



Friend—

Well, now we all know what an atmospheric river is!! With all the challenges we have brought upon ourselves, we need a strong, clear-eyed city council, which we also know we haven't always had, to lead this city. So stay tuned (and stay involved!).

City council reform

Former Councilmember Jose Huizar's story is a recent (and blatant) example of corruption at city hall. In January, he pled guilty to racketeering and tax evasion, and we know we must address the system that allowed this to happen. [Here](#) is what the LA Times had to say. Check out the **advocacy committee** ncsa.la/advocacy to learn what we are doing.

Stepping Toward Sustainability Sunday, February 26

Join us **Sunday, February 26, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm** to learn about the city's new [food-waste program](#), and then for a conversation with new **Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky** about her vision (and ours/yours!). Learn more and RSVP at ncsa.la/2023_02-26_food_waste_yaroslavsky.

Last month, our representatives voted to join the **Livable Communities Initiative** (LCI) coalition and support the related motion (in [Council File 21-1230-2](#), which had already passed). Recordings of the meeting are posted at ncsa.la/lci_2023_01-08 from our YouTube channel (youtube.com/@ncsa-la). Our **Trees committee** plans to advise LCI on best practices, and LCI wants to use our [sustainability guidelines for developers](#).

Yes, more on housing

Abundant Housing LA joined our January **advocacy committee** meeting and will come back for our **Sunday, March 5 meeting** (from 6 to 7:30 pm) to continue the

conversation about how we might support each other's efforts. Information about how to join is at ncsa.la/advocacy. (And you can see in our notes what we discussed in January!)

Gas prices skyrocketing

SoCalGas was warning folks about [a spike in gas price](#)...another reason to transition to electricity? Easier said than done, we know, but we are working on it!

Easy-to-plug-in heat-pump water heaters coming...soon?

Currently, **heat-pump water heaters** require a 240-volt outlet, but a pilot project for heat-pump water heaters that require only a 110-volt (regular) outlet is being tested now in Southern California—stay tuned!

Looking for a demonstration multi-family lawn to convert!

We are about to host a series of **water workshops**, and we are looking for a multi-family residence (aka **apartment building**) in the city of LA that has a lawn or other high-water-use landscaping with an owner or manager who would welcome our help **converting it to California native plants with rain-capture features** for a **demonstration project**. If you're a renter, maybe you can engage your building management!? Interested? Contact board member Charles Miller at CharlesAllenMiller@gmail.com.

Join our committees!

The **P.I.C.O. Neighborhood Council** has appointed someone to each of our committees. We think this is a best practice, and encourage other neighborhood councils to do the same!

Looking for ideas for your neighborhood council?

The **Encino Neighborhood Council** partnered with the **San Fernando Valley Audubon Society** to create a **pollinator garden** at a **fire station**. This can be done across the city! You can visit sfvaudubon.org/2022/01/28/our-first-hopefully-not-the-last-pollinator-garden and page 14 of valleynewsgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Nov1722.pdf to learn more.

Welcome!

We welcome the **Zapata-King Neighborhood Council** to the NCSA!

the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA)

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