

DONE Update, Presented at VNC Board Meeting 10/19/2021

AB 361 (Rivas) Updates

As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic required changes to the way public bodies hold meetings. The requirements resulted in temporary amendments to California's open meeting laws - the Ralph M. Brown Act. Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) (AB361) prescribes the most recent changes to the Brown Act with the public's health and safety in mind.

AB361 went into effect on October 1st. We are providing information on its proper administration in the Neighborhood Council System. Additional guidance and scripts will follow to give more support to your implementation of the required changes.

Some of the changes have been incorporated into a revised agenda template that was sent out on October 8th. Please be sure to incorporate these changes into all your NC agendas.

Code of Conduct info sessions

Join an upcoming info session to share your thoughts on the current draft Code of Conduct policy for Neighborhood Councils, and learn about the topics the proposed amendments respond to.

There are 2 remaining session dates - RSVP to get the details to join any session online or by phone on Zoom, at <http://tiny.cc/CodeConductRSVP>.

- Tuesday, October 19, 2021 (6:30 - 8:30pm)
- Saturday, November 6, 2021 (1:00 - 3:00pm)

Read the current draft Code of Conduct policy (dated July 2021):
<http://tiny.cc/DraftCodeConductJuly2021>

Se proporciona traducción al español.

Cornerstone Username Change

Due to a pressing technical challenge and the need to more accurately track training records in the future, the Department needs to update your cornerstone credentials (username and password). You will soon receive a new username and a new temporary password. When you receive this notification, please update your temporary password to a secure password of your choosing.

Please note, once you receive your new username, your current username will no longer work. This update will not affect your transcripts and you won't have to retake the training you already completed. We will send subsequent reminders and updates to ensure the smoothest transition possible and apologize for the inconvenience. Please don't hesitate to contact your NEA if you have any questions or concerns.

Save the date: Module II & Module III of the CORE Institute training series for NC members

How to Renew Your Trainings

Please make sure to check if your training is up-to-date by going to the [EmpowerLA list of Neighborhood Councils](#) page and click on your Neighborhood Council. You will see the board rosters and beside each of the board member's names the date of their training expiration dates. If your training is expired or is about to expire, please follow the steps listed on this [document](#).

Save the Date: CORE Institute Training Module II and Module III

Module II, planned for Thursday, October 28th at 6:30pm, will cover NC bylaws, hosting virtual public meetings, public comment, and managing meeting disruptions.

Module III is slated for Tuesday, November 30th at 6:30pm; topics TBA.

Registration information and details about topics covered for both modules will be shared by email and in your NC's Monthly Profile as it is available.

Bylaws Amendment

The bylaws of a Neighborhood Council are established to provide a written framework and an organizational structure for the Neighborhood Council. As we just closed the 2021 election cycle, the Department invites you to review your current bylaws and identify if amendments are necessary. We invite you to work in partnership with your Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate who will provide your guidance. Bylaw amendments have to be approved by the Board and be in compliance with Article XIII with your current bylaws. Once approved, changes need to be submitted to the Department for final approval before becoming effective. If amending the Board Structure, (i.e. seat composition), that may require approval from the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. Work with your NEA to see what Bylaw changes can be made in accordance with applicable Administrative Codes, BONC policies, and other rules and regulations.

Application is available [here](#).

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BE6BVZfzCShQHwO9la3HkcSoYwaoL8Zt/view>

NC FUNDING

October Training Dates:

All training sessions are conducted online via Zoom.

1) NC Funding Community Improvement Projects Workshop
Thursday, October 21st, 2021, 6pm - 7:30pm

2) NC Funding Program & System Portal Training
Tuesday, October 26th, 2021, 6pm - 8pm

Please RSVP at our website [HERE](#)

The NC Funding Program training sessions are open to all Board members as well as stakeholders. These are the required training for board members serving as Financial Officers (Treasurer, 2nd Signer, Bank Cardholder, Alternate Signer). Other Board members may also complete the training online at our [website](#).

[EmpowerLA Listening Survey](#)

On September 24th the Listen4Good Survey was launched and emailed to neighborhood council board members. This survey asks for your views on how effectively the Department engages neighborhood councils in deliberation and dialogue. Over the last year, we have implemented 7 surveys for stakeholders, board members, and community organizations. Held information workshops on proposed policies meant to generate your feedback and we include your suggestions in the revised drafts. Formed Workgroups to advise on the COVID-19 global pandemic-induced operational changes in the neighborhood council system. We still ask ourselves if this is enough? Are the voices of your board included in these efforts?

As our continuing effort to continuously improve and review our engagement processes we ask and hope that you can participate in this survey. The survey will remain open until October 24, 2021.

Digital Media Policy

The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners keeps offering the opportunity to provide input on the [draft of the Digital Media policy](#). As you can notice, the draft policy has already been largely amended to take into account comments provided during the last months. ([07.01.2021 Draft](#) and [09.29.2020 Draft](#))

[NEW 10-14-2021 Draft of Policy](#)

Redistricting:

Confused about all the different redistricting commissions? Four commissions are charged with drawing new district lines at the State, County, City, and LAUSD levels, based on 2020 Census data, that can affect you and Los Angeles City. They all want to hear your thoughts.

Two of the commissions are independent of the elected officials and have the authority to establish new lines, based on your input and other Communities of Interest (COIs): Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission redistricting of the 5 supervisorial districts for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

<https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/>

California Citizens Redistricting Commission redistricting of the State of California, including Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly, and State Board of Equalization: <https://www.wedrawthelinesca.org/>

Two other commissions are appointed by elected officials:

Los Angeles City Redistricting Commission focused on the City Council:

<https://redistricting2021.lacity.org/>

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) redistricting for the School Board Members (Board of Education): <https://redistricting2021.lacity.org/LAUSDRC/index.html>

Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission

We are happy to report that a new **Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission (LACCRC) website** is live and open to the public. Please note that this website is in its first iteration and will soon be enhanced utilizing a more visual, user-friendly and interactive platform with access to more Redistricting information and tools in the coming weeks.

We launched this initial LACCRC website because we wanted to make sure the public was able to have easier access to key information such as background on Commissioners and staff, meeting dates, agendas, Zoom links to upcoming meetings and Redistricting information.

The direct link to the updated website is: <https://laccrc2021.org/>

During Summer 2021, the Citizens Redistricting Commission (CRC) will conduct ten (10) public hearings for input from communities of interest. At these hearings, the CRC will describe their process and ask for community input on what to consider in the redistricting effort. This is your chance to tell the commission where the important communities of interest are located so Supervisorial Districts can be drawn in a fair manner.

If you have any questions regarding this website or the future more enhanced website, please feel free to contact me at rafael.gonzalez@lacity.org. Also, please share the site with your contacts in your respective communities.

Sincerely,

Freddy

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Freddy Cupen-Ames, MPA (He/Him/His/El)

Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate

Staff for the Homelessness Liaison Task Force

Staff for the EmpowerLA Virtual Governance Technology Team

Staff Liaison for the Congress of Neighborhoods Planning Committee

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Scheduling Page: <https://calendly.com/cupen-ames>