



Notes for the Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting 02.26.25

Attendees:

NAC Members: Trey Grogan (CD 11), Linda Kokelaar, Chip Mallek, Terri Mangione, Dave Mannix, Terry McAllister, Fred Puza, and Trevor Wiseman

LAPD: Not present

Community Members: 26 members of the community were present.

LMU Representatives: Tobias Egold

Notes

1. Meeting was called to order at 8:04 p.m.
2. Student Affairs Report
 - a. NAC Member Mangione reported that there have been 13 neighborhood disturbances since December 2024, and that 4 have gone through the conduct process, while 3 were determined to be unfounded.
 - b. NAC Member Mallek reported that the houses he is monitoring have calmed down dramatically since the last NAC meeting, he credits LMU for its assistance in making that happen.
 - c. NAC Member Kokelaar asked for the number of students living on campus. NAC Chair Puza responded that there are a total of 3,600 beds on campus, with 90-100% capacity at any given time.
3. LAPD Report
 - a. LAPD were not present and did not provide a report.
4. Department of Public Safety Report
 - a. NAC Member McAllister reported that 7 of the previously mentioned 13 neighborhood disturbances were handled by SSS, a third-party security company.
 - b. NAC Member McAllister said that the annual Rock, Roll, and Run will take place on Saturday, March 8 and traffic will be affected from 7 – 11 a.m.
5. Master Plan Compliance Report
 - a. NAC Compliance Officer Wiseman provided a trip count update which shows lower traffic volume in 2024 than was found via the trip count data in 2019.
 - b. NAC Compliance Officer Wiseman shared an update on the FTE certification.
6. Community Incidents Report
 - a. Construction early start issue - NAC Chair Puza highlighted that in response to 3 confirmed noise violations the NAC Compliance Officer had the Director of Construction consult with the vendors to remind them about the university's and city's policies and assigned a project manager on site from 6 - 7 a.m. to ensure construction starts on time. Since then, there have been no complaints or violations.



- b. NAC Chair Puza said he'd work with Public Safety about updating their policy on where to take sound measurements when they receive a complaint.
7. Community Relations Report
 - a. Children's Center - NAC Chair Puza said that the university is undergoing a multi-year compensation initiative. A sub-committee will review a comprehensive analysis of the Children's Center. Following the submission of the report, the university anticipates further analysis, discussions with the sub-committee, and potential requests for additional information or subsequent reports. LMU affirms that the Children's Center will not be closed without warning and there is no intention currently to replace it with any other kind of facility, athletics or otherwise. [Read more.](#)
 - b. NAC Member Kokelaar asked why the Children's Center is not included in the Master Plan and if it is still a part of the early childhood credentialing program.
 - c. Community members can send comments and questions to compinitiative@lmu.edu regarding the Children's Center.
 8. Construction updates
 - a. Engineering Innovation complex – The complex is still in the design phase. Start date is contingent on funding.
 - b. Gersten Pavilion – Site utility is now complete. Hardscape work is about to begin. The scheduled completion date is July 2025. Subject to change.
 - c. Sports Pavilion – There is nothing to report at this time.
 - d. Bluff mitigation - Grading work is proceeding in accordance to permits drawn, which were issued by LADWP.
 - e. Housing property update - There have been no new purchases since the last NAC meeting. One of the buildings on Manchester will be demolished because it is unsafe and there is mold. Nothing is planned for the buildings for the next few years. Subject to change.
 - f. NAC Chair Puza announced that commencement is moving back onto campus. He also mentioned that the university will take several steps to mitigate impact to the community. [More info here.](#)
 - g. Presidential search – Nominations and applications were due to the search committee in November 2024, and that the process has moved into the interview phase. The announcement for the new president is scheduled for spring 2025.
 - h. Other Updates – The fence posts in Smith field will be replaced during spring break and the trees along McConnell Road will be trimmed on March 27 – 29.
 9. Scheduling the next meeting
 - a. NAC Chair Puza will send dates for the next NAC meeting. It was requested that the meeting happen during the semester.
 10. Public comment
 - a. Community member spoke about their frustration with the early morning construction noise before the allowable time. They think that Public Safety officers should be granted more authority to deal with problems without any oversight.
 - b. Community member who lives along Georgetown said there are neighbors near W. 80th Street who are circulating a petition for the street to be converted to permit parking. They were hoping that LMU might implement education for students to improve their conduct about parking and being in the neighborhood at night.



- c. Community member said they live near the university and can still hear the construction workers on site. They also think that the noise measurements made by Public Safety should be closer to the site of the complaint.
- d. Community member thanked the NAC for holding in-person meetings. They mentioned that the master plan outlines that NAC meetings are supposed to take place on campus at no cost to the public. They suggested in-person or hybrid meetings.
- e. A community member stated the purpose of the NAC is for LMU and the NAC to work in good faith and find solutions. They said meetings should take place at reasonable times and reminded attendees about municipal codes regarding noise. They disagreed with the FTE update and said LMU will need to continue to be certified annually in October in accordance with the university's agreement with the city.
- f. Community member spoke about the properties acquired by LMU along Manchester Blvd. which they live next to. The community member asked that LMU improve the fencing around the property and provide a number for them to call if there is an incident outside of office hours.
- g. Twenty-two members of the community spoke in favor of the LMU Children's Center. NAC Chair Puza reminded them that this is not the decision-making body regarding the Children's Center nor is it the appropriate venue to receive comments, but that he would take notes and share them with the sub-committee. The consensus of the comments included all or a combination of the following: lack of communication about the process for Children's Center future; community involvement in the decision-making process; a timeline of when the decision will be made; a statement that the Children's Center will stay open; disappointment that the NAC Compliance Office left the meeting before any public comment was made about the Children's Center; and a request for the Children's Center to be included in the Master Plan and for the Children's Center to stay on campus. A sampling of comments included:
 1. Community member shared their experience as a previous attendee of the Children's Center. They had attended the Children's Center since they were an infant and that it was an integral part of developing their love for reading and science. They are still in touch with the friends they made while in attendance. They credit the Children's Center with granting them and their peers a strong baseline to grow into future leaders.
 2. Community member spoke to their shock when they heard that the Children's Center was being closed or moved off campus. They highlighted that the location of the Children's Center is also essential to its efficacy, and that being on a college campus grants it resources and a space for the children to aspire to. From their perspective as an educator, the Children's Center develops children who end up in good places and continue to do good in their community.
 3. Community member said they felt that the NAC Compliance Officer leaving the meeting was extremely disrespectful. They talked about how LMU's Children's Center is the only one of its kind, and that the



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surrounding area is a childcare desert. They also mentioned that the teachers they have spoken to are terrified of losing their employment. They finished by saying the Children's Center is relevant for the community, faculty, staff, and so many others.

4. Community member credits the Children's Center with allowing them to stay employed, as it lightened the load when childcare is so hard to find. They highlighted that the teachers at the Children's Center are a part of the families they serve, and that they are integral to the function and success of the Children's Center. They say that it is impossible to measure the impact of not retaining the LMU staff who can only stay because their children are enrolled at the Children's Center.

11. Meeting concluded at 9:39 p.m.