The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners has advised that since the first neighborhood councils were certified fourteen years ago they have often struggled to acquire office space and find locations for their board and committee meetings.

The Board also advises that neighborhood councils have been spending nearly \$200,000 yearly for office space and meeting locations. This amount includes money paid to other government agencies including Metrolink and LAUSD. One neighborhood council without an office and limited meeting space reportedly holds its committee meetings in its rented storage unit.

The Board further advises that neighborhood councils as members of the City family should be able to use shared City space for offices and meetings; and that the public funds for rental of office / meeting space can be better used for outreach and other matters within neighborhood councils' jurisdiction.

The Board indicates that there are many public buildings throughout the City, but information about surplus space or whether they are used in the evenings when neighborhood councils generally hold their meetings seems difficult to obtain; but that neighborhood councils as Charter created City entities should have priority to use available public space.

To this end, at its December 1, 2015 meeting the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners acted to request that the City Council explore the feasibility of providing neighborhood councils with priority in the use of shared space at City facilities for board and committee meetings and office space where available.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the Department of General Services and the Chief Legislative Analyst be directed to report on what shared spaces might be available for use by neighborhood councils and the feasibility of providing neighborhood councils with priority in the use of such spaces at City facilities for board and committee meetings and office space where available.

PRESENTED BY=

HERB J. WESSON, Jr. Councilman, 10th District

SECONDED BY

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