

# NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL SUSTAINABILITY ALLIANCE

Friend—

There is a lot happening—read on!

We now have fewer than 100 months until 2030, by which time the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change tells us we must have drastically reduced our emissions.

## **Cool Blocks!**

That is why we, with the [Climate Emergency Mobilization Office](#) and the support of many other organizations, are launching Cool Blocks, **a block-by-block organizing effort to help people create the neighborhoods they want to live in and improve the environment at the same time.** We need to recruit 200 Cool Block leaders by **September 23.**

Please join us at our monthly meeting **Sunday the 12th at 6:30** to learn more. (We will also have what we hope will be our final discussion of our **bylaws**, at least for a while!) RSVP at [ncsa.la/cool\\_block\\_cafe\\_bylaws\\_09-12\\_2021](https://ncsa.la/cool_block_cafe_bylaws_09-12_2021). Or you can learn more at [ncsa.la/cool\\_blocks\\_la](https://ncsa.la/cool_blocks_la). *(And please, help us spread the word!)*

## **Transportation updates**

Our **transportation committee** reports that [Assembly Bill 1401](#), which would have eliminated parking-minimum requirements near transit, died. ([The NCSA weighed in on this in July.](#)) But we hear the issue will be reintroduced!

Last month, we discussed the updated Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program. You can check out the conversation [here](#) and learn more at [planning.lacity.org/mobility](https://planning.lacity.org/mobility).

## LA100

Our **energy committee** is pleased to report that the [city council voted for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to get to 100% carbon-free energy by 2035](#), just 5 years (and some methane and nuclear power) shy of the NCSA's goal.

So join us at the [Congress of Neighborhoods](#) Saturday, September 25! We'll convene a workshop at **8 am** on **Getting to 100% Clean, Renewable Energy ASAP—How will the transition change your life, and how can neighborhood councils help?** See our great line-up of speakers at [ncsa.la/getting\\_to\\_100\\_renewable\\_energy\\_asap](#) and RSVP at [info.neighborhoodcongress.la/registernow](#).

*(If you are interested in **helping staff a virtual booth** during the Congress, let Lisa Hart know at [lisahart@ncsa.la](mailto:lisahart@ncsa.la).)*

### **Biodiversity, the river, trees, and parks**

Last month, we talked with **Michelle Barton** from **LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN)** about biodiversity here in LA. You can visit [here](#) to see her presentation (as well as Hollywood United NC representative Rosalind Helfand's on how we can contribute to global efforts). We ran out of time for a rich discussion, so will need to bring Michelle back!

In the interim, one thing you can do to support biodiversity (if you are not attending the Congress) is join Friends of the Los Angeles River (**FoLAR**) for a **habitat restoration day** Saturday morning, September 25. Learn more and sign up [here](#).

The **Department of Public Works** has released their **draft street tree species list** and wants YOUR input for the Los Angeles Urban Forest. Click [here](#) by September 15 to see the list and chime in.

Want to let LA County know how you use our **parks and natural areas**? Please take this [countywide survey](#).

### **Water**

Join USGBC-LA for a conversation on **Reusing & Rethinking Water** (which we all need to do) **Thursday, September 30 from 4 to 5:30**. Learn more and sign up [here](#).

## **COP26**

The United Nations Association of the USA, Western Regions will host a **Climate Forum Friday, October 1 from 1:30 to 5 pm** in advance of the United Nations' 26th Climate Conference ([COP26](#)) to be held in early November, 2021. Actions we can take will be discussed. Learn more and rsvp at [unawestclimate.org](http://unawestclimate.org).

## **Cool Blocks, again!**

*And one last word on **Cool Blocks**—they connect to all of the above. We typically see a big drop in greenhouse gas emissions and water usage in Cool Block households (and a drop in bills!), and we envision community wildlife habitats, tree-planting, greywater systems, car-sharing, etc., all with the support of City departments (several of whom have already pledged to help).*

And while we can't tell you how to vote, we are asking you *to* vote on the **Newsom recall election**.

And lastly, we welcome the **Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council** to the NCSA!

the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA)

<http://www.ncsa.la/>