



Serving the Silver Lake Community Since 2003

1850 W. Silver Lake Drive L.A.  
Los Angeles, California 90026  
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Email [board@silverlakenc.org](mailto:board@silverlakenc.org)

<b>Co-Chairs</b>	Anthony Crump Nicholas Fox Robbins
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Nora Goudsmit
<b>Treasurer Elect</b>	Maebe A. Girl
<b>Secretary Elect</b>	Tina Lin

## HOMELESSNESS IN SILVER LAKE COMMITTEE

Friday, June 19, 2020 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Zoom Online Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/98003010393>

or by telephone by calling (669) 900-6833 and entering Webinar ID: 980 0301 0393#

## A G E N D A

### VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically.

Every person wishing to address the Neighborhood Council must dial (669) 900-6833, and enter 980 0301 0393 and then press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS** – The public is requested to dial \*9, when prompted by the presiding officer, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

**THE AMERICAN 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 the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org) or phone: (213) 978-1551.

**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 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 and at our website: [www.empowerla.org](http://www.empowerla.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 Name at (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

The City's Neighborhood Council system enables civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of volunteer stakeholders who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities and bringing government closer to us.

The Committee does not take action on behalf of the full Neighborhood Council Board. It considers proposals and forwards Committee-approved recommendations as proposed motions to the full Board. The Board will consider the Committee's recommendations at a future public Board meeting and may take final action on the recommendations.

**SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN** - Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte la secretaria de SLNC de la Mesa Directiva, al (323) 413-7562 o por correo electrónico [secretary@silverlakenc.org](mailto:secretary@silverlakenc.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.



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**Notice to Paid Representatives** - 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 §§ 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)

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

- Community Bulletin Board, Silver Lake Recreation Center, 1850 W Silver Lake Drive (at Van Pelt Place) Los Angeles, CA 90026
- [www.silverlakenc.org](http://www.silverlakenc.org)
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the Chairperson.

### **ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.**

- 1. WELCOMING REMARKS:** (10 minutes)
  - A. Call to order
  - B. Committee roll call
  - C. Self-Introductions of guests
- 2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** (10 minutes)

Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction: to comment via the Zoom app, use the 'Raise Hand' function, or dial \*9 via the call-in number (Up to two minutes per speaker)
- 3. PRESENTATIONS:** (10 minutes)
  - A. Updates from any City/County representatives in attendance
- 4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:** (20 minutes)
  - A. Review and Adoption of 10/15/2019 Minutes
  - B. Committee co-chair elections
- 5. MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:** (30 minutes)
  - A. *(Girl & Danner) Discussion and Possible Action* - recommend to the full SLNC board a letter to be sent to LA Mayor & City Council regarding the results of the 2020 LAHSA Homeless Count and recommended actions to mitigate and prevent homelessness in LA during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - B. *(Raman & Danner) Discussion and Possible Action* - recommend to the full SLNC board a letter to be sent to LA Mayor & City Council regarding decreasing police presence in homeless outreach and providing alternative support structures.
- 6. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (5 minutes)
  - A. Co-chair or Member announcements
- 7. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** (5 minutes)
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

## Silver Lake Neighborhood Council – Homelessness Committee 10/15/2019 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Darius Derakshan, Nithya Raman, Cathy Takemoto, Samantha Gordon-Danner, Chelsea Strough, Joshua Haglund, Maebe A. Girl, Caleb Crowder, Enrique (Kike) Velasquez, and Angie Aramayo

Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm

### 1. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction (Up to two minutes per speaker)

- Samantha – Joined the newly formed CD13 neighborhood alliance, wants to get community buy-in from CD13 constituents and bring feedback to Mitch O'Farrell.
- Nithya: Tomorrow is the Safe Parking Meeting at Edendale Public Library, members of this committee have been attending meetings for over year there and hopefully this is the last meeting.
- Cathy: The Source is the third Thursday at the Edendale Library, Angie the head Librarian a doing wonderful job.
- Maebe A Girl: Attending an event called the National Sleep Out, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, to experience what it's like for homeless individuals. Maebe serves as the Homeless Liaison for Silver Lake and they are having a quarterly meeting, October 29, hoping to set up a Homeless Advocates group and get 30 minutes in front of the Mayor every year, similar to Budget Advocates.

### 2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

#### A. Review and Adoption of 8/23/2019 Homelessness Committee Minutes

<https://silverlakenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/SLNC-Homelessness-8-22-2019-DRAFT-Minutes.pdf>

Introduced by Darius, seconded by Nithya, no changes. Approved unanimously.

### 3. PRESENTATIONS: (40 minutes)

#### A. David Ryu CD4 – Catherine Landers, CD4 Director of Special Projects, Los Feliz Riverside Dr. Bridge Housing Project Update

- House 100 people, 2/3rds men and 1/3<sup>rd</sup> women, with men's side divided into two areas, with cubicles for each person and common area in between for meal service.
- There will also be an office building where case managers and service providers can meet with clients
- There will be a restroom and shower building
- There will be a pet area aka Dog Run
- There will be storage on site, for residents living on site
- No walk up or drop-in services provided
- Hoping to break ground by the end of the year or January, will all bridge projects opened by June 2020
- Bridge Home Sites are looking to shelter folks who live nearby, which for this site it would be a lot of folks from the river and other nearby sites in Silver Lake, Los Feliz, and Atwater Village.
- Sits on land owned by the LA Department of Parks and Recreation
- Funding motion has been submitted, came out to (approximately) \$4.6 million, will be heard in Budget and in Homelessness and Poverty committees (not sure which order)
- Samantha: How long will the site be active for? Landers states that each site will be operational for 3 years. This site in particular sits on LA Parks and Recreation land, which means no permanent housing, only temporary things are okay.
- Cathy: Which services providers have big? Landers states that PATH, Volunteers of America, LA Family Housing, and Salvation Army are currently in the mix, and open to suggestions as well, so we should suggest.
- Nithya: How long to people typically stay in the bridge housing? Landers states that this is hard to say, varies greatly depending on region and other long term solutions available, services providers are better equipped to answer, but typically takes 3 months, but can be much longer.
- Nithya: Is stepped enforcement part of the plan for this bridge housing in terms of people living nearby? Landers states that this site is unique, not a lot of residential or commercial space nearby, currently no special enforcement zone planned as of now. Also, moving to the CARE enforcement model.
- Ben: Anything that could stop this project, or anything needed from this committee to make this happen? Landers states that currently there is a lot of support from the council, from groups like SELAH, from LFIA, and many others, so it looks like this on track and should come on line shortly.

- Maebe A. Girl: Any considerations for folks who are non-binary or trans? Landers states that residents will be able to choose based on which gender they identify as.
  - Cathy: What type of oversight will be on the program? Will the public have access to this? Landers states that LAHSA is the granting authority and will evaluate the success of the program annually and provide oversight.
  - Ben: Is the councilman creating any other sites in the district? Landers states that CD4 Councilmember Ryu opened the LGBT Center, the Gardner Library, a VIVA Family and Children Services serving transitional aged youth as well as women with their children, a PSH approved in Sherman Oaks, another HHH project on Westerns with 65 units, along with a few more potential sites. Scarcity of buildable land on CD4 makes things extra difficult to the Catherine Landers.
  - Chelsea: How can we get folks that we know into this bridge housing? Landers, Raman, and Derakshan advise submitting LA-HOP requests and working with the individual to submit CES Application
- B. Mitch O'Farrell CD13 – Councilmember or deputy's report Echo Park Homeless Housing Project – NOT PRESENT, CONTINUED**
- C. Mayor Eric Garcetti – Central Area Deputy Angie Aramayo, Discussion new CARE Teams Homeless Outreach Program**
- Let the Mayors team know if sanitation is passing by sites without addressing it
  - Sam: Who has the contract for the mobile hygiene sites? 5 Keys
  - Nithya: How will the showers be deployed throughout the city? Daily schedule for showers will be determined by staff daily.
  - Ben: What will take place in terms of workforce training? Formerly homeless individuals will be working to maintain the showers.
  - Sam: Illegal dumping enforcement, how will that be enforced? Stepped up enforcement, sanitation and LAPD will be on the lookout and will also try to educate business
- D. Everyone In Campaign Introduction: Caleb Crowder and Enrique Velasquez**
- According to Caleb Crowder, Everyone In is team of 14 organizers working to build relationships with community leaders and stakeholders to build a movement to advocate for developments. Kike does what SELAH does but at a citywide and countywide level, including in Sherman Oaks in partnership with CD4.
  - Darius: How do we get an Access Center (aka Navigation Center) built here in Silver Lake? We have been asking for years, put together our own list of suitable sites, but it has stalled. Velasquez states that for building supportive housing and other projects, there are many developers, many approvals needed, funding RFP's submitted, and so forth, it is very difficult but to start somewhere. LA Voice, Everyone In, and others can help find actual locations
  - Ben: What do you once you have these sites? Should we bring it to the developers directly? Velasquez states that the Midtown Homeless Coalition worked with CBRE to identify sites.
- E. LGBTQIA Advocates Committee Partners w/ Homelessness Committee to address LGBTQIA Homelessness (Maebe A. Girl)**
- Maebe is partnering with a couple of guys who are working with an organization El Jardin De Mariposas, LGBT focused, doing a fundraiser at the Lyric Hyperion, bringing items to donate such as money, electronics, gently used clothing items, tickets sales will go to this center.
    - Sam asks if they need hygiene kits. Maebe states yes, they need everything a typical shelter might need.
- F. No Parking 2 am to 6 am Situation on Riverside, North of Fletcher (Paul Emmons) NOT PRESENT, CONTINUED**
- G. SELAH Neighborhood Homelessness Coalition (Darius Derakshan) CONTINUED**

#### 4. MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS: (20 minutes)

- Discussion and possible action item to ask the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council to send a letter asking CD4 Councilmember Ryu and CD13 Councilmember O'Farrell to commit to opening a permanent, full time Homelessness & Poverty Alleviation Access Center within Silver Lake that will assist our neighbors experiencing homelessness as well as vulnerable and rent-burdened members of our community. The facility will provide a select number of shelter beds/cubicles, showers, kitchen, and mail service along with dedicated case managers/service-navigators, all on site. The facility will also serve as a conduit between housed and unhoused neighbors to build a sense of community and mutual understanding.
  - Introduced by Darius, seconded Sam
  - Sam: Will this be the actual text of the letter? Darius states yes.
  - Nithya: Similar to the letter that was sent before? Darius states yes, but more descriptive, and directed and sent directly to councilmembers.
  - Moved by Darius to a vote, passed unanimously.

- Discussion and possible action item requesting the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council to host dinner service every first Wednesday at SELAH's Wednesday Night Shower and Potluck, in conjunction with Silver Lake Community Church's Food Bank, from 4:30 pm to 6:15 pm, where council members, committee members, and community members will bring prepared food items, serve dinner, and engage with their neighbors experiencing homelessness.
  - Introduced by Darius, seconded Nithya
  - Maebe: Thinks this a fabulous idea, ideal since it is near the street. How many people show up to eat? Is there any funding? Darius states there is no funding, currently none is needed since it is a potluck, we could consider funding requests in the future but for now none needed.
  - Sam: Consider holiday type events which would align better with outreach funding
  - Nithya: Could also include in the newsletter
  - Maebe: How will you guarantee that it takes place every month without a gap in dates so that homeless neighbors don't show up and leave hungry? Darius states that if approved by the council, the Homelessness Committee will ensure that the potluck takes place and that food is served, with SELAH stepping in should there be a lapse.
  - Moved by Darius to a vote, passed unanimously.

5. **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (5 minutes) NONE

6. **REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** (5 minutes) NONE

7. **ADJOURNMENT at 7:28 pm**

Los Angeles City Council  
City Hall<sup>[[SEP]]</sup>  
200 N. Spring St.  
<sup>[[SEP]]</sup>Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mayor Garcetti and City Councilmembers,

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council is writing you to express our dismay with the results of the 2020 LAHSA Homeless Count and urge you to take bold and progressive action to alleviate homelessness in Los Angeles. The results of the count, conducted *before* the Covid-19 pandemic hit Los Angeles, indicate that the number of unhoused Angelenos has increased by 12.7% Countywide and 13.6% in LA City since the 2019 Homeless Count. The 2019 Homeless Count indicated a 12% County increase and 16% City increase of unhoused Angelenos compared to 2018. In light of the devastating economic effects of COVID-19, this trend of increasing homelessness will likely continue without a blanket moratorium on evictions and rent increases along with substantial rent relief/forgiveness programs in place.

Another deeply troubling aspect of this year's Homeless Count results, relevant to the current national conversation on Black Lives Matter, is the fact that Black Angelenos, who make up only 8% of the county population, make up 34% of the population of people experiencing homelessness. This disproportionate representation of Black residents among the homeless population speaks to the systemic racism built into the institutions of LA City and LA County.

While we acknowledge that homelessness is a crisis that cannot quickly or easily be solved, not enough is being done to permanently rehouse those already experiencing homelessness, nor to prevent more people from falling into homelessness. The continual increase in Homeless Count numbers is indicative of the need to dedicate more resources to stop the cycle of homelessness. Unhoused and housing insecure city residents need affordable and supportive housing options, restorative justice programs, job programs, and greater access to healthcare. This can be done by reallocating a significant percentage of the City Budget from LAPD to building affordable housing and providing supportive services.

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, along with thousands of other Angelenos, urges you to take immediate action to defund the LAPD and reinvest in the social services necessary to help our unhoused neighbors out of homelessness and to prevent more people from becoming homeless.

Sincerely,

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

Los Angeles City Council  
City Hall  
200 N. Spring St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mayor Garcetti and Los Angeles City Councilmembers,

The Silver Lake Neighborhood council is writing to you regarding our continuing concerns with police presence and use of force that accompanies interactions with people experiencing homelessness, particularly encampment cleanups (also known as ‘Sweeps’). In community impact statements for council files 19-0450, 19-0602, and 19-0609, our board has repeatedly made note of the devastating effects that police intervention has when accompanying outreach efforts for our unhoused neighbors.

When police and other city workers not extensively trained in homeless outreach are the first responders to problems stemming from homelessness, conflict worsens. It is reported that one third of the instances of use of force by the LAPD are against people experiencing homelessness. People’s belongings are destroyed, medication and identification documents are taken, support groups for vulnerable people are torn apart, and we find ourselves no better off when it comes to safety, public health and sanitation. We use jails as housing and emergency rooms as primary care facilities, and we waste taxpayer money on temporary fixes to our problems in the process. We should be investing in hiring and training dedicated social workers and building and giving people access to affordable housing, both more long-term solutions to the issues our city now faces in reducing and preventing homelessness.

The 2020-21 City Budget still allocates over 50% of funds for the LAPD at a time when thousands of Angelenos are calling for defunding police and re-allocating a much more substantial portion of funding to social services. These services are needed now more than ever, not just to serve our unhoused neighbors but to serve those who are economically impacted by COVID-19 and are at increased risk of becoming homeless. We urge you to reconsider the city budget and provide more funding for desperately needed social services.

Sincerely,

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council