

**PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
CITIZENS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
*Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill***

October 17, 2023, Tuesday, 7 p.m.

The regular meeting will take place in-person. Members of the public can observe and participate in the meeting in person or remotely as follows:

LOCATION:

7333 Greenleaf Avenue, Whittier CA 90602

Teams address here: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

| Meeting ID: 263 985 956 106 | Passcode: eoAaeo ([Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#))

or visit <https://www.habitatauthority.org/about-us/public-meeting-schedule/> for more information

Catherine Houwen	La Habra Heights
Adam Nazaroff	La Habra Heights
Roy Francis	La Habra Heights
Shelley Romanoff-Andros, Vice Chair	Whittier
Janis Cavanaugh	Whittier
Michelle Pekko-Seymoure	Whittier
Matthew Liang, Chair	County of Los Angeles
John Ford	County of Los Angeles
Bryan Coreas	County of Los Angeles

Members of the public may provide electronic comments by Monday, October 16, 2023, by 4:00 p.m. to info@habitatauthority.org Please label the email in the subject heading as “Public Comments.” Public comments may also be verbally heard during item III of the meeting.

72 hours prior to Citizens Technical Advisory Committee meetings, the entire Citizens Technical Advisory Committee agenda package is available for review, along with any meeting-related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Committee members after distribution of the agenda package, at the Authority’s website, www.habitatauthority.org. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Andrea Gullo at 562.945.9003, at least 48 hours prior to meeting.

Pursuant to Section 54954 of the Government Code, the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Authority) will hold a regular meeting of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) at the above time and location for the purpose of:

Oaths of Office for new Advisory Committee member Pekko-Seymoure before the meeting.

AGENDA

- I. Call to order.
- II. Roll call.

- III. Introduction of new Advisory Committee member.
- IV. Public comments.
- V. Approval of Minutes for the September 19, 2023, Regular Meeting.
- VI. Standing Reports:
 - a) Report by Board Liaison on previous month's Authority Board of Directors meeting.
 - b) Social Media report.
 - c) Committee Member feedback from the public as it relates to the Authority.
- VII. Verbal report and updates regarding community outreach regarding potential funding options.
- VIII. Announcement of Authority Open House on November 14, 2023 at 6 pm. At the Rowland Heights Community Center.
- IX. Closing Remarks (Comments/questions from Committee Members and/or Executive Director).
- X. Adjournment and announcement of the next meeting.

The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority is a public entity established pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act by agreement between the City of Whittier, Los Angeles County, and Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. Regular meetings of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee are scheduled for the Tuesday before the third Thursday of every month. Questions about any agenda item can be addressed to Andrea Gullo, Executive Director, 562.945.9003.

Draft Minutes
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
CITIZENS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
September 19, 2023

The regular meeting of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at Palm Park, 5703 Palm Ave, Whittier, CA 90601.

Before the meeting began, Member Cavanaugh, Member Ford, and Member Andros took the Oath of Office. Later in the meeting, Member Francis took the Oath of Office.

I. CALL TO ORDER.

Chair, Matthew Liang, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

II. ROLL CALL.

A roll call was taken, and there was a quorum at this time.

Members Present:	Matthew Liang, Chair	County of Los Angeles
	Bryan Coreas	County of Los Angeles
	John Ford	County of Los Angeles
	Roy Francis	La Habra Heights
	Catherine Houwen	La Habra Heights
	Adam Nazaroff	La Habra Heights
	Bryan Coreas	County of Los Angeles
	Shelley Andros, Vice Chair	Whittier
	Janis Cavanaugh	Whittier

Members Absent:	Michelle Pekko-Seymoure	Whittier
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Authority Representatives Present:
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director
Michelle Mariscal, Ecologist
Marlyn Barajas, Program Analyst
Kenn Hughes, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Deputy Chief Ranger

III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Member Cavanaugh, Member Ford, and Member Andros introduced themselves, and later in the meeting, Member Francis introduced himself.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Steve Huber, Vice President of Whittier Area Audubon, provided a brief introduction and an update regarding the group's monthly Saturday hikes in Sycamore Canyon.

V. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR.

Executive Director Gullo provided background on this matter.

Chair Liang motioned to elect Shelley Andros to the position of Vice Chair. Member Cavanaugh seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MAY 23, 2023, SPECIAL MEETING.

Member Houwen motioned to approve these minutes as drafted. Member Nazaroff seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

VII. STANDING REPORTS:

a. REPORT BY BOARD LIAISON ON PREVIOUS MONTHS' AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING.

Member Houwen provided a report for the July and August meetings and Director Gullo provided a report for May's meeting. The Board of Directors meeting for June was cancelled.

b. COMMITTEE MEMBER FEEDBACK FROM THE PUBLIC AS IT RELATES TO THE HABITAT AUTHORITY.

Member Andros, a social media subcommittee member, commented on the Habitat Authority streamlining posts through Loomly.

VIII. PRESENTATION OF AUTHORITY AND RANGER ACTIVITIES FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 IN REVIEW

Ecologist Mariscal, Executive Director Gullo, and Deputy Chief Ranger Hughes provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the Authority's activities from the past year, including fuel clearance, trail repair, and restoration projects, among other tasks. There was discussion.

At approximately 7:30 p.m., the Committee took a break from the meeting. At this time Member Francis was administered the Oath of Office. At approximately 7:34 p.m., the Committee meeting resumed.

IX. DISCUSSION: RECEIVE AND FILE APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST 2023 MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (MRCA) RANGER REPORTS

Deputy Chief Ranger Hughes provided a report and there was discussion.

X. UPDATE REGARDING THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR PROVIDING DOG POOP BAGS AT ARROYO PESCADERO TRAILHEAD.

Executive Director Gullo reported that this pilot program is running, and data is being collected.

XI. DISCUSSION REGARDING POTENTIAL IN-LIEU FEE MITIGATION RESTORATION PROJECT OF 12 ACRES OF HABITAT ON THE AUTHORITY'S PROPERTIES.

Ecologist Mariscal provided a report on this matter. Executive Director Gullo gave background information on past mitigation restoration projects and explained that the location of the 12 acres is being considered. There was discussion.

XII. RECEIVE AND FILE INFORMATION ABOUT AUTHORITY VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS: PAM HILL, TOM MERLINO, AND LEE WILLARD.

Executive Director Gullo reported on this year's recognized volunteers for their dedication and contributions to the Authority.

XIII. CLOSING REMARKS (COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND/OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR).

Member Houwen commented on how great it is to have a full committee. She also advised new Committee members to ask questions on agenda matters.

Member Coreas thanked the Habitat Authority for the PowerPoint presentation in item VIII of this meeting and commented on how he found it informative.

Executive Director Gullo reminded CTAC members of the link sent via email of the onboarding documents and encouraged Committee members to review them. She also mentioned a potential new project for CTAC soon regarding new trailhead rules signs. Further, she reminded CTAC of the AB 1234 Ethics training required within the first year of service and two years after that. Lastly, she noted

that the Habitat Authority will host an Open House on November 14, 2023, which happens to be the same day CTAC is scheduled to meet in November.

XII. ADJOURNMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEXT MEETING.

There being no further comments, or business to be discussed, Chair Liang Adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on October 17, 2023, and was announced that it could be a new location for the next meeting.

MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: October 17, 2023

To: Citizens Technical Advisory Committee

Prepared by: Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Agenda Item: **VII. Verbal report and updates regarding community outreach regarding potential funding options.**

Background:

Discussions, planning and research about optional funding avenues were initiated in 2020. In May 2022, the Board of Directors contracted with a financial consultant, Fieldman and Rolapp, to analyze the financial health of the agency. In November 2022, the Board contracted with Props and Measures, now known as TeamCivX, for community outreach services concerning funding options. In November 2022, the agency also contracted with SCI Consulting Group to advise on structural financial options. In December 2022, the Board of Directors approved a contract with Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates (FM3) to conduct an opinion poll for the Authority regarding the agency's financial needs and general community perceptions on related matters (see 'Additional Background' below). The poll successfully concluded in the spring of 2023. Results were shared with the Board of Directors at their March 2023 meeting, and with the CTAC at their May meeting. The Board provided feedback and direction that community outreach and education will continue.

Because the CTAC has undergone many composition changes over the past year, this item is a verbal update and recap of the outreach process regarding potential funding options for discussion. For more information, please visit <https://www.habitatauthority.org/about-us/fundingoptions/>.

Additional Background:

As is standard in the industry, FM3 conducted a stratified and clustered random sample poll and administered it via text, email and phone invitations using unique codes. The survey was offered in both English and Spanish, as well as Chinese. It covered areas including La Habra Heights, Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, and Whittier. Over 650 responses were collected as part of the survey, with an approximate margin of error of $\pm 5.7\%$.

Recommendation:

Receive and file.