



President's Letter

(Neighborhood Council Elections, Property Tax Refund, Preservation Support, Bulky Items, LAPD Response)
13 March 2025

Dear Neighbors,

I have several items to call to your attention. I hope that they will interest you and help make our neighborhood a great place to live.

Bob Reeves

GREATER WILSHIRE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ELECTIONS

You will soon have the opportunity to vote for our representative to our local Neighborhood Council. The importance of Neighborhood Councils rests in their impactful committees such as Land Use and Traffic and their ability to fund projects such as our traffic islands. There are two candidates for our District 10 representative.

Patricia Carroll has been our representative for a many years. She is a resident of SASNA, the neighborhood just to our east, and runs a long-standing Larchmont Blvd. business. She has stood firmly with the RWNA on the many issues that have buffeted us in recent years and continue to do so: things like neighborhood preservation, zoning, City Council district lines among others. She is so well-regarded that she is always selected as one of the Council Officers.

The other candidate is Matt Ritter, a RWNA resident. Unfortunately, Mr. Ritter has never answered when I do my periodic neighborhood walks nor has he paid the RWNA dues, so I do not know him or his position on our issues. I am of course happy to see a new face taking an interest and hope that he will continue to offer his service to our neighborhood .

Both Ms. Carroll and Mr. Ritter have submitted campaign statements published by the *Larchmont Buzz* on-line newspaper. [Here](#) is a link to the article, although you will have to scroll down to the Area 10 section nearly half-way through it.

Unfortunately voting has not been made easy by the wonks who set up the procedure. You must REQUEST a ballot before 7 April and provide proof (driver license) that you qualify and then be approved! I have placed [detailed instructions](#) on the Document page of our web site and this [link](#) will take you to the actual form.**POTENTIAL PROPERTY TAX REFUND.**

I am happy to report that the copper wire theft that turned off 15 street lights near the 1st Street and Ridgewood intersection has been rectified, and acknowledge the discretionary funding from Councilman Soto-Martinez' office that assisted. Still, the lights were out for 8 months! You will know of the Lighting assessment on our property tax bills – mine is \$134. I believe that the City should not be charging us for a service that was never delivered and intend to apply for a refund. I will be glad to supply the required form to those affected by the outage. It requires a notary, but perhaps we can get a bulk deal? Contact me to work together to submit the applications.

KEEPING UP THE PRESSURE FOR PRESERVATION

We are beset with politicians who consider single-family historic neighborhoods anathema and routinely introduce or support legislation to dismantle them. Fortunately, the *United Neighbors*

organization keeps close track of the latest attacks and uses its mailing list to inform and request support for defeating them. Please join the list by emailing Maria Pavlou Kalban at mpkalban@gmail.com. They quickly report the latest neighborhood dismantling tricks originating in the Council or Legislature so your voice can assist in this ongoing struggle.

BULKY ITEMS

I have noticed an increase in the number of items left at the curb for pick up. The City's Bulky Item Pickup system requires notice using the MY311 app and operates only on the regular pick-up day. Be sure to record the 311 service number; if you have to follow up because the pick up is not made – unfortunately an increasing possibility – the proof that the pickup was properly scheduled may help correct their error. The Neighborhood requests that items not be put out until the evening before pick-up: Wednesday for Wilton Pl. or Thursday for Ridgewood & Wilton Dr.

POLICE RESPONSE

I have noticed the frustration about LAPD apparent lack of response to someone's tragic situation published on *Next Door* and probably other social media. I fully sympathize but wonder if some of the pain occurs because the system is not well understood: **Calls to 911 should be for immediate threat to life** or current situations and will be handled as soon as an operator is available. (There are staffing issues at the Emergency Call Center too!) Incidents not meeting this requirement are sent to non-emergency operators where the wait is likely to be very long. If you need to communicate information about a crime to LAPD, the call should go to the non-emergency line or, better, to your Senior Lead Officer or the detective desk handling the investigation.

Thanks for reading!