

**Neighborhood Council  
&  
Los Angeles  
Department of Water and Power  
Memorandum of Understanding**

CHAIRPERSON  
Karl Fenske

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
Soledad S. Garcia

SECRETARY  
Katy Carlson

COMMUNICATIONS/OUTREACH  
Michael N. Cohen

AT-LARGE MEMBERS  
Lula Bishop  
Ken Draper  
Peter Parrish  
Paul Reznik  
Brady Westwater

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**OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
An Assembly of Elected Neighborhood Council  
Representatives**

**OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Sunday, March 12, 2006  
LADWP  
10:00AM - Noon**

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Everyone is welcome to our meetings but only verified neighborhood council representatives to the oversight committee may vote on motions before the oversight committee. For the official list goto: <http://ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp006999.jsp>  
All signatory neighborhood councils must notify the LADWP of items on their agenda related to LADWP with 14 days advanced notice and forward any passed motions to Paul Wang (213) 367-1327 - [Paul.Wang@ladwp.com](mailto:Paul.Wang@ladwp.com)

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1. Welcome (Karl Fenske, Executive Committee Chair) 10:15AM
2. Roll call
  - A. Present  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS - Karl Fenske, Soledad Garcia, Katy Carlson, Michael Cohen, Peter Parrish, Paul Reznik, (Excused absent Ken Draper and Brady Westwater)  
GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS – Vince Antonio, Dominique Ehnlér, Erick Kirkland, Bette Billet, Sue Castillo, George Chung, Gary Baralta  
Greg Bartz, a new neighborhood council liaison ([greg.bartz@ladwp.com](mailto:greg.bartz@ladwp.com) 213/267-2800), introduced himself and discussed his varied experiences as a City employee and his interest in assisting neighborhood councils
3. Approve Minutes
  - A. Tabled until next meeting due to no copies of previous minutes available at the time
4. Old Business
  - A. Status of water rate increase & independent DWP audit – 90 days to review before board takes action
    - i. Due out any time. There was a discussion about the use of dwp billing to request payments for city services and whether or not the audit would address the transfers of funds to the city. Discussion about what the process should be for advising the NC's through this Committee. Some thought that a position should be put forward to the NC's for their consideration regarding the issues the audit may present.
  - B. Status of area DWP liaisons to the neighborhood councils – 4 planned
    - i. Mr. Bartz confirms that the plan is for four liaisons total including Mr. Wang.
  - C. Motion (Peter Parrish) Modify MOU (AMENDED)-
    - i. That LADWP recognize the Solar Program as a “major customer program” and provide notification as stipulated in the Mou. /2<sup>nd</sup> Michael Cohen  
There was a discussion about whether the NC representatives had appropriate notice and what power the representatives had to make the request. Committee members were directed to section 2.1 of the MOU which empowers the oversight committee to take this action. As for notice it was noted by the chair that the item had been on the agenda 3 meetings in a row and it was the responsibility of the representatives to determine what board action, if any, their neighborhood council had to take to empower them to vote. There was a motion to leave the vote open until the next meeting to allow another chance for further NC input by Michael Cohen but there was no second for the motion. Soledad Garcia Called the Question with unanimous consent to end debate. 9 for motion, 2 against (one proxy from Rusty Millar, Silver Lake NC), 1 abstention

## 5. New Business

- A. Discuss the DWP transfers to the LA City General Fund and the impact this has on the rate increase determination.
  - i. This topic was discussed in relation to the possible rate increase audit. Peter Parrish noted that the DWP is able to avoid a great deal of tax liability by being a governmental entity and therefore is probably saving some money by only have to make the transfers it does. Other committee members indicated that it was essentially a backdoor tax on residents - the greater the transfers the greater the need for a rate increase which wouldn't require Prop 13 type approval
- B. Discuss the cities conversion of traffic lights to LED
- C. Set date and time for next Oversight Committee meeting
  - i. April 15, 2006 10AM Same Location
- D. Accept any agenda items for next meeting.
  - i. Some committee members want to address undergrounding of utility wires and provide NC's with advice on the issue.
  - ii. Provide a report on the upcoming meeting between the executive board and Ron Deaton.
  - iii. City Billing Through DWP statements

## 6. Reports

- A. Outreach – Michael Cohen
  - i. Each Oversight Committee Member should sign up for the yahoo group
  - ii. Each Oversight Committee Member should adopt a nearby unsigned Neighborhood Council and try to get the MOU on their agenda and get them signed on to the MOU
    - 1. Karl Fenske agreed to adopt Cypress Park and Atwater Village
    - 2. George Chung took Grass Roots Venice, Palms and Westchester/playa del rey
    - 3. Peter Parrish took LA-32 and would help with Atwater as well
    - 4. Michael Cohen took West Hills
- B. City Council / DWP Commission Liaison – Ken Draper – absent at congress meeting
- C. Alternative Power Liaison – Peter Parrish
  - i. Distributed a review of the solar program as it stands and issues for NC's to be thinking about relative to the DWP's solar program – posted at the website:  
<http://www.mouoversight.org>
- D. State Legislative – Brady Westwater – absent with Draper

## 7. Adjourn - Noon