

**Shawn Simons**, President  
**Rohan Gupta**, Vice President  
**Samantha Foley**, Secretary  
**Jill Remelski**, Treasurer

**EMPOWERMENT CONGRESS  
NORTH AREA NEIGHBORHOOD  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**



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[www.nandc.org](http://www.nandc.org)**

**Area Representatives:**  
Leslie Evans, Area 1  
Josyel Castellon, Area 1  
Ana Carrion, Area 2  
VACANT, Area 2  
Al Foster, Area 3  
Ashley Ramos, Area 3

**Committees:**

Jill Remelski, Budget & Finance  
Rohan Gupta, Planning & Land  
Use  
Leslie Evans, Public Safety  
Eddie North-Hager, Outreach  
Al Foster, Youth/Senior  
Gabriela Garcia, Block Clubs and  
Beautification  
Shawn Simons, Economic  
Development

**At Large Representatives:**

Yelba Castellon  
Gabriela Garcia  
Christine Lee  
Moises Matamoros  
Hector Ramos

**Community Interest Positions:**

Andrea Canty, Education Rep  
Eddie North-Hager, USC-Staff Rep  
Sabrina Brown, Public Safety Rep  
Carlos Segovia, Youth Rep

**Meeting Minutes  
Thursday January 6, 2011  
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
MLK Park Gymnasium  
(39<sup>th</sup> Street and Western Ave)**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and Call to Order & Translation Services (5 minute)**
- 2. Announcements (20 min)**
  - a. LAPD report – Senior Lead Officers  
Tracy Hauter: Homicides was gone down. Burglaries have gone up. Rolling 20s becoming more of a presence. Arrested 7 gang members in one month. Taco trucks have been getting robbed in the area. Last meeting discussed the loud party situation, made flier and distributed. Went to house on 23<sup>rd</sup> St. and resolved that issue, aware of what will happen if there are any future parties.  
Shawn: Party on Christmas Eve, police did a drive by, party continued after. That is the problem.  
Tracy: parties not a high priority call. Call the watch commander and report that the party is continuing.
  - b. CD 1 Report – Richard Reyes  
Richard: any issues with public safety, housing, graffiti, email/call Richard. Old issue updates: Hoover recreation center has had a lot of homeless people hanging out, trying to get those spaces utilized so don't attract homeless. 10 Freeway encampment, had cleanup in November.  
Leslie: Hoover Recreation will have problems if cars aren't parked there.  
Shawn: Should turn it in to a skate park  
Leslie: Skate park would conflict with dumpsters. Could move dumpsters to Tobberman lot.
  - c. CD 8 report – Cathy Davis NOT PRESENT
  - d. Assemblymen Davis report NOT PRESENT

e. Senator Price report – James Westbrook

What Senator did during 2010: hosted series of town hall meetings to discuss issues from Sacramento, held in South LA, Los Feliz, Koreatown and Culver City. Also held Joint Committee on the Arts, annual Heroes awards, business workshop. Worked on SB1088, implemented state law reflecting federal health care law. SB 1375 dealt with telephone corporations. Worked on bill dealing with foreclosures. Worked on Bill creating box on tax return form allowing you to donate to Arts activities. Sat on Joint Committee of Arts, Education, Governmental Organization, banking Finance and Insurance Committees among others. In first week of session so bill ideas still being thought of. Have until February 18<sup>th</sup> to present bills. Today received notice of Committee Chairmanships, and Senator will Chair Business and Economic Development Committee. Office on Expo Park across from USC.

Shawn: Would like Senator to look at QIMBY laws. Considering economy of state, in our city QIMBY funds are hid and could help with budget cuts.

Announcement: Empowerment Congress event at USC. Kamala Harris will be present. Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, RSVP at [www.empowermentcongress.org](http://www.empowermentcongress.org). 1,300-1,500 people expected to attend

Announcement: Sunday, January 30, CD8 People's Convention

Announcement: Zero Waste Committee- Korean Culture Center has been working on water waste issues for 3-4 years

Announcement: I Hablo U is back February 1<sup>st</sup>

Announcement: Thanks to USC for giving away Christmas trees

**3. Public Comment** - Comments from the public are limited to 3 minutes per speaker unless the presiding officer of the board determines a different limit for a particular item. (10 min)

Bethany Ulrich, Community Health Councils

Non-profit in the area, deal with health issues. Have coalitions. South LA has worst diabetes rate in the county. Working to create a more active South LA. Re-imagining Empty Space event- our environment is not conducive to activity because of all of the vacant lots, not a lot of street space for cyclists and pedestrians. Looking at how to make those spaces conducive to activity.

Carlos Rodriguez, Con Sabor

Owns Con Sabor on 22<sup>nd</sup> and Union. Wants to make it a community restaurant. Lives and owns business in this community. Applied for liquor license and going before City Planning Commission

Shawn: Had spoken about this property before and did not recommend they get a liquor license. Once they became part of the community, then we would support it.

**4. Roll Call of Present Board Members (5 min) 7:16pm Leslie, Samantha, Shawn, Rohan, Eddie, Ana, Jill, Christine**

- a. Action - Approval of Minutes for December MOTION to approve: Rohan Second: Jill. ALL IN FAVOR. APPROVED

**5. Discussion/Action: State of CA possible sale of Exposition Park to USC – Kristen Soares/David Galaviz (20 min)**

Presentation from USC on the current negotiations with State and other entities on the offer of USC to purchase the land under the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum and Sports Arena and several parking lots.

David Galaviz: Has seen two legislative attempts to sell Expo Park in mid 90s and 2003-04 and they didn't go anywhere. This has come up over time. When USC was approached in mid-November, didn't know how serious it was. In this case, looking to sell 11-12 properties across the state to help with budget shortfall. Close relationships

with the entities in Expo Park. Can't purchase all of Expo Park because not all owned by the state. Properties that are potentially up for sale are 6 parking lots and the land under the Coliseum and the Sports Arena. Meeting with all stakeholders in the park about what could be done to improve coordination between USC, local schools and Expo Park stakeholders. Also let them know that the state approached USC to purchase those properties. December 15<sup>th</sup>, Mike Davis had informational hearing to talk about what this would entail, many details were not public. Could be 3-9 month process to discuss this matter. Will update Board on the progress or if there are public meetings. Initial cost estimated at \$54 million. Not something we are pushing, we were approached. Primary interest is on parking for the short-term and long-term. Parking Lot 3 could be developed into a parking structure to serve USC and the Natural History Museum- just an idea, not at all final. USC would maintain the properties.

Dave Roberts: State has outstanding bonds for the Science Center, \$54 million owed on phase 1 and 2. Part of proceeds would be used to lessen that bond obligation for the Science Center. That was a key issue of the sell. Bond will go out another 20-25 years.

Shawn: Spoke with Kristina Raspe about the parking lots. If you took Parking lot 3 and 2 and put parking structures, then take 1, 4, 5, and 6, looking for some sort of community plan. Why no 99-year lease? Wants to see loopholes closed and see 99-year lease and lease extension. Community does not benefit from this as it stands now.

David Galaviz: Would not be interested in leasing the property, would rather purchase the property.

Shawn: When people in the community hear that, they have bad feelings about USC taking over the community. Where is the community input here?

David Galaviz: Willing to work on plan that benefits the community, USC and Expo park stakeholders. Decision will not be made anytime soon. Willing to come back and continue the discussions.

Shawn: What about a scoping type meeting?

David Galaviz: will propose that, no discussion yet on any specifics, except that USC would use them as parking lots, will maintain them and look to upgrade them. Would be happy to come back to NANDC.

Dave Roberts: Coliseum Commission remains in charge because signed 55 year lease with the state even if land underneath is purchased. USC has not interest in the land under the Coliseum and the Sports Arena.

Dave Roberts: EIR out about the Sports Arena to develop into a soccer stadium, create open air plaza or leave it as is.

David Galaviz: don't know a timeline because there is a new administration and new appointments. Assembly and Senate may not agree on this and will need to hash that out with the Governor.

#### **6. Discussion/Action: Illegal Vending (15 min)**

Lou Edwards: ten schools that want crack down on the hand/push carts. Put vending machines on the campus and let kids buy from the vending machines. But parents are the ones selling things. Trying to find out what can be done about it. USC Safety Task Force is discussing the issue. Discuss and see if we support the program.

PUT ON FEB (update) and MAR (full report) AGENDA

#### **7. Discussion: Parent Education Update – Andrea Canty (15 min)**

Andrea: This Saturday, Black College Expo at the Coliseum, 9am-5pm, tickets are \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance. Schools will be there accepting senior students on the spot if you bring transcripts. Raffles for prizes. On Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, Parent-College workshop put on by Partnerships for Los Angeles Schools, for parents to help them understand their children's test scores, 9am-2pm. Talking with AI on putting together an internet safety presentation for parents in the community. Plan to invite all schools in the

area, identified 12 schools so far, to be held at West Adams School, still working on date and venue details. Parents don't know what children are doing on the internet, predators, bullying, etc. Software available to see what children are looking at online

**8. Committee Reports: (25 min)**

a. Treasurer Report - Budget & Finance: Jill Remelski NO REPORT

b. Planning & Land Use: Rohan Gupta NO REPORT

c. Public Safety: Leslie Evans

Leslie: Working on 15 cases. Trying to clean up alley north of 10 freeway from Normandie going east, out of area but near the entrance, Police ask guy to leave and he says no, Richard Reyes said was cleaned up in November, but it wasn't. Trailer and truck parked in empty lot which no department wants to deal with. Recycling Center at La Sal and Adams, keep asking for postponement of closing until appeal of their lawsuit against the city is resolved and judge said no, could have new hearing January 21<sup>st</sup>. Pipe that city is storing on residential lot on Hobart, slowly moving, building and safety cited them. Walton and 29<sup>th</sup> St place stores junk for yard sales on porches, housing went out and they cleared porches for first time in 7 years, at moment it's clear, but leaving it on in case it comes back. Motion to approve report: Eddie Second: Rohan ALL IN FAVOR. APPROVED

d. Youth/Seniors: Al Foster

Shawn: Earthquake DVDs have been distributed (courtesy of Josh Watson). Could we put the DVD on the web. Leslie will try to put it online. Jill: get more DVDs and continue outreach as part of NANDC?

e. Block Club and Beautification: Gabriela Garcia

Shawn: Fruit tree giveaway coming up on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, need help, so contact Gabriela.

f. Outreach: Eddie North-Hager

Eddie: didn't meet but going to change date to last Monday or Wednesday of the month.

g. Economic Development: Shawn Simons

Shawn: present full version of community benefits package next meeting. Encourage people to come to meeting. Will put survey on retailers in the new UV on website.

h. Park Partnerships: Shawn Simons

Shawn: Meetings at Hoover Rec to keep parks thriving during budget crisis

i. SLAANC: Andrea Canty

Andrea: Group of Neighborhood Councils in South LA Area. Have set of bylaws created a while back, want to make sure all NCs have read and support the bylaws. Will bring up at the next meeting. Also want to talk about the structure of the meetings and allowing everyone to have a voice. Want to establish priorities moving forward and how many votes each council would have. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup> (every 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday but not firm yet).

Shawn: issue to bring up at SLAANC, petty cash was taken away from us and we really need it back.

j. Budget Representative: Rohan Gupta NO REPORT

**9. Project Updates (10 min)**

a. Holiday Toy Giveaway

Shawn: Joysel distributed presents to 24<sup>th</sup> St. Theatre after school program and photo. Invited Board to see their next production. Gave presents to homeless school kids, 167 kids in our area. Work through youth committee to make continued alliance with these kids.

Andrea: Also Joysel was able to provide St. Andrew's Baptist Church with toys for 6 needy families and 17 children. Toys were for 12 and under and there were older

children.

Over 200 presents to needy families.

b. Fruit Tree Giveaway ALREADY COVERED

c. Community Board

Shawn: looking for ways to reach out to community other than the internet. Have community boards going up in MLK Park and Denker Park and last one is supposed to go up in the UV, funded by USC. Had trouble getting proper permits, got no help from Council Office, told us to get the wrong permit. Actual permit costs thousands of dollars. Went back to Parks' Office for help, responded that he would love to help but doesn't like Shawn's tone. Suggested reaching out to Dennis Rodriguez for his help. Went back to Rec and Parks, now looking at University Plaza across from the UV by the fountain. Meeting with USC on Tuesday to make sure the placement is okay. Close to installation.

Andrea: walk around and pass out fliers for NANDC

Eddie: discuss with Sabrina and she can have other DPS Officers help out. Working on flier now, should be done in next 6 weeks.

#### 10. Agenda Setting for February Meeting (5 min)

a. DONE strategic planning presentation/workshop

Shawn: reached out to see if we wanted to have a strategic planning section. Want to come to meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup> to do strategic planning session (one hour- last item).

b. Football stadium coming near our area.

c. Privatization of parking garages

d. Bylaw committee of NC representatives throughout the city and they created bylaw templates. Send it out in advance and circle preferences to discuss at FEB meeting

e. Education update on internet safety presentation

f. Con Sabor liquor license

#### 11. Adjournment 8:35pm

### Official public notice for all committees:

Empowerment Congress North Area Neighborhood Council Committees				
COMMITTEE	CHAIR(S)	CONTACT INFORMATION	MEETING LOCATION	MEETING DATE/TIME
Public Safety	Leslie Evans	<a href="mailto:lbevans@earthlink.net">lbevans@earthlink.net</a>	Bethune library at 39th Street and Western Avenue	Third Thursday of every month, 5:00 pm
Budget & Finance	Jill Remelski	<a href="mailto:nandc.treasurer@gmail.com">nandc.treasurer@gmail.com</a>	NANDC Office Ahmanson Senior Center, 3990 S. Menlo	As needed
Land Use & Planning	Rohan Gupta/ Samantha Foley	<a href="mailto:rohan@stuho.com">rohan@stuho.com</a> / <a href="mailto:sam.r.foley@gmail.com">sam.r.foley@gmail.com</a>	Community Computing Center, University Village	Last Thursday of every month, 6:00 pm
Outreach	Eddie North-Hager	<a href="mailto:edwardnh@usc.edu">edwardnh@usc.edu</a>	Community House, 28 <sup>th</sup> and Hoover	Last Tuesday of every month, 6:00 pm
Youth/Senior	Al Foster	<a href="mailto:aljfooster@yahoo.com">aljfooster@yahoo.com</a>	Starbucks on Hoover	Last Sunday of every month, 9:00 am
Economic Development	Shawn Simons	<a href="mailto:Shawn.simons@yahoo.com">Shawn.simons@yahoo.com</a>	Community Computing Center, University Village	Last Thursday of every month, 7:00 pm
Block Clubs and Beautification	Gabriela Garcia	<a href="mailto:gabriela.unidad@gmail.com">gabriela.unidad@gmail.com</a>	Community House, 28 <sup>th</sup> and Hoover	Last Tuesday of every month, 7:00 pm

The Next Regular Meeting of the Empowerment Congress North Area Neighborhood Development Council Governing Board is: **THURSDAY February 3<sup>rd</sup>**

You are encouraged to visit a NANDC posting site 72 hours prior to the Regular and Town Hall Meeting at the following locations:

Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic, 3787 South Vermont Avenue (near Vermont & Exposition)

Martin Luther King Recreation Center, 3916 South Western Avenue (near King & Western)

Supermercado Latino, 1049 West Martin Luther King Boulevard (near Vermont & King)

Food 4 Less, 1748 West Jefferson Boulevard (corner of Western & Jefferson)

Smith's Quick Cleaners, 1901 Rodeo Road (near Rodeo & Arlington)

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