

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: West Hills Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(20) Nay(1) Abstain(2) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 02/07/2019

Type of NC Board Action: Against

#### Impact Information

Date: 03/08/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 12-0460

Agenda Date: 02/07/2019

Item Number: 19-0016

Summary: Please find a West Hills Neighborhood Council CIS in opposition to Council File #12-0460. Thank You



# West Hills Neighborhood Council

*"It's our neighborhood.  
Let's build a community."*

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West Hills Neighborhood Council  
Community Impact Statement  
City Council File 12- 0460

February 22, 2019

To the Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

The West Hills Neighborhood Council's Board of Directors voted to approve the following Community Impact Statement during its monthly meeting on Feb. 7, 2019:

The West Hills Neighborhood Council (WHNC) OPPOSES the Proposed Ordinance set forth by the Department of City Planning (DCP) in City Council File 12- 0460 and will be filing a second Community Impact Statement (CIS) shortly in opposition thereto.

The WHNC's CIS will contain, among other items, the following points:

- The 948-page Proposed Ordinance is misleading; it definitely is not just an administrative reorganization of existing ordinances, as DCP claims it to be.
- What the Proposed Ordinance actually does is delegate and remove or shift away from the City Council a broad array of authority over planning and land use, completely in violation of provisions of the City Charter, specifically Sections 556 and 558. None of the findings required by the Charter can be made on this record.
- The Proposed Ordinance is not merely procedural; it is most definitely substantive. It purports to incorporate and permit "state law" to set parameters for authority and delegation of authority to the Mayor and the unelected Director of Planning, who is appointed by the Mayor, rather than the provisions of our City Charter and Los Angeles' status as a Charter City. The seemingly casual references to "state law" are in effect an erosion of our status as a Charter City and the control that a Charter City has over large and major parts of its own destiny. In effect, "state laws" are merely default provisions of the Government Code, which otherwise would not apply to, or would apply differently to, Charter Cities.



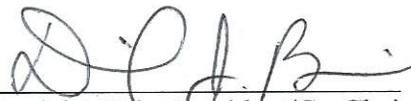
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- The Proposed Ordinance delegates many planning decisions to the Mayor or to the appointed (by the Mayor) Director of Planning, without preserving both the right to appeal to City Council and the City Council's ability to step in and remove a matter from Planning, as is currently provided for in the City Charter. This proposed delegation of planning decisions not only eliminates appeal rights and abilities to remove a matter from consideration, it also fosters the appearance of impropriety. Equally important, the Proposed Ordinance removes notices and rights to public hearings for most people and for City-certified Neighborhood Councils that are currently provided for in the City Charter. In effect, this takes planning back to the days when it was performed between developers and mayors in smoky rooms and behind closed doors.
- The Proposed Ordinance makes decision-making ministerially or administratively complete with minimal public notice, minimal public hearing and minimal right of appeal, if any. For example, public notice to residents within 500 feet of a proposed project and neighbors across the street and to certified Neighborhood Councils, which is presently REQUIRED by the City Charter (early warning system, Section 907) has been completely removed and replaced with notice only to immediately adjacent neighbors, thereby totally eliminating the participation of Neighborhood Councils.
- Although the DCP states the Proposed Ordinance merely standardizes and streamlines the processes and procedures of planning, it is actually an attempt to refocus almost all power and authority away from the public and Neighborhood Councils to the Mayor and his appointed Director of Planning, all in direct opposition to the provisions of the City Charter.

Please consider this opposition and do not consider the Proposed Ordinance for approval without extending the response period for at least 120 more days for additional opposition and CIS to be filed.

WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

  
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