



TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

**P.O. BOX 571016
TARZANA, CA 91357
(818) 921-4992
tnc@tarzananc.org**

Via Email and US Mail

May 30, 2016

Honorable Herb J. Wesson, Jr., President
Los Angeles City Council
Councilmember 10th District
Room 430
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Council File 16-0093

Honorable Council President Wesson:

The Tarzana Neighborhood Council does intend to file a CIS regarding each of the motions set out below. However, because time is of the essence and to ensure that you are aware of our positions on this matter I am authorized to send you this letter.

On April 26, 2016 at a noticed Brown Act meeting the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Board passed the following motion:

Resolved: The TNC Board approves the filing of a CIS regarding Council File 16-0093 as follows:

The Tarzana Neighborhood Council calls on the City Council to follow the recommendation in the charter mandated Industrial, Economic and Administrative Survey to form "a committee to examine governance reforms for the Department (of Water & Power) with the explicit task of reporting its findings and recommending a measure for the 2017 ballot.

This Governance Committee should be involved in drafting any memorandums and other information from the beginning and include at least two members from the Neighborhood Councils who are familiar with the operations and finances of DWP.

Some Board members wanted more time to consider the companion motion set out below and it was tabled to the May meeting.

At its next regular meeting on May 24, 2016, the Board passed the following motions:

Resolved: The TNC Board approves the filing of a CIS supporting Council File 16-0093 as follows:

1. The Tarzana Neighborhood Council supports the recommendations of the DWP (MOU Oversight Committee and the DWP (Advocacy) Committee regarding the reform and restructure of the Department of Water and Power.
2. We support a fiduciary Board of Commissioners consisting of seven (7) qualified members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council, serving staggered terms who may not be removed except for cause.
3. We oppose a full, time, paid Board of Commissioners. However, Commissioners would be entitled to reasonable per diem fees.
4. The Board would appoint the General Manager, determined policy, and establish rates.
5. The City Council would have the right to assert jurisdiction in certain matters, including rates, only for the purpose of affirming or denying the action by a supermajority vote.
6. The Board would be assisted by a more robust Ratepayers Advocate.
7. Contracting and procurement policies would be modified allowing the Department more flexibility.
- X
- X
10. The Transfer Fee would be subject to a City wide vote.

In a separate motion, after further discussion of the issues the Board approved what had been items 8 and 9 from the original motion as follows:

8. The Department (DWP) would be responsible for labor negotiations.
9. The Department (DWP) would establish its own Human Resources Department, separate and distinct from the City's Personnel Department. DWP would not be subject to the City's civil service rules.

If you have any questions regarding the passage of these motions or anything you want me to convey to the other Board members I can be reached at 818-343-7721 or at l.shaffer@tarzananc.org.

Thank you for giving Neighborhood Councils the opportunity to weigh in on this very important issue.

Sincerely,


Leonard J. Shaffer
President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council