



- Committee Chair-

Judy Price

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City of Los Angeles
GREATER VALLEY GLEN COUNCIL

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- Committee Members -

Joanne D'Antonio

Sloan Myrick

Rich Pisani

Vic Viereck

Government Relations Committee MINUTES

Monday, June 29, 2015 - 6:30 PM

Laurence School Performing Arts Center, 6456 Woodman Ave.,
Valley Glen CA 91401.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - meeting called to order at 6:34, all present with V.Viereck arriving 6:45.
2. Approval of Minutes for April 27, 2015 - approved with typo corrections
3. General Public Comments on non agenda items - none (Stakeholder Roger Eshleman in attendance and contributed to discussion)
4. Committee Member Comments on non agenda items - J.D'Antonio commented on City Council motion on turf Rebates; J.Price updates on Valley on Track and upcoming public meetings; City Council Committee(s) continued review of sidewalk repair policy.
5. Discussion regarding current policies for a street tree removal permit from the Bureau of Street Services Urban Forestry Division (CF 15-0448) - motion by R.Pisani, 2nd by J.Price, passed by unanimous vote. **MOTION:** The Greater Valley Glen Council supports the recommendations for review of the current policies for a street tree removal permit from the Bureau of Street Services Urban Forestry Division and the permitting process for new construction involving the Department of Building and Safety, Bureau of Engineering, and occasionally the Planning Department and possible recommendations for new policies to limit the number of trees removed and new tree replacement requirement, including but not limited to, a minimum of one new 15 gallon tree (or equivalent fee) per diameter inch of the street tree being removed. (CF 15-0448) **PROPOSED COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT:** It is imperative to minimize the removal of street trees whenever possible and to replace those removed. TreePeople quote: Trees reduce the build-up of heat from exposed asphalt and buildings, and decrease energy demand. Trees slow the runoff of rainwater and absorb it into the ground, prevent pollution and soil erosion, and are key to a clean and ample water supply. Trees make the air breathable, streets walkable, and schoolyards playable. They provide habitat for wildlife and food for people. Trees truly make LA livable. (CF 15-0448)
6. Discussion regarding Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance proposal to reduce City's GHG emissions by 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. (Council File 14-0907) - removed by Chair until more information available
7. Discussion regarding Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance advisory to let property owners know about new PACE financing in City of LA for renewable energy, water efficiency and energy efficiency improvements. - **Motion to table** by R.Pisani, 2nd by V.Viereck, unanimous vote to table
8. Discussion regarding review of the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Council's initiated by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Commission) in December 2012 and additional recommendations (CF15-0524) - Motion by J.Price, 2nd by J.D'Antonio, passed by unanimous vote - **MOTION:** The Greater Valley Glen Council supports the prioritized recommendations from the review of the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Council's initiated by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Commission) in December 2012:
 - 1) that the Commission and DONE submit a report on the priority recommendations;
 - 2) that the City Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst be instructed to review a rollover policy for NC budget allocations where NC allocations do not revert at the end of the Fiscal Year;
 - 3) that the previous ordinance (No. 179,545) be reinstated which granted authority to DONE and NC's to accept gifts and granted authority to the City Treasurer to establish checking accounts for the NC's;
 - 4) that the CAO perform an analysis of the roles and responsibilities of DONE personnel and possible Transfer of the responsibility of certain functions directly to NC boards that may increase the efficiency;
 - 5) that the General Manager of DONE report back in two weeks to the Education & Neighborhoods Committee relative to their effort to streamline certain processes that NC's must adhere to. (CF 15-0524)

PROPOSED COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT: It is long overdue for the recommendations be implemented that came from the Board of Neighborhood Commissioner's review of the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils conducted in December 2012. Long past the "experimental" stage, Neighborhood Councils are an important element of our democratic society, and are essential to ensuring a transparent and responsive City government. (CF 15-0524)

9. Discussion regarding the 8% Transfer Fee from the DWP to the City's General Fund (average of \$250 million a Year) - Motion by R.Pisani, 2nd by V.Viereck passed by unanimous vote. **MOTION:** The Greater Valley Glen Council opposes the annual 8% Transfer Fee from the DWP to the City's General Fund (average of \$250 million a year, \$266 million for 2015/2016 fiscal year). This "surplus" is paid by ratepayers and is not based on the actual cost of electric services. In essence, this is tax and requires voter approval.
10. Discussion regarding the Board of Commissioners of the DWP and their Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Public Works/Bureau of Sanitation for \$15 million investment in five stormwater capture projects in the San Fernando Valley. - Motion by J.D'Antonio, 2nd by S.Myrick, passed by unanimous vote - **MOTION:** The Greater Valley Glen Council supports the Board of Commissioners of the DWP and their Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Public Works/Bureau of Sanitation for \$15 million investment in five stormwater capture projects in the San Fernando Valley.
11. Discussion on the following Resolutions for State Assembly Bills:
 - 1) AB 726 to allow for bi-articulated buses along the Orange Line. SUPPORTED by Resolution. (CF 15-0002-S68) - Motion by J.D'Antonio, 2nd by S.Myrick, passed by unanimous vote - **MOTION:** The Greater Valley Glen Council supports the City Council Resolution of SUPPORT for Assembly Bill (AB 726) to allow for bi-articulated buses along the Orange Line. (CF 15-0002-S68) **PROPOSED COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT:** The Metro Orange Line plays a critical role in the transportation infrastructure of the San Fernando Valley with daily ridership having reached 31,787 by 2012. It is at a capacity breaking point. AB 726 would exempt the route of the Orange Line from the 82-foot vehicle length limitation in existing law, thereby allowing Metro to make use of bi-articulated buses along the Orange Line. (CF 15-0002-S68)
 - 2) AB 718 which would prohibit a legislative body of a city, county or city and county from prohibiting or subjecting to penalties, or removing and impounding a motor vehicle by reason of sleeping or resting in lawfully parked Motor vehicle. OPPOSED by Resolution as Bill eliminates local oversight and control. (CF 15-0002-S67) - removed by Chair as City Council has already acted upon.
 - 3) AB 1191 to allow the City and other municipalities to allocate the interest income generated from collected QUIMBY fees. SUPPORTED by Resolution. (CF 15-0002-S58) - Motion by R.Pisani, 2nd by S.Myrick - **MOTION:** The Greater Valley Glen Council supports the City Council Resolution of SUPPORT for State Assembly Bill (AB 1191) to allow the City and other municipalities to allocate the interest income generated from collected QUIMBY fees. (CF 15-0002-S58) **PROPOSED COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT:** Current law prevents municipalities from allocating the interest generated from collected Quimby fees, leaving funds in limbo and projects unfunded. Quimby Funds are an important tool local governments use to fund the development of recreational facilities and urban greenspace so the interest income should be allocated in the same manner as the Quimby Funds. (CF 15-0002-S58)
12. DWP report / Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance report - J.D'Antonio reported Stormwater Capture Powerpoint available; proposed rate hike; City has almost completed new parkway guidelines; efforts to capture stormwater in the parkway
13. VANC Report - V.Viereck reported on NC payment structure for events held by VANC at Carla's Café
14. Discussion regarding potential future agenda items. - none
15. Adjournment - motion to adjourn by R.Pisani, 2nd by S.Myrick - adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

*The next meeting will be at 6:30 pm. on **Monday, July 27, 2015** ---- Grant High School*