

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



GOVERNING BOARD

CARMEN MORALES
CHAIR

BRYAN KRAMER
VICE-CHAIR

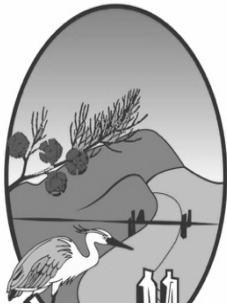
ASH KRAMER
TREASURER

DOLORES BERNAL
MAYRA DUQUE
JULIO GALVEZ
OLIVIA SALCEDO

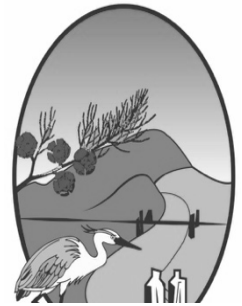
GREATER CYPRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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GREATER CYPRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING Tuesday, March 10, 2025 – 7:00 PM In Person Meeting



DRAFT MINUTES

Board Members	Roll Call
Ash Kramer	Present
Bryan Kramer	Present
Carmen Morales	Present
Dolores Bernal	Present
Mayra Duque	Present
Julio Galvez	Absent
Olivia Salcedo	Present

Call to Order

1.1 Roll Call. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Bryan Kramer. Four (4) board members were present at roll call: Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Dolores Bernal and Olivia Salcedo. Quorum was met.

Julio Galvez was absent.

Carmen Morales entered the meeting at 7:13 PM.

Mayra Duque entered the meeting at 8:09 PM.

1.3 Carmen Morales read the council meeting guidelines aloud.

2.0 Comments from Public Officials

2.1 Public Safety

Officer Spellman mentioned a tip the police received from the public lead to the arrest of a drug dealer in the area; the LAPD severed a warrant and significant drugs and firearms were discovered; Officer Spellman mentioned a rise in catalytic converter thefts all over the

NELA area, he also mentioned that Ring cameras at the front of homes could help with footage of thefts, he added that car thefts are large scale operations not just single individuals; he also mentioned LAPD's involvement in Read Across America at Aragon as well as other schools.

Public Comment 1-

Officer Spellman gave out his contact information at the North East Division, 213-793-0758 and his email: 43711@lapd.online.

He concluded by mentioning the upcoming 5K at Griffith Park on April 26th and that the money raised would go back to the community.

2.2 Elena Chavez, Field Deputy for Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez

Ms. Chavez mentioned the upcoming food distribution in the community on March 24th. She also mentioned this week was 3-1-1 week with the next day being 3-1-1 day; she credited 3-1-1 with helping the solar lights get installed in the community after the suggestions made by the community using this service; Ms. Chavez said the light outages were due to deferred maintenance and she mentioned each light cost \$5,600 with a 10 year warranty; she continued by mentioning the New Beginnings Housing site would be offering 63 units to constituents.

Bryan Kramer asked why Eunisses Hernandez had a solar plan but did not consider the community's needs and why did she choose that location, adding that many Arroyo Seco constituents were left in the dark.

Elena Chavez said that she covers the entirety of the NE area but reiterated that is why we need the community to submit more 3-1-1- requests.

Carmen Morales asked what time the food distribution would take place at Divine Savior Church.

Elena Chavez said it would start at 10 AM and go until supplies ran out.

Olivia Salcedo asked what kind of reach did 3-1-1 have.

Elena Chavez said it is a city-wide program but that they want to encourage more advertising and education; it is geared towards tech savvy people.

Public Comment 1-

2.3 Susan Cervantes, Northeast Area Representative from Office of Mayor Karen Bass Not Present.

2.4 Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment Prabhjot Chamber introduced Empower LA's Daniel Johnson and then continued her report; she mentioned the upcoming virtual workshop for the Next Door App. On March 28th from 11:30-1 PM where they will teach to post, track, view engagement and information on emergency alerts, all of it to help increase awareness for the app, registration for the virtual

workshop was ongoing; she continued by mentioning the Youth Conference on June 6, 2026 with children ages 14-17 years old eligible to apply which will have resources, workshops, networking and exposure to local government; the deadline to apply is Friday April 24th; next Ms. Chambers mentioned the April 1st deadline for bylaws submission and she also mentioned SB 707 taking effect with virtual meeting options requiring new deadlines, updated agenda templates, etc.

Ash Kramer said the board had approved hybrid meetings but that more guidance was needed.

Public Comment 1-

Ash Kramer asked how many times a year does a virtual meeting have to take place.

Prabhjot Chambers said once a year.

2.5 Hector Rodriguez Field Representative CA 52nd State Assemblymember Jessica Caloza

Mr. Rodriguez said their office is front and center for their constituent's casework and he said that he hopes the community can continue to reach out to their office regarding their needs; he continued by mentioning that as of February 24th their office has assisted in helping people receive \$172, 505 in EDD benefits; Mr. Rodriguez said the Home Depot situation continues to be an issue with no real updates yet but that they will fight to make sure that the labor group stays on-site, so there are no new updates but it remains a top priority, he added, to protect the undocumented and keeping the community together; he continued by saying the Assemblymember has taken an aggressive approach to properly fund Medicare; lastly he said an inaugural Block Party would be held May 31st from 11 AM-3 PM at the River Center, La Esquinita.

Public Comment 1-

Dolores Bernal mentioned Jimmy Gomez work with helping the community with passport application and renewal assistance.

Hector Rodriguez mentioned there would be similar resources at the upcoming party at the LA River Center.

2.6 100-Acre Partnership
Not Present.

2.7 Other Public Officials
None.

3.0 Public Comments

Public Comment 1-

Public Comment 2-

Public Comment 3-

Public Comment 4-

4.0 Community Outreach Discussion

- 4.1 Carmen Morales reminded attendees to check out the council website at <https://cypressparknc.com> for the latest on current and upcoming events in the area.**
- 4.2 Carmen Morales also reminded attendees to check out Rec Center's website for upcoming sports and classes at Cypress Park Rec Center <https://www.laparks.org/recenter/cypress>**
- 5.0 Treasurer's Report.**
- 5.1 Ash Kramer said the NC had \$12,483 in their bank account and \$1,400 going towards translation, minute taking and storage; she also mentioned April/May will be the last chance to apply for NPG's.**
- 5.2 Review and approve Monthly Expenditure Reports for January 2026. Ash Kramer motioned to approve expenditure for January; seconded by Carmen Morales.**

Public Comment 1-

Roll Call:

**Yes- Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Carmen Morales, Dolores Bernal and Olivia Salcedo.
5 Yes, 0 No. Motion Passes.**

6.0 Consent Calendar

Ash Kramer motioned to approve; Seconded by Olivia Salcedo

Roll Call:

**Yes- Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Carmen Morales, Dolores Bernal and Olivia Salcedo.
5 Yes, 0 No. Motion Passes.**

7.0 Action Items

- 7.1 Discussion and Possible Action: One at large seat on the board available and one youth seat available. Carmen Morales asked if anyone would be interested in joining. There were no volunteers.**
- 7.2 Discussion and Possible Action: Review standing rules w/addition of NPG process and other standing rules.
Carmen Morales said they should wait for Mayra Duque to arrive. Tabled by Carmen Morales.**

7.3 Discussion and Possible Action: LA Charter Reform Commission's recommendations are planned to be presented to City Council in April 2026 for possible inclusion on the November 2026 general election ballot.

Ash Kramer said from the conversation from the last meeting that the focus should be on individual items rather than all of them at once.

Bryan Kramer mentioned documents for reference would be the Echo Park Neighborhood Council letter, the LA Times article and the LA Coalition Charter Reform.

Ash Kramer mentioned and referenced a Reuters article on rank choice voting; she explained that if you have 3 candidates, 2 are getting the most votes with the 3rd one not being able to win and therefore you cannot vote your conscious, saying that you cannot use your vote as effectively but rank choice lets you rank your true candidate and your safety candidate as a number two choice. Ash Kramer motioned support for rank choice voting in the neighborhood council's proposed letter; Seconded by Bryan Kramer.

Dolores Bernal said she liked the idea but more research needed to be done.

Public Comment 1-

Public Comment 2-

Public Comment 3-

Roll Call:

Yes- Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Carmen Morales, and Olivia Salcedo.

Abstain- Dolores Bernal. 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain. Motion Passes.

Bryan Kramer said adding council seats helps representations for neighborhoods, it is diluted when 1 person represents so many people, that it is better for LA if we have more seats; and his hope is that there would be less slush money and less money paid to council offices.

Bryan Kramer motioned; Seconded by Carmen Morales.

Carmen Morales made mention how Elena Chavez was covering for someone on maternity leave and is therefore responsible for so many neighborhoods and so many people by herself.

Ash Kramer said this would distribute power better.

Public Comment 1-

Public Comment 2-

Olivia Salcedo mentioned in her previous community they had voted on 25 representatives as well as rank choice voting.

Roll Call:

**Yes- Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Carmen Morales, Dolores Bernal and Olivia Salcedo.
5 Yes, 0 No. Motion Passes.**

**Olivia Salcedo said the motion counters fraud, abuse and waste.
Olivia Salcedo motioned; Seconded by Ash Kramer.**

Public Comment 1-

Roll Call:

**Yes- Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Carmen Morales, Dolores Bernal, Mayra Duque and Olivia Salcedo.
6 Yes, 0 No. Motion Passes.**

Ash Kramer said she would add the 3 items and file as a CIS and send the letter out.

7.4 Discussion and Possible Action: Submit a Community Impact Statement regarding Council File: 25-1083 Title: Impacts of SB 79 (Wiener)/Comprehensive Report/City Infrastructure and Utility Systems.

Mayra Duque said with regards to SB 79, cannot count on the Council File, it is already known that these construction plans are not happening in affluent areas and that this would be an opportunity to make a comment on which neighborhoods are being impacted.

Ash Kramer asked if SB 79 was a state law; she added that there needs to be equitable distribution across the city no matter how affluent one area is rather than allowing this only in African American or Latino areas.

Carmen Morales said new construction is being implemented without needing to build parking and that just assuming everyone can take public transportation in this city is unrealistic.

Ash Kramer did not necessarily agree with Carmen Morales about public transportation.

Mayra Duque motioned; Seconded by Carmen Morales.

Carmen Morales said she would help draft the letter.

Public Comment 1-

Roll Call:

**Yes- Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Carmen Morales, Dolores Bernal, Mayra Duque and Olivia Salcedo.
6 Yes, 0 No. Motion Passes.**

7.5 Discussion and possible action: Appoint a GCPNC representative to attend “regional NELA

Outreach meetings to share resources and amplify efforts towards our collective goals of community engagement and advocacy.”

Bryan Kramer said these meetings were just starting out, they were in its infancy, he also mentioned he had asked Olivia Salcedo if she was interested in joining otherwise he might do it.

Ash Kramer motioned to nominate Olivia Salcedo; Olivia Salcedo seconded.

Roll Call:

Yes- Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Carmen Morales, Dolores Bernal, Mayra Duque and Olivia Salcedo.

6 Yes, 0 No. Motion Passes.

- 7.6 Discussion and Possible Action: Allocate \$1400 interpretation reimbursement in budget. Carmen Morales motioned to use funds for NPG; Second by Ash Kramer.**

Dolores Bernal made mention of the costs associated with Zoom meetings as something to consider with regards to allocating funds.

Roll Call:

Yes- Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Carmen Morales, Dolores Bernal, Mayra Duque and Olivia Salcedo.

6 Yes, 0 No. Motion Passes.

Ash Kramer asked to agendize Zoom in the next meeting, hopefully.

- 7.7 Discussion and Possible Action: Send a letter to Home Depot, advocating that they have to behave better as a community partner.**

Bryan Kramer mentioned there had been enough uproar from the community for Home Depot to back off, and that the board had voted to write a letter in support of the workers center; but it became more expansive and wanted to bring it back to the board to see if its good or if it needs to be amended; Bryan Kramer read the letter aloud to the meeting.

Public Comment 1-

Public Comment 2-

Public Comment 3-

Public Comment 4-

Bryan Kramer said he did worry if the letter would attract more ICE agents to the area.

Carmen Morales said it would be best not to mention federal agents in the letter so that they do not retaliate within the community.

Olivia Salcedo commented on how unnatural it is to even consider that federal agents would retaliate.

Mayra Duque said she felt the last paragraph could be re-written, she asked for clarification on the phrase “bear witness.”

Bryan Kramer said it had to do with feelings of powerlessness and that he did not like that feeling; adding he did not mind it being somewhat threatening.

Ash Kramer said it would be better to take out the veiled threat in the letter.

Carmen Morales motioned to write the letter but with all the modifications from this meeting such as the agents and veiled threats; Seconded by Olivia Salcedo.

Public Comment 1-

Public Comment 2-

Roll Call:

Yes- Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Carmen Morales, Dolores Bernal, Mayra Duque and Olivia Salcedo.

6 Yes, 0 No. Motion Passes.

7.8 Discussion and Possible Action: Consider request from SEIU Local 721 to support our LA Fast Food workers ordinance.

Ash Kramer said she would mail for the Council File before making a CIS.

Carmen Morales tabled the item to the next meeting.

8.0 New Business and Ideas for Future Meeting

Olivia Salcedo said she would be joining the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance.

Public Comment 1-

10. Adjournment

Carmen Morales adjourned the meeting at 8:52 PM.