



Friend—

Democracy vouchers community briefing TODAY at 1

Join us **today** via Zoom at 1 for a discussion about how the City of LA could help level the playing field and engage more people in our elections, bringing in **more diverse voices and candidates**. The NCSA has voted to support the effort—you can learn more at ncsa.la/democracy_vouchers. Learn more about today's event and RSVP [here](#).

Join us SATURDAY at the Kuruvungna Village Springs

Who knew that this magical place in the middle of West LA existed? Come join us THIS Saturday from 1:30 to 3 and get a glimpse into the **history** of the **Tongva**, **water** in LA, and the **animals** and **plants** here; help **participate** in the springs' **restoration**; and learn why all of this matters for us today. Learn more and RSVP at ncsa.la/kuruvungna_12-02_2023.

Last month, we had a lot of fun learning about the value and importance of native plants at the **Rio de Los Angeles State Park**. One of the biggest takeaways was a fact quoted from the [Metropolitan Water District of Southern California](#), that [up to 70% of all the water used in Southern California is for outdoor irrigation](#). Native plants can require much less watering than other plants, and for this and many other reasons, they are a critical component of a **resilient ecosystem**. You can see photos from the event on our on Instagram account [here](#).

And **congratulations** to Marilyn Berlin Snell and her husband Gregory, whose yard we selected for our demonstration **lawn conversion project**. For our **March monthly meeting**, we will invite all of you over so we can all learn together how this is done—and help do it!—as well as help spread the word. Stay tuned! We also want to congratulate two others, Ambar Capoor and Nancy Rae Stone, who are receiving consultations.

Be sure to check out DWP's [turf replacement program](#), which we will be using and which pays you to get rid of your lawn and create a sustainable landscape!

Is a gondola the answer to the Dodgers traffic?

Our [transportation committee](#) held a [special meeting](#) on the proposed Dodger Stadium gondola to host a conversation with organizations both in support of and opposed to the gondola, which proved to be even more interesting when [Zero Emissions Transit/LA ART](#) (the pro-gondola side) dropped out shortly before the meeting. You can see a recording on our YouTube channel [here](#) and join our transportation committee Thursday, December 7 at 7 pm to discuss next steps.

Do bioplastics break down in natural environments?

It depends. Check out [the new report from 5 Gyres](#) that helps answer the question. People read *compostable* and *biodegradable* and think that they are composted or biodegraded, when they usually are not. The composting facilities that serve LA and at our homes typically do not get hot enough to compost most of these, but [some products on the market degrade more quickly than others](#)—in short, it's complicated for the consumer who wants to do the right thing! **Reuse** is always your best bet.

Search for the new DONE GM is underway—share your thoughts!

The search for a new general manager for the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) is underway, and the City wants to hear from you. Please complete this [survey](#) and let them know what you think!

the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA)

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