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Venice Neighborhood Council  
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council  
Westside Neighborhood Council  
Westwood Community Council  
Westwood Neighborhood Council

August 19, 2025

To: WRAC Member Council Board representatives  
From: WRAC Chair Robin Greenberg and Vice-Chair Chris Spitz

In case you missed it, here's an update on the August 18, 2025, WRAC Board meeting.

**Special Guest:** We were honored to hear from **Councilwoman Traci Park**, who gave extensive remarks on her work in District 11. She spoke with compassion about the horrific experience of the devastating fire and her ongoing work on recovery and restoration of the Palisades community. She shared additional information about successful initiatives in each of the CD 11 neighborhoods, including infrastructure improvements, progress on public safety, clean-ups, and substantial reduction in homeless encampments throughout the district. She also answered several questions from Board members. We thank CW Park for speaking with us.

#### **Government Reports:**

We were pleased to have reports from the following government representatives, who spoke about the work of their elected officials and described bills or motions that they have introduced and/or have passed in their respective legislative bodies: Janet Turner, Deputy District Director for Congressman Ted Lieu; Sophia Liebman, Field Representative for state Senator Ben Allen; and Zac Gaidzik, Westside/Coastal Field Deputy for Supervisor Lindsey Horvath. Cairo Rodriguez, Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky's Field Deputy, was unable to attend but has sent us a detailed written report: <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/CD5-report-August-18-2025.pdf>.

#### **Chair's Announcements/Informal Board Decisions:**

- Robin welcomed newly-appointed representatives to the WRAC Board (as named in the 8/18 WRAC agenda).
- After noting the success of the July 21<sup>st</sup> in-person meeting with the Mayor and of other past meetings at Belmont Senior Living in Westwood, the Board decided that we would like to arrange for periodic (possibly quarterly) **in-person breakfast Board meetings at Belmont**. Steve Sann explained that Belmont has indicated it is more than happy to welcome us, depending on availability. We noted that government representatives should be included at these meetings, along with all Board members, but due to space limitations we could not accommodate members of the public. We also discussed possible speakers to invite, with members indicating that federal elected officials (including our U.S. Senators and Congressmembers) should be approached first (after determining recess schedules and availability to attend locally).

Jay Handal with work with Chris and Steve on inviting guest speakers to in-person meetings, after learning first about Belmont's availability. *We again thank Belmont for graciously welcoming us and generously providing the delicious complimentary breakfast buffets!*

- After discussion, the Board decided that we do not wish to have a presentation by the Mono Lake Committee. Chris and Robin will let that group know of the Board's decision.

#### **WRAC Meetings & Events:**

- **Upcoming Board meeting:** September 15, 2025.
- **Upcoming committee meetings:** MTC 9/17/25; HOC (TBD).

**Member Updates:** Vice-Chair Chris Spitz reported on the status of SB 79, with a further WRAC letter recently sent:

<https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/WRAC-Letter-SB-79-Council-Motion.pdf>. Chris also spoke about the fact that an independent audit of Inside Safe has not in fact occurred (despite the Mayor’s reference at our July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting; her reference was actually to the “assessment” done in connection with the *Alliance* case, which all parties have actually acknowledged was not the same as a full independent audit), as well as the recent reporting that Gibson, Dunn has billed the City *\$1.8 million for 2 weeks of work* on that case (beyond what we discerned from the documents provided to us by the C.A. in response to our PRA request).

Finally, Chris explained that Robin has generously paid for **WRAC’s Zoom, website and domain name** charges, as she does every year. Chris thanked Robin and asked members to contact Robin directly if they wished to contribute towards reimbursing her; we note that Robin is *not* requesting or expecting reimbursement!

### **New & Pending Motions:**

-- **New Motions:** The Board unanimously passed a new motion for recommendation to Member Councils: **Support CF 25-0848 / Expedite After-Action Reports:**

<https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/support-cf-25-0848-expedite-after-action-reports/>.

*Please consider taking up this new motion at your earliest opportunity.*

-- **Adopted Positions and Pending Motions:** Several previously pending motions (items a-g on the 8/18 WRAC agenda) have now been passed by eight or more member councils and are therefore adopted positions of WRAC; position letters will be sent soon, in accordance with WRAC’s bylaws. The deadline for one pending motion (agenda item h) was extended to September 2025. This motion, as well as item i on the agenda, have both been passed by seven member councils, and each is **only one vote shy of becoming a WRAC adopted position**. Please consider agendizing these motions at an upcoming board meeting.<sup>1</sup>

Details about the pending motions can be seen at: <https://westsidecouncils.com/pending-motions/> (click on the “Read More” button for each motion). Reminder: Pending motions are *recommended only* – they are not WRAC positions until they are passed by at least a majority (8) of Member Councils, who are free to decide whether to take up any pending motions.<sup>2</sup>

We also emphasize that WRAC is of course a *cooperative coalition* which seeks, whenever possible, to advocate for our Member Councils’ common / regional interests and concerns, as reflected in motions that a majority or more of WRAC Board representatives have voted to recommend for possible consideration by our Member Councils – and may eventually become adopted WRAC positions.

Best regards – and see you on September 15<sup>th</sup>!

*Robin and Chris*

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<sup>1</sup> As explained at the meeting (in response to a question about our process during public comment), previously pending motions are moved to the “Adopted Positions” page on the website when they have been passed by at least 8 Member Councils; however, even if a motion is already adopted and a position letter is written, Member Councils are free to take a position on motions at any time. If we’re notified that a motion has passed (after a majority has been reached and a letter is written), we’ll include this information on the motion webpage and in any subsequent position letters.

<sup>2</sup> Even if a given motion is not passed by a majority of Member Councils and thus does not become an adopted WRAC position, those Member Councils that have passed the motion are free to submit (and should submit) CIS and/or position letters on their own behalf. Collectively, positions expressed by several Member Councils, even if short of a majority in WRAC, are meaningful and may have a positive impact.