGC Board of comprised of 25 members. Presently, there are eight (8) vacancies. Board Members may nominate a stakeholder to the President and the President will submit the nomination to the Board for confirmation. Nominated Stakeholders shall meet the same eligibility requirements that apply to the position as required of elected Board Members. Vacancies are as follows:

1) One (1) At-Large Representative (Rep) seat,
2) One (1) District 1 Rep seat. Area north of Oxnard St., south of Vanowen St., east of Hazeltine Ave., and west of Woodman Ave.,
3) One (1) District 4 Rep seat. Area north of Burbank Blvd., south of Victory Blvd., east of Hazeltine Ave., and west of Fulton Ave., but excluding the area north of Oxnard St, south of Victory Blvd., east of Hazeltine Ave., and west of Woodman Ave.,
4) One (1) Educational Institutions Liaison seat,
5) Two (2) District 3 Rep seats. Area north of Victory Blvd., south of Vanowen St., east of the Tujunga Wash, west of the 170 Freeway, and
6) Two (2) Business/Merchant Liaison seats.

For more particular definitions of these seats and their applicable eligibility, please review pages 3 to 5 of the GVGC Bylaws, per link below.


Note, these the Bylaws appearing on the GVGC website contain an older version of the GVGC Bylaws. However, pages 3 to 5 regarding definition of the Board seats is accurate. The only exception is that Business/Merchant Liaison Rep seats are not only available to owners and employees of a licensed business in the GVGC area, the seats are available to an “owner’s representative.” Also, home businesses qualify as a business. They merely must hold a valid City of Los Angeles business license as is required of all businesses interested in running for or being nominated for these seats...

See maps on the next page to provide you with a better visual definition of the District boundaries.

We are looking for energized people with a passion for community service who desire to take advantage of the empowerment offered by the Neighborhood Council concept to support and improve the Greater Valley Glen area and its stakeholders. If you are interested in becoming a Board member and are eligible for the any of the above vacant seats, you may contact any Board member at the GVGC website or President Sloan Myrick at email: smyrick@greatervalleyglencouncil.org
This map is a broad map of the Greater Valley Glen Council District boundaries.

This map provides some definition to the bounded Districts.
Agenda Item 13C. LA DWP Neighborhood Council Meeting Report
April 7, 2018 Highlights

There were two presentations:

1. LADWP Preliminary Budget for fiscal year 2018-19
   The projected DWP transfer to the City’s general fund is estimated to be $240 M. (This is in addition to that derived from the utility tax.) Included in the budget are funds to meet the goal of 10,000 commercial charging stations for electric vehicles by 2022. Hiring is to increase with funding for an additional 943 positions – presently 9,461 employees to expand to 10,884. The Power System budget as proposed is $4,095M and the Water System is $1,437M.

2. WaterFix2
   Los Angeles’ exposure to the cost of the scaled-back WaterFix project, the proposed tunneling under the Bay-area delta to bring water to the southern part of the State, is through its membership in the Metropolitan Water District. The DWP has been instructed by the City to support the one tunnel option, as opposed to the original 2-tunnel proposal. Analysis carried out by the Office of Public Accountability/Ratepayer Advocate shows a range of $0.96 to $3.62 with a most likely value of $1.90 for the additional monthly water charge for the “typical” household whose present monthly bill is $60.00. However, not all issues are included in the analysis. It only covers the fixed charges and not the cost of water; it does not analyze alternatives to WaterFix, such as increasing recycled water and storm water capture; and there is no cost-benefit analysis that would include factors such as reliability, water quality, sustainability and environmental impacts. Complicating any analysis is the continuing decrease in total water consumption in the City.

Submitted by Walter Hall
Greater Valley Glen Council DWP Committee Representative
**Agenda Item 13D. Sustainability Report**  
April 9, 2018 Highlights

**Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) Board and Committee Chairs**  
**Joint meeting 4-8-’18 at Toni’s Pizza, Lankershim Blvd.**

NCSA has 3 official Committees: Trees, Environmental Health and Advocacy. May have Transportation Committee soon.  
Discussion of NCSA Board support for the Committees to re: their goals and needs.  
NCSA will email Tree watering instruction sheet to NC reps so that it can be printed using individual NC budgets and distributed at outreach events.  
Will begin utilizing the NCSA Twitter account in addition to email blasts and Facebook.

**Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) meeting – 4-5-’18 at BPW City Hall**

Urban Forestry Division reports it plans to trim 45,000 trees this year.  
LA Conservation Corps reports that Bureau of Street Services tree planting requirements are cost prohibitive -- CFAC voted to send submit revisions to BPW.  
UFD says they don’t have staff to enforce new protected trees. Review at Committee (PLUM?) April 12th as item 4, but not agendized and may not be open to public comment.  
CFAC passed motion to recommend the forming of Director of Community Forestry with a comprehensive environmental degree under BPW.  
CFAC discussed budget items for request for funding for UFD to include root pruning and stump grinding crew, planting and watering crew, start of street tree inventory, protected tree enforcement and professional development.  
New person in charge of City General Plan reported as Arthi Varma.  
Discussion of implementation of alternative methods to fix sidewalks and preserve trees was removed from the agenda.  
Goals and Visions of CFAC distributed. (Available from Sustainability Rep)

**City Planning Commission Meeting – 3-22-’18 at Van Nuys City Hall**

Motion passed to add elderberry and toyon to protected trees but not allow cumulative trunk computation in determining if the tree qualifies as a protected tree.

**City Council Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee Meeting 3-21-’81 at City Hall**

Despite objections from public and reservations by Committee members, Committee passed 16-0461 unanimously to adopt in lieu of fees for tree removals. Blumenfield, Ryu, Martinez, and Buscaino present. (Joanne D’Antonio of the NCSA Trees Committee spoke against.) No implementation plan discussed.

**Urban Forestry Master Plan Working Group 3-8-’18 at City Hall**

Work on survey prepared by consulting firm Dudek that is needed to proceed with the process of getting future funding. Survey sent to members of the working group for comments and suggestions.
NCSA Trees Committee 3-14’18 via teleconference (10 members in attendance)
Email announcing Tree Removal listings only went to NCSA Reps - needs to go wider.
Recommend utilization of Nextdoor to publicize Tree issues.
Diana Zogran explained why in lieu fee is too low as proposed in CF 16-0461.
Over-pruning is reducing our tree canopy and is unnecessary.
There is illegal private pruning of street trees.
A professional tree census/inventory is needed for Los Angeles, not a count (Required to get any grant money or cap and trade dollars).
No mechanism for enforcement of illegal tree practices.
Planning email blasts regarding in lieu fee and protected tree ordinance.
San Diego recommended as a good model for Los Angeles regarding its tree policies.
Recommended that City needs two Urban Forestry Planners with environmental qualifications – one for Basin and one for Valley (cost for two $250,000 total)
Committee voted to recommend NCSA join ReLeaf that co-produced NCSA watering flyer.

Submitted by Joanne D’Antonio
Sustainability Representative, Greater Valley Glen Council