

Contact Information  
Neighborhood Council: Los Feliz Neighborhood Council, Los Feliz Neighborhood  
Council

Name: Linda Demmers  
Phone Number: [213-973-9758](tel:213-973-9758)  
Email: [ldemmers@losfeliznc.org](mailto:ldemmers@losfeliznc.org)  
Date of NC Board Action: 05/20/2014  
Type of NC Board Action: Against Proposal

Impact Information  
Date: 05/23/2014  
Update to a Previous Input: No  
Directed To: City Council and Committees  
Council File Number: 14-0600  
Agenda Date:  
Item Number:

Brief Summary: The request that unspent neighborhood council funds be rolled directly to the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment should be denied. The same group processing, auditing and approving payments, yet also acting as the final arbiter over whether funds will ultimately be disbursed is an inherent operational conflict. This proposal will result in further stagnation and increase derision between the Department and the councils they are tasked to assist.

Additional Information



LOS FELIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
*"Your Neighborhood. Your Voice. Your Council"*



**PRESIDENT**

Linda Demmers

**VICE PRESIDENTS**

Barbara Ferris - Administration  
 Chris McKinley – Communications

**TREASURER**

Nelson Bae

**SECRETARY**

Vacant

**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA**

MAY, 2014 7:00 P.M

**NOTE TIME CHANGE**

Citibank Community Meeting Room  
 1965 N. Hillhurst Ave. (2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Citibank)  
 Los Angeles, CA 90027

**CERTIFIED COUNCIL #36**

**PO Box 27003**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90027-**  
**0003**  
**(213) 973-9758**  
 www.losfeliznc.org  
 losfeliznc@losfeliznc.org

1. Call to Order. Roll Call
2. Public comment on non-agenda items
3. Reports from Government Officials
4. Executive Committee Reports
  - a. President's Report:
    - i. Updates: Posting Requirements, Officer Rey, Street Fair
    - ii. Upcoming business May 29 on ground training, lease renewal, budget FY, food
    - iii. Vacancies and procedure (District A, D, E)
  - b. Vice President Communications Report
  - c. Treasurer's Report and Funding Requests
    - i. YTD Expenditures Review. Demmers/Bae
    - ii. MOTION: Approve monthly p-card expenditures for April 2014. Bae
    - iii. MOTION: Authorize Treasurer to spend up to \$1000 during the period of 05/20/2014 – 06/13/14 for unanticipated "p-card" expenses for previously approved budget item allocations. Bae
5. MOTION: Submit Community Impact Statement (CIS) and letter to L.A. City Council / Budget & Finance committee (file: 14-600) opposing proposal that unspent fiscal year neighborhood council funding be automatically "rolled over" directly to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's (DONE) budget; Bae, Demmers, Mauceri (10) PASSED 14-0-0 ROLL CALL VOTE
6. MOTION: Submit letter to L.A. Department of Recreation and Parks Griffith Park Superintendent, Joseph Salaices, supporting Mark F. Mauceri's application for appointment to the 13-member Griffith Park Advisory Board by May 30th, 2014 submission deadline. Demmers (5)
7. MOTION: Confirm previous appointment of Demmers as second signatory on all Los Feliz Neighborhood Council Demand Warrants, P-card transactions, and board vote counts. (2)
8. MOTION: Confirm previous appointment of Marcus Rodriguez to Rules & Elections Committee; Demmers (3)
9. MOTION: Resolution: With evidence that wildlife in Griffith Park is being poisoned and killed by rodenticides we support a ban on ALL (1st generation, 2nd generation and non-anticoagulant) toxic rodenticides from sales in the City of Los Angeles in alignment with current regulation, which goes into effect on July 1, 2014 from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.
10. Approval of April 15, 2014 Neighborhood Council Minutes.
11. Other comments and announcements.
12. Adjourn with gratitude.



CITY OF LOS ANGELES

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May 20, 2014

Los Angeles City Council - Budget & Finance Committee  
200 North Spring Street, Room 435  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Councilmember Paul Krekorian, Chair  
Councilmember Mitchell Englander  
Councilmember Paul Koretz  
Councilmember Bob Blumenfield  
Councilmember Mike Bonin

Re: Council File 14-600

Honorable Councilmembers:

Within a lengthy city budget proposal up for final ratification is a request by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) that any unspent neighborhood council funds be rolled directly back into the operating budget of the Department itself.

Initially, the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council (LFNC) voted to support this proposal as part of a group of resolutions prepared by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC).

At this time, we write to revise that opinion and request this proposal be DENIED.

Having the same group processing, auditing and approving payments, yet also acting as the final arbiter over whether individual council funding will ultimately be disbursed is an inherent operational conflict. We believe this proposal will result in further stagnation and increase derision between the Department and the councils it is tasked to assist.

Presently, it takes no less than nine (9) sheets of paper disburse a city check for a simple NC community improvement project; "red tape" epitomized. The paperwork is redundant, confusing, and in our experience has been standardly rejected for processing because DONE has not set a consistent benchmark for what constitutes "insufficient" completion of their paperwork, or how many different verifications (invoices, receipts, credit card statements, actual event flyers and photographs) are

required to approve an expenditure. The result: payments are delayed for months, and only by our own volition have we found our payments were placed in “limbo,” as the funding approval deadline counted down.

Until such a time the Department has streamlined financial processing in place with a system where deadlines do not constantly shift, plus a path of resolution to contest denied payment requests by DONE staffers... creating any new operational model is problematic.

If “kicking back” payment requests until they expire can result in increased funding being funneled back to the very same Department—whether they be used for increased staffing or other perceived benefits—this proposal will create a paradigm resulting in further operational inertia, creating a divisive issue that will ultimately find itself before a city council committee, with a request to intercede and force reconsideration of it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Demmers  
President

cc: City Council Members  
Garcetti, E. (MAYOR)  
Liu, G. (DONE)  
Rubio, O. (BONC)