



# Letter From The Editor

**\*Please note that the views and opinions expressed in the Letter from the Editor are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Southeast Neighborhood Council. The editor's letter is written from a personal perspective and is intended to offer an individual viewpoint on community matters.**



Jesse Munoz



As summer ends, our community finds itself grappling with the implications of a recent Supreme Court decision that touches on one of the most complex and pressing issues we face—homelessness. The ruling in *City of Grants Pass v. Johnson* has reignited the debate about local governments' authority to regulate homeless encampments on public property. It is a decision that will likely shape not only the policies of cities across the country but also the very makeup of our own neighborhood here in Los Angeles. The Supreme Court's ruling reversed a Ninth Circuit decision that had barred the city of Grants Pass, Oregon, from enforcing its ordinances against public camping. What does this mean for Los Angeles? In Grants Pass, a city of just 38,000 people, (our very own Southeast neighborhood houses some 50,000+ people), struggled with the challenges of homelessness—

challenges that are magnified many times over in a metropolis like ours. How will our city, already strained by a significant unsheltered population, respond to the possibility of reintroducing or bolstering regulations on public camping and the people in them? Economically, the decision raises questions about the balance between public safety and the rights of the unhoused. Will businesses and property owners see this as an opportunity to push for stricter enforcement, hoping to restore order to areas affected by encampments? Or will we, as a city, find ourselves grappling with increased costs associated with the criminal justice system and the potential for recurring legal challenges? Socially, the decision poses even more difficult questions. How do we, as a community, reconcile the need to maintain public spaces that are safe and accessible for all with the moral and ethical imperative to treat our most vulnerable neighbors with dignity and compassion? The Supreme Court's ruling suggests that the responsibility for addressing homelessness lies primarily with local governments and communities. Are we prepared to shoulder this responsibility in a way that truly addresses the root causes of homelessness, rather than merely pushing the problem out of sight? I don't believe there are any easy answers. The decision in Grants Pass aims to provide local governments with more tools to manage public spaces, but it also underscores the complexities and challenges of addressing homelessness effectively. Will this ruling lead to innovative solutions that balance enforcement with compassion, or will it deepen the divides within our community? As our city council currently gathers information on how to implement this ruling in the city, will they engage thoughtfully and empathetically? How will our leaders, our residents, and our local organizations work together so that our city remains a place where everyone, housed or unhoused, is treated with the respect and dignity they deserve? Are we, as humans, up for that task?

Jesse Munoz  
Editor, Southeast Newsletter



## Meeting Recaps

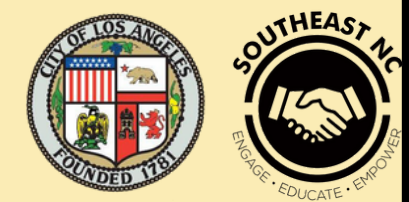
### Regular Board Meeting June 2024

The board heard updates from local officials including the southeast police department, the department of neighborhood empowerment and a field liason from CD8. The board heard a presentation from a representative from Community Organization, "Rising Communities," about upcoming events and cleanups. The board also voted on administrative business and the amount of upcoming board retreats per fiscal year.

### Regular Board Meeting July 2024

The board heard updates from local officials from the police department, CD8 and the southeast fire department. The board also heard a presentation from the department of transportation and voted on administrative items regarding committees and meeting times/places. The board voted to assign a delegate to a local community organization and voted to join two new members to the executive board.

For full meeting votes and minutes, visit [www.southeastnc.com](http://www.southeastnc.com)



## Newsletter Content

Meeting Recaps:  
APR-JUL 2024

The Streets of Southeast LA: A Photo Essay

Neighbor submission:  
What is a constituent service center?

A Letter from the Editor

Scan the QR code or email our board secretary at: [jesse.munoz@southeastnc.org](mailto:jesse.munoz@southeastnc.org)



@ecsoutheastnc

**Meeting Time & Location**  
8475 S Vermont Ave  
Los Angeles Ca 90044  
Every 4th Tuesday  
of the month  
6PM-8PM



to be featured in our newsletter, send your information to [info@southeastnc.org](mailto:info@southeastnc.org)



## The Streets of SOUTHEAST LA

a photo-essay by Twyla Peters and Jesse Munoz



Unhoused residents take to staying on the streets or camp out in RVs



The ladies of figueroa street have been more present during daytime hours



Our streets have become a dumping ground with no response from city departments/ services.



### Neighbor Question:

What is a constituent service center?

The constituent service center for the south LA area is located within the bounds of our neighborhood at 8475 S Vermont. It is the headquarters for your CD8 office and offers the offices of city services like housing, city planning and community activities.

CHECK OUT A NEW PODCAST DEDICATED TO L.A. NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES: [CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)



Businesses continue to disregard trash in their surrounding areas



Area Rep Twyla Peters with a local Mariachi group



City services like Jacaranda Park have been inaccessible to residents for years



### Links to helpful resources:

**LA Housing Department**  
Apply for emergency relief, pay rent, file complaints or find general information about housing in Los Angeles, including Southeast LA. visit their website at [www.housing.lacity.org](http://www.housing.lacity.org)

**The Helpful Homegirls**  
The Helpful Homegirls is an organization dedicated to serving minority and homeless communities, specifically in south LA. visit their website [www.helpfulhomegirls.org](http://www.helpfulhomegirls.org)

**United We Stand**  
United We Stand is a beautification organization, cleaning the streets of southeast LA, one block at a time. visit their instagram: [@unitedwestand\\_cd9](https://www.instagram.com/unitedwestand_cd9)

**Dorothy Mae Clinic**  
Dorothy Mae Clinic prides itself on their personal approach to medical care. They have been serving the South LA community since 1998. Visit their website or call them at 323-750-1196