



JAN PERRY
COUNCILWOMAN
NINTH DISTRICT

City Council
of the
City of Los Angeles
City Hall

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January 18, 2013

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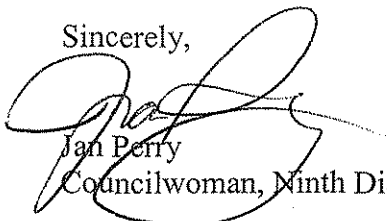
Re: Item 1- City Clerk report relative to encouraging greater voter participation through alternative voting methods and use of City facilities as polling places

Dear Council President Wesson:

In the past, voter turn out at City elections has been extremely low. It is vitally important to our democracy to encourage greater voter participation by making our City polling places as easily accessible as possible. Although I understand it is too late to implement any major structural changes in time for the 2013 elections, I believe we need to have a larger conversation about how we are outreaching to our voters.

Los Angeles needs a major initiative to make voting more accessible by conducting greater voter outreach and increasing voter turnout through measures such as early voting, regional voting centers, and alternate voting days. I am aware of LA City Votes campaign spearheaded by the City Clerk last year; I applaud their efforts to work with advocate groups to disseminate election information to more communities, especially to those with high concentrations of non-native English speakers. I would like the City Clerk to report back in four months with an update of their outreach efforts and to conduct further research on early voting, voting centers, and alternative election days and what impact it may have on City elections and voter turnout.

Sincerely,



Jan Perry
Councilwoman, Ninth District

