The annual Neighborhood Council Budget Day took place at Los Angeles City Hall on August 16, 2014. This annual event was organized by the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates (NCBAs) and EmpowerLA. NCBA Co-Chair Jay Handal’s welcome speech included discussion of NCBA goals—to integrate Neighborhood Councils more fully into the shaping of the City budget, to help next fiscal year’s City budget meet the needs and concerns of LA’s communities during a time of budget crisis, to increase Neighborhood Council leaders’ knowledge of the Los Angeles budget process, and to help develop relationships among Neighborhood Council leaders, Neighborhood Councils and City Departments, and Neighborhood Councils and the Mayor’s office.

LA officials who made presentations at the event included Mayor Eric Garcetti, Deputy Mayor Rick Cole, Controller Ron Galperin, City Administrative Officer Miguel Santana, and City Councilman Paul Krekorian. Mayor Garcetti’s presentation outlined plans for further implementation of his multi-year performance budget goals and discussed the application of performance metrics to determine how those goals are being achieved. The Mayor also discussed his four primary “Back to Basics” priorities:

A Prosperous City
A Livable City
A Safe City
A Well-Run and Sustainable City

Mr. Garcetti also provided a tentative timeline for both budget development and civic engagement goals between August 2014 and April 2015, the scheduled release of the 2015-2016 proposed City Budget. Information provided by Mr. Cole, Mr. Galperin, Mr. Santana, and Mr. Krekorian helped to flesh out plans for helping our City continue to thrive.

More than 200 Los Angeles stakeholders attended the annual event, which began with a generous breakfast, followed by the plenary session with City officials. Constituents were given the opportunity to provide input via a survey that asked questions about individuals’ concerns and priorities. Survey results were tallied by the Budget Advocate group and are discussed on the NCBA website, www.ncbala.com.

If you were unable to attend Budget Day 2014 and would like to know more about the event, here’s a link to a video channel that shows some of the key presentations given that day at Los Angeles City Hall: https://vimeo.com/channels/budgetday2014. Individual links to the presentations made on Budget Day 2014 by Mayor Eric Garcetti can be found at https://vimeo.com/105670469. Former Budget Advocate Ed Novy’s presentation is available at https://vimeo.com/105618313. CAO Miguel Santana’s presentation is found online at https://vimeo.com/105709529; that of Controller Ron Galperin at https://vimeo.com/105720839, and City Councilman Paul Krekorian at https://vimeo.com/105729617.
2014 Neighborhood Council Congress
September 20, 2014

Neighborhood Council leaders from throughout the city have partnered with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (EmpowerLA) to offer the 2014 LA Congress of Neighborhoods to City Hall on Saturday, September 20, from 7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The event is free; breakfast and lunch, workshops, and opportunities for networking are on offer as well. There is something for everyone, from curious stakeholders to new board members to seasoned veterans of the civic engagement process to city hall insiders.

This year’s theme is “Keys to Success. This is your opportunity to network with elected and appointed City officials, City department managers, staff and Neighborhood Council leaders from across the City.


We’re on the Web!
www.NCBALA.com

Follow us on Facebook: City of Los Angeles Budget Advocates.
Find us on Twitter:
https://twitter.com/BudgetAdvocates

2014-2015 Budget Advocates Selected

During breakout sessions that followed the early morning Budget Day meeting, Budget Representatives appointed by Neighborhood Councils from all twelve regions elected the 2014-2015 Budget Advocates. Thirty-six (36) Budget Representatives were elected and agreed to serve.

The Budget Representatives then elected 2014-2015 officers: Jay Handal and Terrence Gomes (co-Chairs), Danielle Lafayette and Linda Lee (co-Vice Chairs), Howard Katchen (Treasurer), Greg Wilkinson (Parliamentarian), Erick Morales (Secretary) and Jeanette Hopp (Assistant Secretary)

A list of the newly-elected Budget Advocates follows (the Neighborhood Councils they represent are in parentheses):
Region 1—Kevin Taylor (Foothill Trails District), Greg Wilkinson (Panorama City), Krystee Clark (Sun Valley), Debra Perkins (North Hills West), Region 2—Glenn Bailey (Northridge East), Pamela Gentry (Northridge West), Region 3—Harvey Goldberg (Tarzana), Ken Schwartz (Tarzana), Joanne Yvanek -Garb (West Hills), Region 4—Brandon Pender (Greater Toluca Lake and Studio City), Howard Katchen (Sherman Oaks), Jeanette Hopp (Van Nuys), Region 5—Elvina Sanjurjo (Hollywood United), Region 6—Linda Lee (Olympic Park), Rocky Valenzuela (Westlake North), Nelson Castillo (Westlake South), Region 7—Susan Reimers (Elysian Valley Riverside), Barbara Ringuette (Silverlake), Micky Forte (Rampart Village), Region 8—Vera Del Pozo (Boyle Heights), Liz Amsden (Historic Highland Park), Michelle Corzantze (LA-32), Region 9—Margaret Peters (EC Southwest), Darlene Atkins (Voices of 90037), Sharron Haynes (Watts), Region 10—Brett Shears (EC North), Danielle Lafayette (EC West), Erick Morales (Midcity), Region 11—Terrence Gomes (South Robertson), Martin Jon Liberman (South Robertson), Jay Handal (West Los Angeles), Region 12—Ted Shirley (Coastal San Pedro), Joan Jacobs (Harbor Gateway North), Craig Goldfarb (Northwest San Pedro).

NCBA Film and TV Entertainment Retention Committee

The NCBA Film and TV Entertainment Retention Committee in 2013 to look closely at ways to keep entertainment industry jobs in Southern California. The 2014-2015 NCBA group will continue to work to achieve this goal.

Brandon Pender, Committee Chair, recently announced that preliminary discussions have been held with local union groups representing entertainment industry organized employees, with the intent to form agreements that will help to keep jobs in Southern California and encourage film and television production to remain in the area. At the most recent NCBA meeting, Mr. Pender referred to his plans to extend discussions about this issue to studios heads, production companies, the Screen Actors Guild (SAG), and other interested groups.

More information about the ERC and its activities will be made available on the NCBA website, www.ncbala.com, and in this Newsletter, as they develop.