Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council

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Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council to Host Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Fair on Sunday, Nov. 8, at John Burroughs Middle School

Free event features a preparedness expo and a town hall with Councilmembers Yaroslavsky and Soto-Martínez and LAPD

LOS ANGELES — Responding to constituent concerns about public safety, the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC), with its neighborhood partners (Windsor Square Association, Hancock Park Homeowners Association, the *Larchmont Buzz*, the Larchmont Village Business Improvement District, and Larchmont Boulevard Association), will host a **Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Fair** on **Sunday, Nov. 8, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at John Burroughs Middle School** (600 S. McCadden Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90005). In addition to a tabling expo with emergency responders, the fair will feature **a Town Hall** with **City Councilmembers Katy Yaroslavsky (CD5)** and **Hugo Soto-Martínez (CD13)** in conversation with **Senior Lead Officers from LAPD's Olympic and Wilshire Divisions**.

In a recent public survey conducted by the GWNC, community members listed public safety among their top concerns. "A Public Safety Fair is a great way to bring our community together with LAPD and LA City emergency responders," said Tony Gittelson, a GWNC Board member and a lead organizer of the event. "We haven't had one in years, and living in Los Angeles, an earthquake, a major fire, or the coming El Niño is an unfortunate reality that we all have to prepare for."

“Public safety depends on strong neighborhoods and communities that look out for one another,” said Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky. “I’m grateful to the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council, and all of our community partners, for bringing neighbors together and giving them the tools and information they need to keep themselves and their families safe.”

Councilmember Soto-Martínez added, "Keeping our communities safe means talking to our

neighbors, being prepared for emergencies, and making sure people know where to turn when they need help. I'm looking forward to joining the Greater Wilshire community for this conversation about what we can do together to make our neighborhoods safer."

The five-hour event will have two parts. From **11 a.m. to 2 p.m., a Public Safety Expo** will feature LAPD; the LAFD Community Emergency Response Team (CERT); the Los Angeles Emergency Management Department; the American Red Cross; the Statewide California Earthquake Center (SCEC) at USC; the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath (Third District); the Los Angeles County West Vector Control District (mosquito control); LA Sanitation; and other agencies and community partners, who will have tables offering information, literature and giveaways.

From **2 p.m. to 4 p.m., a Public Safety Town Hall** will open with Senior Lead Officers from LAPD's Olympic and Wilshire Divisions giving an overview of crime and public safety in Greater Wilshire. It will be followed by a conversation and moderated Q&A with Councilmembers Yaroslavsky and Soto-Martínez, whose council districts encompass the GWNC boundaries.

"Along with addressing serious public safety concerns," said Gary Gilbert, also a GWNC Board member and a lead organizer, "we want this to be a fun family event where our community can pick up valuable emergency planning information." Workshops will include *Ready Your LA Neighborhood* (RYLAN) by the City's Emergency Management Department; *Your Action Plan for Earthquake Safety* by the Statewide California Earthquake Center (SCEC) at USC; and *Preparing for an Earthquake or Fire* by the American Red Cross. Light food and refreshments will be provided by Larchmont's BurgerLounge and Levain Bakery.

The event is free, open to all and wheelchair accessible. Registration is not required to attend but assists the planners. Visit GreaterWilshire.org/safety for event details, to help organizers with a headcount, and to submit a public safety question for the Town Hall. Questions will also be taken from the audience.

About the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council

The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council is one of 99 Neighborhood Councils in Los Angeles that serve as liaisons between their communities and City Hall. The GWNC represents a diverse community of more than 50,000 Angelenos in 15 neighborhoods: Brookside, Citrus Square, Country Club Heights, Fremont Place, Hancock Park, La Brea-Hancock, Larchmont Village, Melrose, Oakwood-Maplewood-St. Andrews, Ridgewood-Wilton/St. Andrews Square, Sycamore Square, Western-Wilton, Wilshire Park, Windsor Square and Windsor Village.

Co-hosts of the event include the offices of Councilmembers Katy Yaroslavsky (CD5) and Hugo Soto-Martínez (CD13), the Windsor Square Association, the Hancock Park Homeowners Association, the *Larchmont Buzz*, the Larchmont Village Business Improvement District, and the Larchmont Boulevard Association.

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