



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OF WESTCHESTER / PLAYA 2019 ELECTION INFORMATION

On Sunday, June 2, 2019, the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa will hold its board elections along with a number of other Neighborhood Councils on the Westside.

This is your opportunity to get involved, select those candidates who will serve on your Neighborhood Council and make a difference in your community. Think of your Neighborhood Council as a group of local residents and representatives of local businesses, churches and schools, etc., working together to address important issues in our neighborhood.

As part of the city's Charter, Neighborhood Councils are an integral part of how local government operates, providing elected officials with a direct line to the community and how it stands on all issues.

ON THE BALLOT ..

The following candidates will appear on the June 2 ballot:

At-Large Community Interest Director
Seats 2 and 3
Michael Festa
Kimberly Fox
Ed Stapleton
Garrett Smith
Patric Thomas
Al L. Hernandez
Benjamin D'Angelo
Matthew Parrish

Religious Director
Sue Fisher

Residential District 1
Michele Cooley-Strickland
Sally Hughes

Residential District 3
Zach Siglow
Thomas Patriarca

Residential District 7
Alan M. Quon
Sylvia J. Wilson

Residential Director 9
Cord Thomas

Residential District 11
Daniel Bianca
Dennis Miller

Income Real Property Director
Paula Gerez

Residential District 5
Trevor Candler
Vatche Zetjian
Andrew Watkins

Senior Citizens Director
Naomi Waka

You Must Bring Documentation to Vote

The election is open to any member of the community who is at least 18 years of age on the date of the election and lives, works or owns property in Zip Codes 90293, 90045 or 90094. According to the election procedures approved by the City of Los Angeles, voters must verify their stakeholder status by providing acceptable documentation.

Every voter planning to vote in the election must bring with them to the polling location proof of stakeholder status, including:

- Driver's license;
- Utility bill;
- Property tax statement;
- Pay stub;
- Business tax registration certificate;

or other documentation that proves they live, work or own property in Zip Codes 90293, 90045 or 90094.

Those who do not provide this proof will be given a provisional ballot, which will not be counted until stakeholder status can be verified.

MEET
THE
CANDIDATES
Election 2019
Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa
www.NCWPDR.org
Sat. May 4 ★ LMU University Hall, McIntosh Center ★ 2 - 4 pm
1 LMU Drive, Los Angeles 90045 | Free parking available



VOTE – SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OF WESTCHESTER/PLAYA ELECTION

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Westchester Municipal Building
7166 W. Manchester Avenue (southeast corner of Lincoln and Manchester)

meet the candidates ...

AT-LARGE COMMUNITY INTEREST DIRECTOR SEATS 2 AND 3 (VOTE FOR TWO)

The candidates below did not provide a statement.



Michael Festa

Benjamin D'Angelo

The people of Los Angeles and this community pay far too much and receive far too little on every level. Whether its roads that are hardly usable, non existent rental inspectors, schools that are inadequate or Police that are spread too thin the government has failed its people at all levels. What we need are people who will make sure we get the city we deserve.

This candidate did not provide a photo.



Garrett Smith

With your support I will continue to serve as I Always have. Past President of Rotary, public arts committee, Friend of Education Honoree, 4th of July Parade, Honorary Mayor, NC Outreach Chair, Community Dinner Chair, Planning and Land Use and numerous other organizations. I will continue to work for more parks, a dog park is overdue. I do not support commercialization of R1 properties by short term non-owner occupied rentals. I promise to continue to preserve the character of our neighborhoods and beauty of our beach's. Cleaning up Ballona Creek As a local businessperson I understand the unique relationship of our business district and residents. You can depend on me to oppose commercial use of our streets for illegal vendors, LAX parking or rent a car companies. Resolving issues and minimizing the negative impact of LAWA's traffic and construction is a priority. The communities voice and the future is our responsibility. You can count on me. May I have your vote?

For several years I have served on our NC's Planning and Land Use Committee as an appointed community volunteer member and Committee secretary. I **strongly** believe active participation in democratic processes creates better community outcomes. If you happen to know my work on PLUC, then you'll know I show up, work hard, stay informed, and support Committee activity transparency as the Brown Act requires. I'm running for a seat on the NC Board because I want to help address pressure our NC geography is under: commercial growth, housing evolution, an economically challenged aging population, Ballona Wetlands preservation, and LAX expansion. I support NC Board conduct that is open, inclusive, Brown Act compliant, and free from inappropriate conflicts of interest. I also strongly support strategic NC partnership with Councilman Bonin's office when it comes to getting positive things done at City Hall for our community.

As a 4th generation life long resident of Westchester, I am proud to say this community has shaped me into the person I am today. I am a business executive who received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration w/ a focus in General Management. I pride myself on being not only a hard driven individual but also a creative thinker who is comfortable thinking outside of the box while maintaining an open mind to the wide array of world views, cultures & perspectives represented within our community. My voice will be a clear representation of all citizens of our community & I want to use it to continue the family legacy that made positive significant differences in our neighborhoods. I am kindly asking you to vote for me for this elected position/seat. In this role I intend on being a voice for not only the Youth but also for Senior Citizens, Military Veterans & specifically ALL residents within our community because ALL VOICES NEED TO BE HEARD. Thank you! :-)



Ed Stapleton

Al L. Hernandez

Born and Raised in Westchester. 52 wonderful years and still going. Been active with various groups throughout my life including Loyola Village, St. Anastasia, St. Bernards, Westchester Lutheran, Wish Charter, AYSO Region 7, Westchester Little League, Del Rey Little League and LMU. Qualifications: Businessman, Real Estate Broker and most importantly kids coach. Time to go back to basics and focus on pot holes, roads, better schools, less crime and Senior & Child friendly activities. All other issues will fall in place. Would like to see Westchester park transformed to a modern facility with year round pool. Best Regards and thanks for reading my statement. Coach Al

This candidate did not provide a photo.



Kimberly Fox



Matthew Parrish

NO PHOTO OR STATEMENT PROVIDED

Patric Thomas

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The following seats on the board of the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa were eligible to be on the June 2, 2019 ballot, but there were no candidates who filed to run for these seats:

Business Director, Zip Code 90094

Residential District 13 Director

Residential District 15 Director

These seats will remain vacant until they are filled in accordance with the NCWP bylaws.

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 1 DIRECTOR



Michele Cooley-Strickland

Having served on the NCWP for nearly five years as the Residential District 1 Director, I've sought to increase the accessibility of the Neighborhood Council and its resources to Playa del Rey and the entire Westchester/Playa community. It's been an honor and pleasure to represent the interests of our community, which I would like to continue to do over the next term. I've served as Chairperson of the NCWP Education Committee for nearly five years; the numerous activities achieved in that position are chronicled on the NCWP Education Committee webpage. For nearly the past year, I have held the office of Vice-President of the NCWP. The significance of the Neighborhood Council continues to grow as our community expands and develops, while maintaining the culture and values that make it a unique beach community that borders with LAX, Westchester, and Playa Vista. My faculty position at UCLA, other professional endeavors, and volunteer work complement my appreciation and investment in PDR



Sally Hughes

I have worked and lived in the Westchester/Playa community for over 20 years. My children attended St. Anastasia Catholica School and I worked at Loyola Marymount University for seven years. My credentials include being Treasurer of the West Beach Playa del Rey Property Owner's Association, and I hold California Real Estate and Notary licenses. Along with my husband, Bob Hughes, we held annual neighborhood clean-ups for over 25 years. City Councilman, Mike Bonin was and has been deeply supportive of our community events. My goal is to serve my community in a greater capacity. I am not a politician, but I know my neighbors and will fight for their rights. I recognize that the Neighborhood Council's role will continue to grow as our community changes and develops and I am eager to help preserve our way of life and the charm of our close knit community.

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 3 DIRECTOR



Zach Siglow

My wife and I have lived in this area for over a decade. You have probably seen me pushing my baby boy (Baxter) in a stroller, walking my Boston Terrier or often times doing both. I am currently a stay-at-home Dad with a toddler. My passion is to make this neighborhood the best possible place for him to grow up. We spend time everyday at the children's park on Hastings, the Park Hill Park and on the bluff walk. If you've seen us, I've waved and said "Hello". We love it here and I am thrilled that my child will grow up as a local. Even in this oasis by the sea, we have a few places we can improve. I would like to move the needle on the quality of our local education, help find solutions for our growing homeless population and join in on efforts to combat crime in our area. I have the time to make a difference. I am motivated. The Westchester Bluffs neighborhood is an amazing and supportive community. As the Residential District 3 Director, I would like to work to keep it this way.



Thomas Patriarca

As a resident of Playa Del Rey and Westchester for the past 32 years, I have seen our neighborhoods evolve economically, socially and commercially. There have and will continue to be vital issues we must address, such as increased traffic, crime, the homeless, airport travelers parking on our streets, and large scale commercial and residential developments to name a few, all affecting our daily quality of life in one form or another. Each resident should have the opportunity to voice their concerns, thoughts and ideas, and have them heard and addressed. My goal as a board member and advocate of the stakeholders, is to help strengthen our diverse community by together identifying how to continue to enrich our neighborhoods by discussing the issues and finding solutions that work. I appreciate your vote.

meet the candidates ...

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR

Vatche Zetjian

As an attorney and former Congressional intern for Congressman Brad Sherman, I would like to dedicate myself to improve our community and ensure that issues and concerns are sufficiently considered and addressed. My wife and I are new to the community. We have enjoyed the neighborhood and continue to meet great neighbors of different backgrounds. One of the frustrations I have noticed that seems to be a common concern is that issues can often linger and go unaddressed. We may not agree on all issues, but we should all strive for process and the opportunity to at least bring some of these issues to the forefront and to provide opportunity for proposals and solutions. For example, parking situations, permit parking, transient related issues, etc. We need a Board that cares about process, and cares to work with other community/city organizations to actually make progress on some of these issues. I will work to achieve that.

This candidate did not provide a photo.

Trevor Candler

as a 25 year resident i have been active in this and another neighborhood council with a very high attendance record at the board meetings for at least the last ten years. in another area i have served as the Bylaws committee chair during which over the course of a year the bulk of the bylaws were reviewed and revised to suit the evolution of that board and the system to increase stakeholder participation.

This candidate did not provide a photo.



Andrew Watkins

Professional specializing in real estate, business development, and legal services. Track record of business experience combined with Asian legal and cultural understanding. Demonstrated ability to build businesses for clients focused on high-growth areas. Excellent communicator and connector. Proficient in spoken and written Japanese. Licensed by State Bar of California (1997), California Bureau of Real Estate (2005), and California Department of Insurance (2012). Originally from South Pasadena. Have lived in Westchester since 2013 with wife Chelsea, son Chris (age 7) and new baby Alexis (6 months). Currently work with Pacific Playa Realty located in Westchester. Excited to make a contribution and help our local neighbors while balancing the needs of businesses and surrounding communities. Please allow me to represent you and serve you as best possible.

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 9 DIRECTOR



Cord Thomas

As a resident of Westport Heights, I have witnessed the transformation of our community driven by development demands in large part due to housing shortages in Los Angeles. The development of multifamily and office buildings has had a significant negative impact on traffic and the quality of residential life. In addition, the LA World Airports improvements, new football stadium, and the 2028 Olympics will all have transformational influences on our neighborhood. As a result, we need to ensure the interests of the stakeholders in Westport Heights and more broadly Westchester / Playa are addressed by the City Council and Mayor. As an engineer working for an LA-based public policy think tank, I understand the challenges faced by urban planners and municipal governments. As a representative of the Neighborhood Council, I would strive to ensure the community strikes an equitable balance between development and the single-family neighborhood many of us moved here to live in.

SENIOR CITIZENS DIRECTOR



Naomi Waka

My NCWP involvement began with attendance at Board & Committee meetings. My community involvement began with a campaign to address mail theft from a US Postal Service property, resulting in the installation of anti-theft mailboxes at the Westchester PO. I've volunteered with homeless engagement efforts, drawing upon my affordable housing work experience. I am a recent Board addition, an appointee, & would love to continue serving our community. We face issues as does any Los Angeles community. Because of our proximity to LAX, we have issues uniquely our own. Additional concerns include the update to our Community Plan, the presence of web-based companies conducting business on our streets & sidewalks, safety, traffic, land use, the influx of new development, & homelessness. We need an engaged & responsive Board to advocate, to effectively rally resources, managing & mitigating impacts on the quality & character of our neighborhood. I pledge to be that board member & request your vote.

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR



Alan M. Quon

I grew up here in Westchester and I've seen our community change and grow in the 31 years I've lived here. I've spent 14 of those years here in North Kentwood. I know how special our neighborhood is and how vitally important it is that our uniqueness is preserved and at the same time welcoming to a whole new generation of residents. Its a commitment that I've taken very seriously by being involved in our community and have served in numerous leadership roles in our local Kiwanis Club and Masonic Lodge. I'm a mentor to high school student leaders involved in community service. I've also had the privilege of serving on our neighborhood council for the last 9 years. I've been an advocate for protecting our neighborhood and making it a place that we can all enjoy. I hope that with your confidence and vote, that we, together, can continue that mission to make our community the best it can be.



Sylvia J. Wilson

I have been a member of this amazing community for the last 9 years. I would like for this community to continue to be successful and I feel the best way for me to help with that goal is to be a part of our neighborhood council. As a Mom and a resident, I know our children's futures are too important to not take an active role in helping our area sustain itself and improve in ways that benefit all of our stakeholders needs. I look forward to the opportunity to represent all of our diverse community while still maintaining what makes Westchester and Playa special.

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 11 DIRECTOR



Dennis Miller

I have lived in Westchester's Ladera neighborhood for six years. Having worked for the State of California for more than 20 years at the California Highway Patrol and Department of Toxic Substances Control my life experience and skill set working with government agencies has prepared me to a valuable asset to our community serving on this Council. My focus is on ensuring our neighborhoods are safe and enhancing the quality of life for our residents. Over the years I have volunteered for Neighborhood Watch and several community projects including helping to build a playground for our local elementary school and serving on committees to enhance unity in our community. I will work hard to ensure our community continues to thrive.



Daniel Bianca

I am a Westchester resident since 1988. I have come to appreciate many of the wonderful resources this community has to offer. I raised two children in Westchester and have only good memories of the experience. Yet I watch as development is increasing bringing with it greater road congestion, parking shortages, neighborhood population turnover and neighbor isolation. I believe the way to improve our situation is through communication and activity. I have a drive to bring the neighborhood together so that we can see each other, come to know each other and thereby respect each other. I want our government to know what we are thinking and not ignore us. People in the neighborhood should have the feeling every day that this is home and not just a temporary place to stay.

RELIGIOUS DIRECTOR



Sue Fisher

I was appointed to the Council last year to fill a vacancy, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to be elected to continue to participate in the important work the Council does for the community. Thank you for voting for me!

INCOME REAL PROPERTY DIRECTOR



Paula Gerez

The candidate above did not provide a statement.