

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting
Minutes

November 12, 2025, 7pm

Draft

This meeting is being held by the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council using teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.8(a)(2)(B).

1. Welcoming remarks:

- a. Call to order, 8:02 pm, Lydia Grant
- b. Flag salute - Madesyn Meadows, Senior Verdugo Hills High School. Madesyn was not present; the Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Sherry McCoy.
- c. Determination of Quorum /Roll Call, Report on Voting Eligibility - Karen Moran. Only Vicki Cerpa not current in training.
- d. Notice of Board Members exceeding three consecutive absences. Per Lydia, Brenna Redpath has missed more than 4 meetings and is now removed from Board membership (automatically after 4 meetings are missed); the Region 1 Rep is now open again if anyone is interested.
- e. Emergency Preparedness Committee start-up. Per Lydia, there have been challenges in setting up meeting times due to conflicts with other events/meetings.

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	President
Armen Mardirousi	Present	Yes	1st VP
Melissa Sagastume	Present	Yes	2nd VP
Barry Glover	Present	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Leny Freeman	Absent	Yes	Region 1 Rep
Brenna Gibson Redpath	Absent	Yes	Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep.
VACANT			Region 2 Rep
Mikal McEnany	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Dillon Dorothy	Absent	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep.
Vicky Cerpa	Absent	No	Region 4 Rep.
Dante Jose Calvo	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Mark Seigel	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
VACANT			Region 4 Rep
Cheryl Schmidt	Present	Yes	Public Safety Rep
Nina Royal	Absent	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Present	Yes	Community Interest Rep
Members of the Community with information as identified. Note there were 2 others with phone numbers ending in 310 and 135.			
Doug Chapin			Member of the Community (MC)
Alex Robles			Member of the Community (MC)
Betsy Lippitt			Member of the Community (MC)
Antony Rodriguez			Member of the Community (MC)
Jose Galdamez			Member of the Community (MC)
Gail			
13 present; 5 absent (18 total); Note: Mark came in shortly after roll call.			

2. **Speaker with Q&A: Assemblyman Nick Schultz, Assembly District 44.**

Nick thanked Veterans, first responders and NC members for their help in the community, noting that he had previously served in a Neighborhood Council. Nick recognized Alex Ovanessian, who supports STNC for his office. Nick's presentation focused on a description and status of bills (10) that were sent to the Governor in the categories of environmental protection, public safety, and infrastructure, education, and budget. Nick said that if there is a non-profit company that STNC feels should be recognized, please let Alex know. Nick provided his own contact information. There were questions and comments from Jon, Melissa, Dante, and Lydia. Nick stated that he did not vote on SB79 because there were aspects of the bill that he agreed with and others that he did not; he reserves voting no on a bill for those that he fundamentally disagrees with. He is sensitive to the fact that we need more housing. Public transportation was also discussed.

3. **Discussion/Updates/Q&A with LAPD, LAFD, Elected Officials/Representatives, DONE, NC Budget Advocates, City Departments**

- a. **Officer Coloca, SLO.** Crimes are down from 2024, particularly in the area of grand theft auto (270 in 2024 and 213 in 2025). One issue continues to be abandoned property with squatters taking over. A property on Pinewood Ave is going through the eviction process at this time. Coloca noted that there was an encampment on Elmo St. for 6 months and no one was aware of it because a fence blocked visibility.
- b. **Officer Godoy, SLO.** In general, per Godoy, crime is down from 2024 (378 in 2024 and 358 in 2025) although there were a number of grand theft auto incidents this past month (10). Godoy discussed encampment at Sunland Park issue last month with the person being removed at this time, and the challenge of homeless leaving tents and items behind (e.g. a mattress). Maintenance people are not allowed to remove these items unless an officer of the law is present, requiring additional coordination. A clean up at 8040 Foothill Blvd. was done, working with K-Mart representatives. Housing is offered to homeless people but usually not of interest to them. Questions and comments came from Lydia, Jon, Sherry, Cheryl, and Cindy. Catalytic converter theft is down. Cheryl said that children had witnessed a person defecating; Godoy's advice was to call 911 so the person can be arrested. Godoy discussed recent fires; a structure fire resulted in 2 fatalities and a number of people were displaced from their homes; the source was someone using an O2 tank while smoking.
- c. **Scott Larson, Battalion Chief.** Items discussed by the Battalion Chief included brush fires, sand bag availability for anticipated rains, reminder to replace smoke alarms, run heaters now for change in season needs, and a reminder to not keep combustibles near potential ignition areas.
- d. **Ricardo Flores, Senior Area Representative, CD7.** Ricardo discussed upcoming events including the Christmas Tree lighting on December 5th and an Open House for NVCH from 4-6pm on December 12th. Dec 5th Christmas Tree Lighting, Dec 12th. Cheryl asked about encampment/homeless enforcements.
- e. **Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate.** Jose discussed upcoming events and CANVA training available.

4. **Discussion/Possible Action: Review newly released Defensible Space Regulations.**

<https://lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush/fire-zone/fire-zone-map/> / Defensible Space Regulations / Zone 0 / Ember-Resistant / High Fire Severity Zones / Governor Newsom Executive Order N-18-25 and Motion to submit CIS to CF 10-2468-S2.

Lydia discussed a law in process about clearing areas of vegetation and other combustibles (e.g. wood fences) within a certain perimeter of houses and the impact it would have on the community. Cindy read the Council File letter (CIS) and another letter in opposition to this bill.

A motion made to support either the CIS or letter or the letter written by Patricia Baars was changed to a motion to write a CIS letter in opposition to this bill that would be specifically from STNC for our community, using the subject CIS and Baars letters for substance as applicable. The motion was made by Mark and Jon seconded it.

Comments were made by Jon, Mark, Lydia and Cindy. Cindy will lead the effort to write the CIS. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Item 4. Motion to approve writing a CIS in opposition to Defensible Space Regulations CF 10-2468-S2 Motion: Seigel Second: Von Gunten					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Glover, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, VonGunten, Calvo, Seigel, Schmidt, Royal, Keshish 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 4 absent, 18 total			Cerpa		Mardirousi, Freeman, Redpath, Dorothy

5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Update - Celeste Santarrosa, Communications Specialist - csantarrosa@glamosquito.org.
- b. Marjorie said that the Sunland Garden event would be cancelled at this time due to rain predictions and thanked the Board for funding support.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (FUNDING) - MOTION: The STNC Board approves the funding consent calendar:

- a. Motion to approve outstanding Monthly Expenditure Reports
- b. Discussion/Possible Action: Budget requests from Outreach committee for tabling items, approve orders from vendor such as CD Promo. *[Previously approved total, this vote approves each item including tax, fees, artwork related to the items.]*
 - i. Totes - 300 @ \$900.00
 - ii. Magnets - 500 @ \$600.00
 - iii. Pens - 500 @ \$600.00
 - iv. Chip Clips - 300 @ \$550.00 Motion to approve up to \$170.00 to cover cost of replacement/new plants at the Sunland-Tujunga Welcome Garden. *[previously approved in prior fiscal year. Community Improvement category.]*

- c. Motion to approve up to \$170.00 to cover cost of replacement/new plants at the Sunland-Tujunga Welcome Garden. *[previously approved in prior fiscal year. Community Improvement category.]*
- d. Motion to approve Hanukkah in the Foothills Outreach package up to \$500.00
- e. Motion to approve up to \$1,000 for office printing at Sunland Printing or Office Depot as needed by the board.
- f. Motion to approve Tujunga Little League ad in annual program and Outreach package up to \$750.
- g. Motion to approve outstanding Web Corner invoices: July, August, Sept., Oct. and Feb 2024 at \$30. for domain and Feb 2025 at \$30 for domain. Total \$660.00 *[Previously approved in the annual budget package as recurring office expenses but have not been paid by the City Clerk. This vote is to catch this up with the vendor WebCorner.]*

A motion was made by Mark, seconded by Jon, to approve funding items a through g. A vote was taken and the motion passed without further discussion.

Item 6, items a through g. Motion to Approve Funding Consent Calendar items a through g. Motion: Sagastume Second: Schmidt					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Glover, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, VonGunten, Calvo, Seigel, Schmidt, Royal, Keshish 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 4 absent, 18 total			Cerpa		Mardirousi, Freeman, Redpath, Dorothy

7. Motion: STNC Board position regarding proposed 60' AT&T Cell Tower at 7902 Foothill Blvd - rear parking lot. *[Land Use Committee].*

A motion was made by Cindy, seconded by Nina, to oppose allowing the tower at this location.

A discussion was held during the Land Use Committee (LUC) meeting two days prior. Gail, Member of the Community, restated the concerns that she expressed during this meeting. Gail questioned the safety standards, saying that they are now 25 years old and under scrutiny at this time with a number of lawsuits filed for RF exposure (24/7) to people and animals, with children and pregnant women being particularly vulnerable. The proposed tower is close to 3 schools in the community. RF exposure can result in significant biological impacts including cancer, interference with medical devices, etc. The Los Angeles California School District Office of Health and Safety developed a cautionary level for radiofrequency (rf) radiation 10,000 times lower than current FCC regulations because it is believed that a more conservative level is necessary to protect children who represent a vulnerable and sensitive population.

Gail further noted that major insurance companies are refusing to insure at this time; the notion that exposure to RF is not harmful to humans is now been proven false supported in studies by major institutes (including the National Institutes of Health). More than 250 medical and public health professionals have signed the International EMF Scientists Appeal, urging government officials to consider the latest science on RF radiation and human health and harm to animals and plants.

Cindy, Jon and Mark provided comments. Cindy stated that AT&T needs to find a different location for this tower. Information from Gail is that there are currently 90 towers and 164 antennas within a 3.0 mile radius of the proposed tower location (7902 Foothill Blvd, Sunland, CA 91040), and there are already 9 AT&T towers within 2.4 miles of the proposed location.

Mark inquired about the source of the data. Jon asked if Gail had done any assessment to advise an alternate location. Lydia said that the City Council has stated they are not allowed to address the health issues. Concerns were expressed about setting precedent for additional towers, even higher, to be allowed in the future.

Websites with detailed information and data, provided by Gail, include the sites below; additional information will be included in documents for the 11-12-25 General Board meeting on STNC.org.

- <https://ehtrust.org/#> (Environmental Health Trust)
- <https://www.americansforresponsibletech.org/> (Americans for Responsible Technology)
- <https://www.antennasearch.com/HTML/search/search.php?address=7902+Foothill+Blvd+Sunland%2C+Ca+91040> (Tower locator)

A vote was taken to oppose the 60 ft tower project which passed.

Item 7. Motion to Oppose 60' AT&T Cell Tower at 7902 Foothill Blvd - rear parking lot					
Motion: Cleghorn Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Glover, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, VonGunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Royal, Keshish 12 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 1 ineligible, 4 absent, 18 total		Seigel	Cerpa		Mardirousi, Freeman, Redpath, Dorothy

8. **Motion: STNC Board position regarding 9833-9837 Redmont Avenue, Tujunga** - public hearing held Oct. 30 - [*@ Land Use Committee 11-10-25 deadline to DCP 11-29-25 for STNC response*].

A motion was made by Cindy, seconded by Nina, to oppose this project.

Cindy noted that STNC was not informed about the hearing held for this project which is a single-family home construction project where a waiver is being requested for the road width in front of the house which is only 10 ft wide. This project had been discussed during the STNC Land Use Committee meeting 2 days prior with neighbors presenting their concerns. Betsy Lippitt, one neighbor, restated the concerns which included the limited egress route, hillside stability during peak rain storms, fires in a high fire hazard zone, scenic preservation. Additional comments came from Melissa and Barry; this is not the same project discussed in the past although the same area.

A vote was taken to oppose the project which passed.

Item 8. Motion to Oppose construction of new single family dwelling at 9833-9837 Redmont Avenue, Tujunga Motion: Cleghorn Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Glover, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, VonGunten, Calvo, Royal, Keshish 11 yes, 1 no, abstain, 1 ineligible, 5 absent, 18 total	McEnany		Cerpa		Mardirousi, Freeman, Redpath, Dorothy, Schmidt

9. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (NON-FUNDING) - MOTION: The STNC Board approves the non-funding consent calendar:

- a. Discussion/Possible Action: To approve outstanding General Board Meeting minutes.
- b. Motion: To support Council File 25-1136 regarding Neighborhood Prosecutor Program / Crime Prevention / Local Engagement / Reestablishing Neighborhood Prosecutor Program
- c. Motion to OPPOSE and submit Community Impact Statement re: CF25-0930 – regarding options and amendment to require bike lanes to provide sufficient width for emergency vehicle access amendment. The initial motion was made by CM Heather Hutt and seconded by CM Tim Mcosker on August 13, 2025. The amendment was made by CM Hugo Soto-Martinez and CM Nithya Raman and seconded by CM Katy Yaroslavyk. Our STAT committee unanimously approved a motion to be sent to the STNC board, that we do not feel it would be practical or safe for our community of Sunland-Tujunga to take this action because we already have limited space for traffic of two lanes in either direction due to bike lanes and parking lanes. We would not want to further restrict traffic moving along our High-Speed Roadway of Foothill Boulevard and Sunland Boulevard to make room for emergency vehicles in the existing bikes lane. We also believe that having emergency vehicles using the bike lanes would potentially cause injuries to bike riders who would be trapped between fast moving traffic and the curb if emergency vehicles were also in their lane.
- d. Community Impact Statement & Charter Reform - Discussion/Possible Action: CF-2025-1152 Neighborhood Council Applicants / Registered Sex Offender Status / Disclosure Requirement / Registry Exclusion.

Lydia read all items. A motion was made by Lydia, seconded by Melissa to approve items a through d. Dante asked that item c be pulled and the motion was amended to approve items a, b and d. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Item 9. Motion to Approve Non-Funding Calendar Consent Items 9 a, b and d Motion: Gerant Second: Segastume					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Glover, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, VonGunten, McEnany, Calvo, Royal, Keshish 12 yes, 0 no, abstain, 1 ineligible, 5 absent, 18 total			Cerpa		Mardirousi, Freeman, Redpath, Dorothy, Schmidt

A motion to approve item c was made by Cindy and seconded by Lydia.

A discussion on item c ensued. Mikail expressed a concern about preserving the bike lanes and asked for clarification. Lydia emphasized that bike lanes caused major problems in getting emergency vehicles into the area during a previous emergency egress event. While this is applied to the entire city, other areas have challenges also; in Sylmar horse trailers were trying to enter while people were trying to leave.

A vote was taken and item c passed without amendment.

Item 9c. Motion to Approve Non-Funding Calendar Consent Item 9c Motion: Gerant Second: Segastume					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Glover, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, VonGunten, McEnany, Calvo, Royal, Keshish 12 yes, 0 no, abstain, 1 ineligible, 5 absent, 18 total			Cerpa		Mardirousi, Freeman, Redpath, Dorothy, Schmidt

10. Committee & Liaison Reports and Confirm Assignments - by liaison chairs present

- a. Homeless

- b. Citywide Budget / Budget Advocates. Cindy said Budget Advocates are identified, if anyone else is interested, please let her know. The next meeting is Saturday at 9:30am (November 15th).
- c. LADWP MOU. Comments were made by Nina, Cindy and Lydia. Water rates will likely increase, as have rates for trash can emptying. The next DWP bills will reflect increases, so be aware.
- d. LADWP Committee
- e. LANCC. LANC will address charter reform, per Lydia, and are reaching out to see what NCs would like to see hanged. Lydia noted that the number of City Council members is changing from 15 to 30, an increase in the City budget.
- f. VANC. Cindy displayed the agenda for the meeting the next day, 6:30-9pm. Items in the agenda included using Artificial Turf and LADWP rate increases.
- g. PlanCheckNC. Cindy gave an overview of changes coming up, including ED1 project(s).
- h. Emergency Preparedness. Lydia noted it has been a challenge to find time right now to address Emergency Preparedness; Cindy said that there is a City meeting on the topic that might be helpful to attend to kick efforts off.
- i. Sustainability.

11. PRESENTATION & TRAINING on the Neighborhood Council (NC) System

- a. Bylaws, Standing Rules, BONC Policies, Brown Act (Meeting Agenda Posting, ENS)
- b. NC Meetings: Agenda Items, Presenters, Meeting Agendas, Making Motions, Community Impact Statements
- c. NC Alliances (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils - VANC meets 2nd Thursday on Zoom; LANCC meets 1st Saturday at 10am; PlanCheckNC meets 2nd Saturday at 10am, STNC Community Events/Meetings, Other Training Opportunities

12. FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- a. December 10th, the next Board meeting, will include Commissioner Steve Kang from the Department of Public Works.
- b. Dante announced that he is a new father as of about 3 weeks ago (first child)! And Lydia noted that she has a new granddaughter, also born this month.

13. ADJOURN, 9:33 pm