

# NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OF WESTCHESTER / PLAYA

*Working together to improve our communities!*

“If you do not take an interest in the affairs of your government,  
then you are doomed to live under the rule of fools.”

CWP~ Plato



## *Neighborhood Council Elections Coming in '21*

Are you familiar with your Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa? Have you ever considered running for a seat on your Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa (NCWP)?

NCWP is one of Los Angeles' 99 Neighborhood Councils. We are the grassroots arm of city government. Board members are elected by community members and serve their terms in office as volunteers. Your Neighborhood Council is an official advisory body to Los Angeles City government. Our mission is to increase civic engagement and make the city more responsive to local needs. We do this by monitoring the city budget, delivery of city services, and generally, acting as a liaison between the community and city elected officials and departments. Attend some of our board and committee meetings to learn more about issues we are tackling.

The Candidate Filing period for NCWP opens February 6, 2021. For more information, consider attending a session offered by EmpowerLA. Each info session will provide a general overview of how NCs and elections work, how to apply as a candidate and how to campaign successfully. You'll also have an opportunity to join a breakout group hosted by some of the Neighborhood Councils whose candidate application periods are currently open. You'll have the opportunity to meet NC members and find out what it's like to serve in the Los Angeles community. You'll learn tips such as: connecting with voters, advocating for issues you're passionate about and writing your personal statement.

Please be aware of these important Neighborhood Council election deadlines:

**Candidate Filing Period:**  
February 6, 2021 to March 23, 2021

**Vote-By-Mail Application Period:**  
April 9, 2021 to June 1, 2021  
Mailed ballots must be postmarked by Election Day and received by the City Clerk's Election Division within three (3) business days thereafter.

**Election Day:**  
June 8, 2021 (Ballot Drop Off Day)

**Seating of the Board:**  
July 1, 2021

To learn more about Neighborhood Council elections, please visit: <https://empowerla.org/elections/>

## *Hannah Levien Rejoins Bonin's Staff as Deputy District Director*

Following the recent departure of Matt Teclé, Councilman Mike Bonin's field representative for the Westchester, Playa del Rey and Playa Vista area, Bonin has announced his replacement – Hannah Levien.



Hannah, who once served as Bonin's field representative for West LA, Mar Vista and Del Rey, left the office about a year ago to work on the legislative team of Councilman Paul Krekorian. She returns to District 11 as Bonin's deputy district director and his field representative for Westchester, Playa del Rey, Playa Vista and Ladera.

“I am thrilled to have Hannah back on the team,” Bonin said. “She is smart, energetic, and experienced, and she is determined to provide great service to the amazing neighborhoods of the 11th District.”

Hannah graduated from Marist College as a 4 year NCAA Division I water polo athlete, serving as a captain in her final two years, and leading her team to the conference championship both seasons. Following graduation, she moved to Austin, Texas where she served as an Americorps member, teaching bilingual literacy in a Title 1 school. She moved to Los Angeles to complete the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs, where she worked on the 100 Resilient Cities Initiative for Los Angeles, and organized with the Los Angeles County Building and Trades union.

Upon completion of the Coro Program, she worked for Senator Dianne Feinstein in the Los Angeles field office. Most recently, she served as a field deputy for Councilmember Mike Bonin in Council District 11, where she covered Mar Vista, Del Rey and West Los Angeles.

Hannah is a native of Davis, California and enjoys cycling, beach volleyball, backpacking and hot yoga.

## *State Approves Wetlands Restoration*

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has certified the final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a project to restore the largest coastal wetlands complex in Los Angeles County and increase public access to outdoor recreation and natural spaces in one of the most densely populated areas in the world. The Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve (BWER) project will enhance and establish native coastal wetlands and upland habitat on 566 of the reserve's 577 acres south of Marina del Rey and east of Playa del Rey. It will restore ecological function to currently degraded wetlands, preserving sensitive habitat for future generations and build climate resilience on a coast vulnerable to sea level rise. **Read more here:** <https://bit.ly/3hymRju>

**Next Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa Monthly Board Meeting:**

**6:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 2, 2021**

via Zoom



**[www.ncwpdr.org](http://www.ncwpdr.org) • 213.473.7023**

