

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS

The procedures for obtaining a Neighborhood Council ballot are unfortunately very complicated but it is important that you go through them, obtain a ballot and vote for a candidate that will help with our concerns and problems. Please gird up your loins and Just Do It – to repurpose a couple of familiar slogans.

What follows is the clearest explanation I have seen, written by Sam Uretsky of the Larchmont Village Association. Thanks for your patience working through this procedure.

Bob Reeves, President, RWNA

The 2025 election to vote for new two-year terms for board members of The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC) is fast approaching. Unlike previous GWNC elections, you must specially apply to the City to obtain a ballot. All ballots must be submitted by mail. **There will be no in-person voting.**

There is no quick, easy way to explain the process to apply for a ballot(s). Your patience is appreciated.

This is an extremely important election. Neighborhood Councils are the first level of official city government. A good neighborhood council, and Greater Wilshire is among the best, listens to and advocates on behalf of the residents and businesses in its area with the Mayor's Office, City Council offices, and the various City Departments regarding a wide variety of concerns including land use, crime, transportation and other local issues. Every two years, the City holds elections for the GWNC Board of Directors. Board members are unpaid volunteers.

Neighborhood Council elections are notoriously subject to low voter turnout. It is extremely important that all of us exercise our right to vote in this election.

WHO CAN VOTE

All adults over 16 years old, who live, work or own property in the GWNC area are eligible to vote.

WHAT CAN YOU VOTE FOR

Each individual who lives, works or owns property in the GWNC's defined geographic area of the GWNC has two votes: (1) for their area representative (2) for one of six GWNC-wide special interest board seats: at-large; renter, non-profit, business; education; religion.

Here is where to find the particular area you live <https://greaterwilshire.org/map/>. St. Andrews Square and Ridgewood-Wilton are in the Geographic Area 10.

By default, every qualifying voter is eligible for an at-large ballot. To vote for one of the other five special interest categories, you will need to provide additional documentation during the application process to prove you are qualified. For example, a renter wishing a renter's representative ballot in addition to their geographic area ballot will need to provide proof they are currently a renter.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A BALLOT

STEP ONE: GATHER YOUR DOCUMENTATION

- If you are applying online, have these documents saved digitally on the device you will use to apply. If you be mailing your application to the city, print out copies of your documents to attach to your application ahead of time. **TIP:**
- If voting online, the combined file size of any document(s) uploaded is **5mb**.
- If you know what special interest seat you want to vote for, aside from at-large which requires no additional documentation, upload or include qualifying documentation for that seat in addition to general qualifying documentation during Step Two below to save you having to provide it later in Step Three.

Using a valid Driver's License showing your current address is an easy way to document area residency. This link provides other examples of Qualifying documentation for area ballots. It also includes information on documentation that residents seeking a Business or Renter's special interest ballot should provide. https://clkrep.lacity.org/election/2025_NC_Documentation_Guide.pdf.

Examples of Qualifying documents for the other special interest seats may include letterhead letters from a non-profit, educational institution, or religious institution affirming you are an active member or participate regularly in activities.

No additional documentation is required for an at-large seat, if you qualify for an area ballot.

STEP TWO: CHOOSE HOW YOU WILL APPLY AND APPLY

- **Note:** This step of the application process only registers you to be able to vote for your geographic seat.
- **TIP:** Include your email address and / or your phone number, so the City Clerk can easily contact you for Step Three below.

(a) You can find a paper application to fill in online and download or download to fill in by hand [here](#). Fill in the information, attach your documentation and submit: mailing address, fax and email address are at the bottom of the application.

(b) You can apply online [here](#). Sign up or login using the portal login or create an Angeleno Account to do so. Once you are logged in, select Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council from the drop-down list at the top of the first page. Fill in the information, attach your documentation and submit.

STEP THREE: CHOOSING YOUR SPECIAL INTEREST BALLOT

No matter how you submit your ballot, a day or two after it is received you will be contacted by phone (if provided), email, or both by the City Clerk informing you (a) if your ballot is complete (b) what special interest seats you may qualify for or have qualified for. If you have already submitted documentation qualifying for a special interest seat, that will be noted. Remember an at-large ballot is the default option (c) asking you to respond with the special interest seat ballot you wish to receive. **You must respond.**

You will receive an email confirming your response and another email noting your ballot application has been approved.

STEP FOUR RECEIVING YOUR BALLOT AND VOTING

Beginning March 16th, the City Clerk will begin mailing out ballots. The date you may begin returning them - by snail mail only - will be noted. Election day is April 15, 2025. Ballots postmarked by 11:59 PM on April 15 and received by April 25 will be counted. Official results will be announced on April 30th.

KEY DATES FOR VOTERS

- **Vote by Mail Application Period:** began February 14th and concludes at 11:59PM on April 6th
- **Ballot Mailing to Voters:** begins: March 16th and ends April 6th - March 16th date is on City Clerk correspondence and differs from March 11th date listed on official election calendars.
- **VOTING:** Instructions on when you may mail (snail mail only) ballots will be included with the ballot packet you receive; ballots must be postmarked by April 15th and received no later than 11:59PM on April 25th.

- Unofficial Results are posted April 22nd.
- Official Results: the Election is certified on April 30th.

For questions, please contact **Lanee Basulto** | *Election Administrator*
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