



# Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.BudgetAdvocates.org

## Zoom Meeting

**March 16, 2024, 9:30 a.m.**

**Meeting #15 Minutes**

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Kevin Davis	Present at 10:02 a.m.	1	Barbara Ringuette	Present at 10:13 a.m.	7
Cindy Cleghorn	Present left at 11:00 a.m.	1	David Hunter	Present	7
Lionel Mares	Present left at 11:00 a.m.	1	Connie Acosta	Absent	7
Brian Allen	Present	2	Lynda Valencia	Present at 9:58 a.m.	8
Garry Fordyce	Present	2	-----	-----	8
Scott Wright	Present	2	-----	-----	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	3	Elias Garcia	Absent	9
David Uebersax	Present	3	-----	-----	9
Jamie York	Absent	3	-----	-----	9
Howard Katchen	Present at 9:46 a.m.	4	Jennifer Goodie	Absent	10
Brandon Pender	Absent	4	Skei Saulnier	Absent	10
-----	-----	4	-----	-----	10
Jack Humphreville	Absent	5	Jay Handal	Present	11
-----	-----	5	Kay Hartman	Excused	11
-----	-----	5	Adriana de la Cruz	Present at 10:06 a.m.	11
Ernesto Castro	Absent	6	Sheryl Akerblom	Present at 10:05 a.m.	12
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I. Welcome and Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Glenn Bailey at 9:39 a.m., with 9 members in attendance. A full quorum was reached at 10:06 a.m.

II. Roll Call – Also in attendance were Budget Representatives: Alex Medina (Silverlake Neighborhood Council), Jennifer DeVore (Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council) and Tess Taylor (Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council).

III. MOTION to approve minutes from meeting #13 from February 17, 2024, meeting #14 from March 4, 2024 –

Motion by Sheryl Akerblom to approve the minutes from meeting #13 on February 17, 2024, and meeting #14 on March 4, 2024, second by Barbara Ringuette, passed 12 yes, 0 no, and 2 abstention.

IV. Public Comment

Lionel Mares announced that Controller Kenneth Mejia issued a press release on March 13 titled: "City of LA Liability Claim Payouts Totaled Nearly \$472M from FY2020-2023." Additional information is available at [Liability.Claims.controller.atp](http://Liability.Claims.controller.atp).

V. Announcements –

A. Announcements from DONE – John Darnell is assisting in Budget Day planning. No other announcements.

1. DONE posted the March 23 Town Hall on Nextdoor citywide.

VI. New Business – None.

VII. Old Business –

A. Vacancies– One each remains in regions 4, 10 and 12 and two each in regions 5, 6, 8 and 9. Election invitations were sent out to regions 5, 6, 8 and 9, with a deadline of March 22. Invitations will be distributed next to invite nominations from regions 8, then 4, with a similar deadline of a week or two out. Cindy will send a reminder to regions already contacted. Anyone interested in participating should contact the Co-Chairs or Parliamentarian.

B. CF 11-1020-S3 (Budget Advocacy vs. Advocates) and NC Contributions –

1. Update on latest DONE proposal

*"One solution is to add another category to state*

***"Neighborhood Council Budget Day in the amount of: \_\_\_\_\_"***

*"We can also include a statement in the form that explicitly conveys, 'By checking 'Neighborhood Council Budget Day,' you will be contributing to cover expenses associated with Budget Day, additional Budget workshops, and essential administrative needs.'"*

An initial version of the Neighborhood Council Funding Contribution form has been made available, after years of discussions with DONE, the City Clerk and the City Council.

By filling out the new option, "**Neighborhood Council Budget Day in the amount of: \_\_\_\_\_**," and by selecting the Payee name of "**Neighborhood Council Budget Day**" at the bottom (instead of "Neighborhood Council budget advocacy"), those donating will be contributing to expenses and other administrative needs of the Budget Advocates, including, but not limited to, the financial support of Budget Day. This will start the process of receiving funds from the Neighborhood Councils giving contributions. A vendor account has been set up to receive donations for the Budget Advocates through the City Clerk's website, when the name "**Neighborhood Council Budget Day**" is entered. The alternative option, "Neighborhood Council budget advocacy," directs contributions to DONE, rather than to the Budget Advocates.

Budget Advocates are asked to distribute the form widely and to request that Neighborhood Councils agendaize the item to consider contributing. Neighborhood Councils will be notified when the form becomes available through the City Clerk's website.

Brian will be making a \$500 contribution from Granada Hills North. Jay asked that Budget Advocates send out a special notice to Neighborhood Councils making the form available and including a request for donations.

C. Update on the opening of new Council File 24-0600 for FY 2024-2025 Budget – The Council File has not yet been opened. Members are invited to share the Council File number with their Neighborhood Councils in advance of its opening, which will be announced as soon as it is available.

- D. Meeting with Mayor Bass – No update yet. Kay has chosen not to pursue it until the White Paper is finished. A meeting could become available with the Mayor’s Budget Team, as a substitute.
- E. Town Hall on the DONE Budget Request for FY 2024-2025 – The event is confirmed for Saturday, March 23, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. Invitations were sent out, inviting all Budget Representatives and Neighborhood Council board members. Speakers include Council President Paul Krekorian. Budget-related questions may be submitted via Eventbrite and will be answered during the presentation. Register at the following link and encourage all Neighborhood Councils to register: <https://tiny.cc/DONETH24>
- F. Town Hall on the Mayor’s FY 2024-2025 Proposed Budget – The CAO recommended the event be held after the budget is presented to Budget, Finance, and Innovation Committee, a date which is not known at this time. Plans will move forward for April 27, with or without the Mayor’s and CAO’s offices. The current preference is to start the event at 1:00 p.m., although adjustments may be made based on the presenters. The event will be recorded and posted on the Budget Advocates website. Contact Co-Chairs to participate.
- G. Department Meetings – David Hunter reviewed the list and confirmed status of the meetings. More reports are needed. The White Paper must be released ASAP to be of use regarding the [2024-2025 Department Budget Requests](#). The paper’s theme is “Who is Doing the Work?” Individual reports may be distributed to the public as they become available. Email departmental reports to [labudgetadvocates@gmail.com](mailto:labudgetadvocates@gmail.com). Those available to help with editing should contact Kay and David Hunter.

#### VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Executive Committee – Items discussed are included on this agenda. The standing meeting date is the second Saturday of the month at 1:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on April 13.
- B. Finance Committee – Brian presented the [Financial Report](#), which is current through March 15. The document represents a list of expenses and when they were paid. Brian is still waiting for DONE to respond to questions. The gross funds spent (not confirmed as being paid) reach a total of \$42,798.42. No recent contributions have been made. Net funds available are \$43,00.55.
- This report includes information starting in 2013, with the last reconciliation with DONE taking place in 2022, represented by the \$52,000 figure.
- Motion** by Jay Handal to approve the Financial Report as submitted, second by Cindy Cleghorn, passed with 14 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstentions.
- C. Outreach Committee – Jennifer is helping create the graphics being used. Outreach efforts are being augmented by compiling email addresses from Neighborhood Council Outreach committees. The goal is for this to be available for the Budget Town Hall at the end of April. About a quarter of the project has been completed. Contact Glenn to contribute an address.
- D. Bylaws Committee – Cindy will begin work on the Bylaws once the elections are complete. This will be done before June. Any desired changes must be submitted before then.
- E. Training and Education Committee – The committee will meet soon to review materials, which will be made ready for Budget Day in June. Contact Kevin to assist in reviewing the material.
- F. Ad Hoc Editing Committee – Those available to help with editing should contact Kay and David Hunter. Glenn will confirm that Kay and Jack are writing the theme paper.
- G. Ad Hoc Budget Day Planning Committee with John Darnell – The next planning meeting will be held on March 24, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. A subsequent meeting with John Darnell will be held on March 31 at 1:30 p.m. The budget will be revisited for adjustments in mid-May, when most of the event costs come in. Additional members are invited to participate.

#### IX. Informational Items

- A. Controller Report Relative to Recommendations to more effectively Prepare the City of Los Angeles for Emergencies - [CF 22-1258](#)

- B. [Controller's Revenue Forecast](#)
- C. L.A. REPAIR Cohort 1 Program design and voting results. - [CF 21-1187](#)
- D. [Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes](#)
- E. [Mayor's 2023-2024 Budget Summary](#)
- F. [First Financial Status Report](#) for Fiscal Year 2023-24 (127 pages) – [CF 23-0600-S110](#)
- G. Mayor's [Executive Directive #5 "Improving Customer Service"](#) (MyLA311) issued October 30, 2023
- H. Mayor's [2024-2025 Budget Letter](#)
- I. CAO's [Second Financial Status Report \(FSR\)](#) (86 pages) - CF 23-0600-S113
- J. Controller's Audit on LAPD Air Support Division (helicopters) - [CF 23-1422](#) - [Controller's webpage](#)
- K. Human Resources Payroll Project delay - [CF 20-0313-S10](#)
- L. [CF 23-1187](#) Updated Citywide Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts Policy
- M. Controller Mejia shared this link: ["City of LA Staffing Vacancies by Department"](#)
- N. [CAO Letter on Fiscal Concerns and Prioritization of Critical Hiring](#) – [CF 23-0600-S115](#)
- O. [Controller Response to CAO Letter](#)
- P. [CAO Letter on Fiscal Concerns and Prioritization of Critical Hiring](#) – [CF 23-0600-S115](#) and [Controller Response to CAO Letter](#) - Jack Humphreville
- Q. Traci Park Budget Survey  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeFYp5jK2BZPG1EmDUAh8txMkg4Bo9HQVUoNXxGC-VHGhdNmw/viewform>
- R. Controller Report: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2023 - [CF 24-0088](#)
- S. Any new Council Files?
  1. Controller Mejia issued this press release: [City of LA Liability Claim Payouts Totaled Nearly \\$472M from FY2020-2023](#). Additional information is available at [Liabilityclaims.lacontroller.atp](#).

X. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- A. BONC: Monday, March 18, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., at City Hall – Budget Advocates are expected to be on this agenda, to provide an update on items discussed at this meeting.
- B. Town Hall on DONE Budget: Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
- C. Budget Advocates: Monday, April 1, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
- D. BONC: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. - location TBD
- E. BONC: Monday, April 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., at City Hall
- F. Budget Advocates: Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.
- G. Town Hall on Mayor's Budget: Saturday, April 27, 2024 – time TBD
- H. NC Budget Day: Saturday, June 15, 2024, at City Hall

XI. Items for Future Meeting Agendas

- A. Email items to [LABudgetAdvocates@gmail.com](mailto:LABudgetAdvocates@gmail.com)

XII. Adjournment – Co-Chair Glenn Bailey adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Topic: NC Budget Advocates Meeting (1st Monday/3rd Saturday)

Next meeting on April 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of Budget Advocate Meeting #15 (March 16, 2024).

ELSPETH WEINGARTEN, March 30, 2024