



DECEMBER 2023

Letter From The Editor

The First Issue

*Please note that the views and opinions expressed in the Letter from the Editor are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Southeast Neighborhood Council. The editor's letter is written from a personal perspective and is intended to offer an individual viewpoint on community matters.



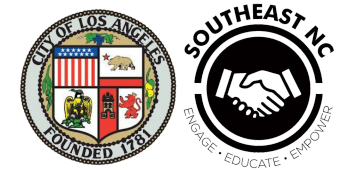
In this first issue, I'd like to start off by talking about the passage of SB-411 and how it relates to the intricacies of local governance: Are virtual meetings a true step forward, or do they mask deeper issues in our city's infrastructure and civic engagement?

The structure of government in the United States cascades down from federal to state to city levels, with each tier meant to address increasingly specific and localized needs. In Los Angeles, the creation of neighborhood councils was a bold step towards micro-local governance, an attempt to tailor city governance to the unique tapestry of each community. These councils were envisioned as a means to bring government not just closer to the people but to make it a tangible, accessible part of their everyday lives.

Enter SB-411, a law allowing these councils to meet virtually- thank you COVID. On the surface, it appears to be a progressive move, eliminating transportation barriers and expanding access. In a sprawling metropolis like Los Angeles, where getting from one place to another is often a time-consuming endeavor, virtual meetings seem like a logical solution. But is it really what our community needs, or is it a band-aid on deeper, more systemic issues?

Transportation in Los Angeles has long been a topic of contention. The city's inability to provide efficient, widespread public transit options is a significant hurdle in ensuring equitable access to various services, including local governance. By enabling virtual meetings, are we inadvertently conceding that the city has failed to address these fundamental mobility challenges? Is SB-411 a convenient workaround, a digital detour, bypassing the pressing need to improve physical accessibility across the city?

Moreover, there is a philosophical dimension to this shift. Neighborhood councils were conceived to foster a sense of community, to bring people together in a shared space, facilitating not just governance but neighborly bonds. Does moving meetings online dilute this objective? Is there something intrinsically valuable about "showing up" - the physical act of being present in a communal space, engaging face-to-face with our neighbors and representatives?



In contrast, the digital realm offers unprecedented convenience and inclusivity. It enables participation for those juggling work and family commitments, for the elderly and disabled, for whom physical attendance is a challenge. How do we think about these neighbors in vein of a communal spirit and personal touch that in-person meetings foster?

As we ponder the impact of SB-411, these questions loom large. Are we advancing towards a more inclusive and accessible local government, or are we overlooking the need for broader infrastructural and social reforms? Is the move towards virtual neighborhood councils a progressive leap, or does it hint at a deeper reluctance to tackle the underlying issues that plague our city?

In navigating these questions, one thing is clear: the path forward requires deep consideration, ensuring that in our quest to keep up with the times, we do not lose sight of the core values that make local governance meaningful - community, connection, and collective action.

Lastly and most importantly, I'd like to say that it is with immense pride and purpose that I address you as the first ever editor of our Southeast Neighborhood Council Newsletter. This role is not merely a position to me, but a heartfelt commitment to each one of you in our vibrant and resilient community.

In the heart of South Central Los Angeles, our neighborhood thrives with rich stories and unwavering spirits, yet too often, we find ourselves overlooked and unheard by our city government. This newsletter, an extension of our neighborhood council, is our collective step towards changing this narrative. It is our tool to ensure that we are not just heard, but listened to, and that our concerns and needs are given the same weight as those in other Los Angeles neighborhoods.

Our community, like our newsletter, stands as a testament to our strength and unity. It is a platform where your voices, often sidelined, can echo powerfully through the corridors of influence. This is our space to shed light on the issues that matter to us, to celebrate our successes, and to hold our elected officials accountable. We are not just another neighborhood in the city; we are the Southeast Neighborhood - vibrant, determined, and deserving of equal consideration and respect.

Through the pages of this newsletter, we will build a strong collective community that stands together, is well-informed and shows our electeds what we can accomplish despite their disdain. I invite you to join me in this journey, to share your experiences, voice your concerns, and together, let's make a resounding statement that we are here, we matter, and we are an integral part of Los Angeles.

As I undertake this journey with you, my heart swells with hope and gratitude. Hope, for a future where our neighborhood stands equal among others in our great city. Gratitude, for your trust and for the opportunity to serve as a conduit for your voices.

Together, let's make the Southeast Neighborhood Council a beacon of change and a testament to the power of unity.

With heartfelt dedication,
Jesse Munoz
Editor, Southeast Neighborhood Council Newsletter

Southeast Newsletter #1

ISSUE 01



Meeting Recaps

August Meeting - 08.24.2023

We received reports from the Southeast precinct from LAPD, who reported a rise in catalytic converter thefts. CD8 Liason Laura Garcia reported a pilot program consisting of building speed bumps near elementary schools. LAFD reported 1800 calls during storm weekend. The board heard a presentation from United We Stand and approved a board action to fund NTE 4800 dollars. We also approved a budget for the Winter Wondlerland event on Nov 18th of NTE 18,000 dollars. Finally, the board voted unanimously to amend our bylaws to lower quorum to facilitate board business.

September Meeting - 09.25.2023

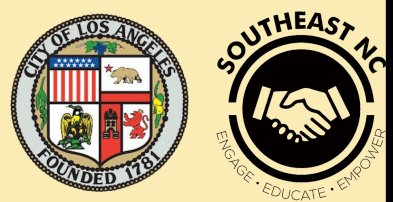
We heard from LAPD new captain, Rachel Rodriguez who pledged her commitment to our neighborhood. We heard from CD8 about the clearing of an RV park near Hoover & 83rd. The Board voted to have an outreach booth at a Parks & Rec event, called Play Street. We also voted to participate in CD8's transitional housing grand opening event on Sept 30th. The board also voted to amend its meeting time from 6:30-8:30PM to 6:00-8:00PM, every 4th Tuesday of the month. The board also voted to fund year long passes for three families to the YMCA's southeast outfit.

October Meeting - 10.28.2023

We received reports from the LAPD, who reported the upcoming clergy walk on Figueroa on Oct 27th. We heard from CD8 about the upcoming Winter Wonderland event on Nov 18th. The board also heard a presentation from Jennifer Williams, candidate for CA state senate, a presentation from Twyla Peters Area Rep 1A, about trash dumping near the Dorothy Mae Clinic, and voted on a Community Impact Statement regarding their technological needs for the implementation of SB-411. The board also voted to cancel their November and December meetings, due to the Holidays and instead have one Special Meeting on December 8th.

December Meeting - 12.08.2023

We heard reports from LAPD and CD8 regarding end of year announcements. We heard a presentation and took board action about a change of use permit on S Central Ave. We also took action to create committee meetings to get the community more involved in board matters. We also recapped the 2023 Winter Wonderland event and voted on whether our board wanted to have virtual meetings. We voted on a resolution to send to city electeds, urging them to take care of all our neighbors during this difficult period of protests surrounding conflicts in the Middle East. Finally, our board discussed and voted on our next area assembly.



Newsletter Content

Meeting Recaps:
August 2023
September 2023
October 2023
December 2023

Dorothy Mae Clinic
Feature

Winter Wonderland 2023

Neighbor submission:
How do I get started?

Meet your Board

A Letter from the Editor

Scan the QR code
or
email our board secretary at:
jesse.munoz@southeastnc.org



For full meeting votes and minutes, visit www.southeastnc.com


Dorothy Mae Clinic: Serving the Community


When Area 1 Rep, Twyla Peters, and I set out to survey businesses in our neighborhood, we happily stumbled upon an institution. Dr Michael Singleton has been serving the community for over 15 years at the Dorothy Mae Clinic - his baby, as he refers to it; where all are welcome for treatment despite insurance status and economic resources.

Dr Singleton does what he does for the love of his community. After graduating from UCLA and serving in the military, Dr Singleton settled back home in Southeast LA, in true heroic effort, to better his community. He offers internships for university students, who he sometimes has to turn away due to demand. While Dr Singleton receives some public funding, he says its not enough. If this feature does anything for this business, that is legendary in our neighborhood, we hope it inspires a generous hand from some organization flush with cash.

The Southeast Neighborhood Council thanks the Dorothy Mae Clinic, Dr Michael Singleton and his incredible staff for keeping their doors open to our neighbors for many years and wishes their continued success.



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to be featured in our newsletter, send your information to info@southeastnc.org
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to submit a neighbor question, please write in at info@southeastnc.org



Winter Wonderland is Southeast LA's very own Christmas tree lighting and holiday event, put on every year by CD8 and Southeast NC. With the help of Burton Tech high school and DWP, this year, we were able to bring snow, toys and joy to over 400 children in the southeast LA community.



With over 600 people in attendance, the board hopes that future Winter Wonderland events can grow bigger and reach more people. We publicly call on our elected officials to take note of this celebration as a sign of a more activated southeast LA with our community at the center.



Folks who attended the event were able to enjoy food, music, a snow village, a toy giveaway, photo ops and a 20 organization vendor fair, all in addition to the tree lighting. After months of preparation with CD8, DWP, Burton Tech, the Southeast LAPD and more, we were proud to present our Winter Wonderland event on November 18th, 2023.



Your Southeast Neighborhood Council was presented with an award of recognition from CD8 for our hardwork putting on the event. Special thanks to Area Rep, Twyla Peters, Co-chair, Elida Mendez, Treasurer, Estrella Dela Rosa and our board President, Moises Rosales



Moises Rosales,
President



Elida Mendez,
Vice President



Estrella Dela Rosa,
Treasurer



Jesse Munoz,
Board Secretary



Board Positions
Available:

To apply for a seat, visit
our website,
www.southeastnc.org



Jazmin Anderson,
Representative 1B



Trina Young-Washington,
Representative 2A



Nik DeFrance,
Representative 2B


Meeting Time
&
Location

8475 S Vermont Ave
Los Angeles Ca 90044

Every 4th Tuesday
of the month

Neighbor Question:
Where do I start?

Inspiration is everywhere! So is need. Southeast LA might seem lacking, but there are many many organizations who need you! You can apply for a spot on our board by visiting our website and emailing our board secretary. There are neighborhood associations and beautification organizations all willing to work with you. Please visit the links below and consider giving your time to your community.



To have your question for our neighborhood council featured in our monthly newsletter, write to us at info@southeastnc.org or attend one of our monthly meetings.

- ## Links to helpful resources:

[LA Housing Department](#)
Apply for emergency relief, pay rent, file complaints or find general information about housing in Los Angeles, including Southeast LA. visit their website at www.housing.lacity.org

[The Helpful Homegirls](#)
The Helpful Homegirls is an organization dedicated to serving minority and homeless communities, specifically in south LA. visit their website www.helpfulhomegirlsorg.com

[United We Stand](#)
United We Stand is a beautification organization, cleaning the streets of southeast LA, one block at a time. visit their instagram: [@unitedwestand_cd9](https://www.instagram.com/unitedwestand_cd9)
- [Dorothy Mae Clinic](#)
Dorothy Mae Clinic staff prides itself on their personal approach to medical care. They have been serving the South LA community since 1998. Visit their website or call them at 323-750-1196