

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
ETHICS REFORM TASK FORCE
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022
5:00 P.M.**

VIA TELECONFERENCE

Land Acknowledgement:

“The West Hollywood City Council acknowledges that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples.”

*IN AN EFFORT TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS), AB 361 HAS AUTHORIZED PUBLIC MEETINGS TO TAKE PLACE VIA TELECONFERENCE BECAUSE STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS ARE RECOMMENDING MEASURES TO PROMOTE SOCIAL DISTANCING.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Teleconference Audio Meeting & Providing Public Comment by Telephone or Via the Zoom Platform:

You are strongly encouraged to email Melissa Crowder at mcrowder@weho.org by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 31st to be added to the Public Speaker List for the meeting. Please include your name, the phone number from which you will be calling if applicable, and which item you would like to speak on.

To provide public comment via the Zoom Platform – When you enter the meeting, please make sure to turn off your video and mute your audio.

- If you wish to make a public comment, please use the ‘raise hand’ feature in the Zoom application. You will be called at the appropriate time. Please turn on your video and audio to make your public comment.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://bit.ly/ERTF033122>

To provide public comment via telephone, please call in and remember to place your phone on mute:

- Dial-in phone number: (669) 900-6833
- Meeting ID: 860 6740 2757; then press #
- Dial-in 10 minutes before the meeting starts.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of the Minutes (February 24, 2022)

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** This time is set aside for members of the public to address the Task Force on matters related to ethics reform and the City’s regulations. The City Council created the Task Force to develop recommendations relating generally to regulation of campaign finance, government ethics, and lobbyists. The Task Force is looking to hear from community members

and all other interested persons on these topics. **Please note that you may also email your comments to the Ethics Reform Task Force at EthicsReformTaskForce@weho.org.** Emails sent to the Task Force are public records; therefore, please do not include personal information that you do not wish to be published to the City's website or provided pursuant to the California Public Records Act.

3. TASK FORCE comments, questions, deliberations

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- **Consideration of Limitations on City Co-Sponsorships with Organizations that Endorse Candidates in City Council Elections**
- **Contract between the City and the Fair Political Practices Commission for Enforcement Services**

4. COMMENTS FROM STAFF

This time is set aside for staff to provide any announcements or updates relevant to the Task Force's business and to confirm the next meeting date.

5. ADJOURNMENT – The Ethics Reform Task Force will adjourn to its next meeting.

ETHICS REFORM TASK FORCE MEMBERS: Joseph Guardarrama, Max Kanin, and Elizabeth Ralston.
STAFF: Melissa Crowder, City Clerk; Melissa Crosthwaite, Assistant City Attorney

If special assistance to participate in this meeting is required, (e.g., an American Sign Language interpreter for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing), you must call or submit your request in writing to the Office of the City Clerk at (323) 848-6409 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City TTY line is (323) 848-6496.

This agenda was posted at City Hall, the West Hollywood Library on San Vicente Boulevard, and the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

If you would like additional information on any item appearing on this agenda, please contact Melissa Crowder at (323) 848-6356 or via email at mcrowder@weho.org.

AGENDA ITEM 1.C.

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
ETHICS REFORM TASK FORCE
MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022
5:00 P.M.**

VIA TELECONFERENCE

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Guardarrama called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.
 - A. Chair Guardarrama led the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - B. Roll Call:
PRESENT: Task Force Members: Ralston, Kanin, and Guardarrama.
ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Crowder and Assistant City Attorney Crosthwaite
 - C. Approval of the Minutes: The Task Force approved the minutes of January 6, 2020. Motion by Task Force Member Kanin, seconded by Ralston, and approved.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
3. Discussion of Task Force Work Plan and Items for Task Force Consideration at Future Meetings:

City Clerk Crowder introduced Assistant City Attorney Crosthwaite to the Task Force.

City Clerk Crowder provided background information on the discussion topics. She noted that the “Consideration of Limitations on Co-Sponsorships with Organizations that Endorse Candidates in City Council Elections” is a priority item so that staff can bring an item to the City Council for formal consideration. She shared a document outlining the priorities for the Task Force:

Workplan Items by Priority

- Co-Sponsorships
 - Organizations/Persons Endorsing City Council Candidates
 - Co-Sponsorship Policy Best Practices – Conflicts of Interest
- Filing of Campaign Communications
- Adding the list of registered lobbyists to the City’s website
- Consideration of Lobbyist Amendments (Continue Discussion from January 2020)
- Contract between the City and the Fair Political Practices Commission for Enforcement Services
- Exploration of a Public Financing System
- Consideration of Limitations on Campaign Contributions by Developers (We left off that until there was evidence of an issue that this would not be addressed.)

Chair Guardarrama inquired if the Task Force can conduct three (3) meetings and break the meetings up as follows:

- 1) Co-Sponsorships and the Fair Political Practices Commission Contract for Enforcement Services
- 2) Campaign Finance Filing of Campaign Communications, Exploration of a Public Financing System, and Consideration of Limitations on Campaign Contributions by Developers
- 3) Adding the List of Registered Lobbyists to the City’s Website and Consideration of Amendments to the Municipal Code Regarding Lobbyist Amendments

Task Force Member Ralston asked which items were referred to the Task Force by the City Council. City Clerk Crowder indicated provided a list of the items that required further consideration based on the City Council discussion from February 3, 2020.

Task Force Member Kanin indicated his support for breaking the topics up as outlined above.

SUSAN MILROD, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the proposed development at 8850 Sunset. She further expressed concern with campaign contributions from individuals outside of West Hollywood.

DAVID GOLDSCHMID, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding campaign finance reform.

4. COMMENTS FROM STAFF:

City Clerk Crowder inquired about a date for a future meeting of the Task Force. She proposed March 24th or March 31st at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom. The Task Force indicated that March 31st at 5:00 p.m. via teleconference. She also shared her email with Mr. Goldschmid so that they can further discuss the difference between a General Law City and a Charter City.

Assistant City Attorney Melissa Crosthwaite inquired about scheduling the future meetings. The Task Force discussed the challenges with certain months given

5. ADJOURNMENT – The Ethics Reform Task Force adjourned at 5:40 p.m. to its next meeting on Thursday, March 31 at 5:00 p.m. via Teleconference.