File No. 11-1018

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Your EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

reports as follows:

EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to requesting a report with an implementation plan for a system of regional complaint panels for Neighborhood Councils.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Krekorian – Smith):

DIRECT the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), the City Attorney, City Administrative Officer (CAO) and Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) to report back to Council in 90 days with a plan for the implementation of a system of regional complaint panels composed of board members of various Neighborhood Councils from similar regions that will convene to address stakeholder and board member grievances as-needed, and at the request of the General Manager of DONE. The report should consider guidelines for panel selection, implementation and range of authority.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CAO nor the CLA has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

At its regular meeting held July 27, 2011, the Education and Neighborhoods Committee considered Motion (Krekorian – Smith) relative to an implementation plan for a system of regional complaint panels for Neighborhood Councils. According to the Motion, there is no system-wide standardized process for handling a grievance when a stakeholder files a complaint against the actions taken by a Neighborhood Council. Furthermore, processes that do exist are established by the Neighborhood Council against which a grievance is filed, which leads many stakeholders to question the validity of Neighborhood Council actions when it comes to controversial issues. The Motion concludes that in those circumstances, it is critical for the integrity of the Neighborhood Council system that the complaints be handled swiftly, transparently and fairly. After consideration and an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended to approve the recommendation contained in the Motion. This matter is now forwarded to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

MEMBERS	VOTE
KREKORIAN:	YES
ZINE:	YES

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- Not Official Until Council Acts -