

SCNC BOARD

Merci Borden
Kesara Borirak
Victoria Brown
Kim Clements
Dean Cutler
Andrew Epstein
Jay Friedman
Daniel Fuselier
Lusine Galadjian
Dimitri Gatsiounis
Jeff Hartwick
Jerry Lewis
Richard Niederberg
Laurie Rittenberg
Matt Thompson

**PRESIDENT**

Jerry Lewis

VICE PRESIDENT

Jeff Hartwick

TREASURER

Kim Clements

SECRETARY

Jay Friedman

**CORRESPONDING
SECRETARY**

Dimitri Gatsiounis

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**STUDIO CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
DRAFT REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 @ 7:00 PM

4024 Radford Avenue, MPR-3, Studio City, California 91604 | Hybrid Meeting

DRAFT - SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL

Source note: Prepared from the posted September 23, 2026 agenda, the Zoom meeting transcript, the finalized roll-call/vote tally and subsequent record-cleanup note. The August 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes and September 17, 2026 Special Board Meeting minutes were used as formatting and process references. Where the record does not clearly identify a mover, seconder, exact time, or speaker, the draft states that limitation rather than assigning one.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Jerry Lewis opened the regular meeting and proceeded to roll call. The Zoom transcript begins with roll call and does not clearly capture the exact call-to-order time. A quorum was present.

Voting Board members present at initial roll call: Merci Borden, Victoria Brown, Dean Cutler, Andrew Epstein, Jay Friedman, Daniel Fuselier, Lusine Galadjian, Jeff Hartwick, Jerry Lewis, Richard Niederberg, Laurie Rittenberg, and Matt Thompson.

Dimitri Gatsiounis was not present at the initial roll call but joined before the first recorded roll-call vote. Kesara Borirak and Kim Clements were absent. Youth Board Member Jessie Cai was present in a non-binding capacity.

Victoria Brown and Lusine Galadjian were present but were recorded as ineligible to vote pending completion of required training.

The Chair delivered the standard agenda announcements concerning protected public speech, conduct and access requirements at Radford Studio Center, limits on two-way exchanges during public comment, and timekeeping.

2. Welcome to First-Time Attendees and How to Be Heard

Secretary Jay Friedman welcomed first-time attendees and reviewed how to submit speaker cards, participate by Zoom or phone, use the public-comment period, and bring issues to SCNC committees for more detailed discussion before Board consideration.

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Scott Mandell raised the requirement that non-Board stakeholder committee members comply with the Code of Conduct and recommended that SCNC establish a process to confirm compliance before new stakeholder members participate on committees. No other substantive general public comment was recorded.

4. Announcements by Government Representatives

Office of Assemblymember Nick Schultz

- A representative reported that AB 2319 had been signed and described it as providing a \$10 million post-production tax incentive intended to support entertainment-industry work in California.
- The office reported approximately \$500,000 in funding for a signalized pedestrian crossing at Moorpark Street and Beeman Avenue and discussed continuing efforts regarding more durable fencing along Caltrans property.

Mayor's Office - Nico Padrón

- Provided an update on nuisance-property enforcement, including reporting through LADBS or 311 and follow-up using service-request numbers.
- Reported on the Mayor's streetlight initiative, including repair/replacement work and greater use of solar lighting to reduce vulnerability to copper-wire theft.

Council District 2 - Denise Schall, Senior Field Deputy

- Reported on Councilmember Nazarian's Film, Entertainment and Creative Industry Ad Hoc Committee and announced a November 6 Golden Autumn Festival.
- Reported that the office continues to press Caltrans regarding stronger fencing at problem locations.

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment - Vincent Autiero

- Confirmed that non-Board committee members must sign the paper Code of Conduct acknowledgment and that the Neighborhood Council is responsible for tracking compliance.
- Announced the Congress of Neighborhoods, upcoming LA28 and community-safety sessions, the 2027 Neighborhood Council election, and CIS-account maintenance requirements.
- Later clarified that the funding-training deadline had been extended to October 16, 2026, but Board members still had to complete the other required trainings to be eligible to vote.

5. President's Report

5a. Approval of August 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

The August 26, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes were approved.

Vote: PASSED, 11 Yes - 0 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible. Not Present: Kesara Borirak, Kim Clements. Ineligible: Victoria Brown, Lusine Galadjian.

5b. Second Cardholder

The proposed change of second cardholder to Jay Friedman, replacing Lusine Galadjian, was taken up under Treasurer Motion TR-B.

5c. Web Support Cost-Reduction Review

President Lewis reported that the proposed lower-cost web-support model developed through Outreach would be tested for functionality and administrative practicality, including review with the Secretary and Treasurer, before returning to the Board for possible action.

5d. Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council Partnership

President Lewis reported that SCNC and the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council were working on a compliant mechanism for a future GTLNC-sponsored event providing approximately \$1,500 in reciprocal value to SCNC following the prior joint event.

6. Vice President's Report

Vice President Jeff Hartwick reported no items.

7. Corresponding Secretary's Report

Corresponding Secretary Dimitri Gatsiounis reported no items.

8. Secretary's Report

Motion SEC-A - FINAL LANGUAGE AS AMENDED: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) approves the expenditure of up to \$1,800.00 from the FY 2026-2027 budget for the purchase of two Phenyx Pro PTC-8 eight-channel wireless tabletop/gooseneck microphone systems (16 wireless microphones total), or a similar system, together with rechargeable AA batteries, compatible battery chargers, and any necessary associated cables or accessories, including applicable taxes and shipping, for use at SCNC Board and committee meetings. The equipment may be purchased from Amazon or another authorized retailer offering the best available price. Before purchase, the equipment selection shall be vetted with the appropriate Radford technical contact.

Second: The motion was seconded.

Discussion: Discussion focused on hybrid-meeting audio quality, setup/takedown burden, frequency coordination on the studio lot, compatibility with existing equipment, testing during an appropriate return window, and avoiding additional equipment costs. The amendment added flexibility to select a similar system and made Radford technical vetting a pre-purchase requirement.

Vote: PASSED AS AMENDED, 11 Yes - 0 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible. Not Present: Kesara Borirak, Kim Clements. Ineligible: Victoria Brown, Lusine Galadjian.

Action: Vet the equipment selection with the appropriate Radford technical contact before purchase.

9. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Kim Clements was absent. President Lewis presented the agendaized Treasurer motions.

Motion TR-A: Approve the revised FY 2026-2027 budget, including rollover funds of \$13,256.01.

Second: Richard Niederberg.

Discussion: The Board briefly clarified that the budget contains forecast/proposed expenditures that may be revised as the fiscal year progresses.

Vote: PASSED, 11 Yes - 0 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible. Not Present: Kesara Borirak, Kim Clements. Ineligible: Victoria Brown, Lusine Galadjian.

Action: Implement the revised FY 2026-2027 budget.

Motion TR-B: Approve the officers/signers named in the Financial Officers Letter of Acknowledgment, enacting the change in second cardholder to Jay Friedman, replacing Lusine Galadjian.

Second: Matt Thompson.

Discussion: DONE clarified Board-member training eligibility: the funding-training deadline was extended to October 16, 2026, but all other required trainings must be complete for a member to vote.

Vote: PASSED, 11 Yes - 0 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible. Not Present: Kesara Borirak, Kim Clements. Ineligible: Victoria Brown, Lusine Galadjian.

Action: Update and submit the Financial Officers Letter of Acknowledgment reflecting Jay Friedman as second cardholder.

10. Budget and Finance Committee

Chair Kim Clements was absent. The agenda's planned Budget and Finance talking points were noted but no separate committee action was taken.

11. Riverwalk Development Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Scott Mandell reported that river lighting between Whitsett Avenue and Laurel Canyon Boulevard was funded and moving forward; invasive palms on the Riverwalk property had been skinned to reduce interim fire risk; Riverwalk, Midwood and Harvard-Westlake were coordinating improvements along the river; and the County confirmed that the triangle parcel south of Whitsett is under City jurisdiction. Cultural Affairs will take the lead on discussion of public art and Studio City history within the project.

12. Disaster Preparedness and Evacuation Committee

Chair Chip Meehan was not present; no report was recorded.

13. Outreach Committee

Chair Andrew Epstein reported continued centennial planning, including development of a multi-organization steering committee and the need for an SCNC Board representative. He also reported upcoming Farmers Market outreach, the Tujunga Village Art Walk, and the Red Cross blood drive, and stated that Outreach Committee members had completed Code of Conduct requirements.

Motion OC-A: Request that Councilmembers Raman and Nazarian introduce a motion directing the appropriate City agencies to study the feasibility and logistics of integrating Neighborhood Councils into the LACITY.ORG domain and City IT infrastructure, with a report back on implementation strategies, cost savings, and timeline.

Second: Committee motion; no separate second required.

Discussion: Discussion addressed SCNC's current digital-service costs, possible systemwide savings, administrative continuity, cybersecurity and records compliance, as well as questions about cost to the City and preserving individual Neighborhood Council autonomy.

Vote: PASSED, 11 Yes - 0 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible. Not Present: Kesara Borirak, Kim Clements. Ineligible: Victoria Brown, Lusine Galadjian.

Action: Transmit the Request for Action to Councilmembers Raman and Nazarian and pursue support from other Neighborhood Councils.

14. Government Affairs Committee

Motion GAC-A: Request that Councilmembers Nazarian and Raman oppose efforts by AT&T to eliminate or weaken the availability of traditional landline telephone service and related regulatory obligations.

Second: Committee motion; no separate second required.

Discussion: Public and Board discussion addressed emergency/reliability concerns, the limited current use of legacy copper service, the federal/state regulatory posture, and whether the issue was sufficiently connected to SCNC's advisory role and Studio City.

Vote: FAILED TO PASS, 0 Yes - 11 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible. Not Present: Kesara Borirak, Kim Clements. Ineligible: Victoria Brown, Lusine Galadjian.

Action: No further action based on this vote.

Motion GAC-B: Support Council File 26-1280 requesting a Citywide Vacant and Public Nuisance Property Abatement Program and a report back on priority properties, enforcement procedures, funding, and timelines.

Second: The motion was seconded; the transcript does not clearly identify the seconder.

Discussion: Discussion focused on lessons from the Babcock Avenue nuisance property, the respective roles of LADBS, LAPD, the City Attorney and Council offices, and the need for more consistent resources and faster coordination.

Vote: PASSED, 11 Yes - 0 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible. Not Present: Kesara Borirak, Kim Clements. Ineligible: Victoria Brown, Lusine Galadjian.

Action: Submit the approved support/CIS to Council File 26-1280.

15. Transportation Committee

Motions TC-A and TC-B remained on the consent calendar and were approved through the single consent-calendar vote.

Motion TC-A: Request Councilmember Raman and LADOT to install speed-feedback signs in both directions on Laurel Canyon Boulevard at approximately Valley Spring Lane.

Motion TC-B: Request Councilmember Raman and the LAPD Traffic Division to initiate enhanced enforcement of double-parking violations on Ventura Place.

Consent-calendar vote for TC-A, TC-B and LUC-A: PASSED, 11 Yes - 0 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible.

Motion TC-C: Request Councilmembers Nazarian and Raman to ask LADOT Parking Enforcement to proactively enforce parking ordinances on Vineland Avenue between the 101 Freeway and Ventura Boulevard against large commercial trucks parking illegally where the majority of buildings are residential.

Second: The motion was seconded; the transcript does not clearly identify the seconder.

Discussion: Discussion clarified that the cited commercial vehicles may already be subject to enforcement and that continued reporting and proactive enforcement are needed.

Vote: PASSED, 10 Yes - 1 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible. No: Matt Thompson. Not Present: Kesara Borirak, Kim Clements. Ineligible: Victoria Brown, Lusine Galadjian.

Action: Transmit the request to Councilmembers Nazarian and Raman and LADOT Parking Enforcement.

16. Sustainability and Beautification Committee

The Committee reported another community cleanup with approximately 30 volunteers, many of them students, and stated that committee members had completed Code of Conduct requirements. Planning was also underway for the first lecture-series program at the Studio City Library.

Motion S&BC-A: Support the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority plan for phased removal of invasive non-native Mexican Fan Palms on the Zev Yaroslavsky LA River Greenway and request Councilmember Raman to join SCNC in support.

Second: Committee motion; no separate second required.

Discussion: Discussion focused on fire risk, water use, damage to native understory plantings, and the MRCA's planned rebidding of the removal project.

Vote: PASSED, 11 Yes - 0 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible. Not Present: Kesara Borirak, Kim Clements. Ineligible: Victoria Brown, Lusine Galadjian.

Action: Transmit SCNC support for the MRCA project to Councilmember Raman and the appropriate agencies.

17. Land Use Committee

Motion LUC-A: Support Los Angeles City Planning cases ZA-2026-3915-CUB and ENV-2026-3916-EAF at 12007-12013 Ventura Boulevard for a Conditional Use Permit to add beer and wine sales at an existing Shell service station and food mart.

Disposition: APPROVED VIA CONSENT CALENDAR as part of the 11 Yes - 0 No - 2 Not Present - 2 Ineligible consent vote.

The Committee also announced an October 14 meeting at which representatives of the elder-care project at Colfax Avenue and Ventura Boulevard were expected to explain the anticipated construction stages and timeline.

18. Youth Committee

Youth Board Member Jessie Cai presented an informational preview of a proposed Studio City centennial youth arts competition with visual-art and performing-art tracks. The concept is intended to showcase youth work publicly and potentially connect with 2027 centennial events.

No motion was before the Board and no vote was taken.

19. Cultural Affairs Committee

Merci Borden reported that the Committee was continuing to develop event concepts, including a multi-location movie series, and would explore public/organizational co-funding options before bringing a funding motion forward.

20. Bylaws and Procedures Committee

Vice President Jeff Hartwick reported that the recently approved Operating Procedures revisions had been drafted and would be posted to the SCNC website.

21. Public Safety and Homelessness Committee

Vice President Jeff Hartwick announced an October 1 Zoom committee meeting; no additional report was given.

22. Comments by Board Members on Other Matters

No additional Board comments requiring action were recorded.

23. Good of the Order

No additional formal action was recorded.

24. Adjournment

The Chair called for adjournment after completion of the agenda. The transcript does not clearly capture the mover, seconder, vote, or exact adjournment time.

Action Item Summary

- Track Code of Conduct compliance for all non-Board committee members and obtain signed acknowledgments for current and future stakeholder members.
- Complete pre-purchase Radford technical review of the proposed wireless microphone system and test the selected equipment in the meeting environment before regular deployment.
- Implement the revised FY 2026-2027 budget and submit the updated Financial Officers Letter naming Jay Friedman as second cardholder.
- Complete functional/administrative review of the proposed lower-cost web-support model before returning it to the Board.
- Transmit OC-A, GAC-B, TC-C and S&BC-A to the identified City officials/agencies; TC-A, TC-B and LUC-A were approved via consent.
- Continue centennial steering-committee development, Youth Committee arts planning, Riverwalk coordination, community cleanup work, and planned lecture-series programming.
- Continue work with the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council on a compliant reciprocal sponsorship/event arrangement.

Prepared by: Jay Friedman, Secretary

Draft date: September 25, 2026