

12-1681

OCT 23 2012

MOTION

The Plan for a Citywide system of neighborhood councils first approved by the City Council in May 2001, serves as the authority – derived from the City Charter – for all certified City Neighborhood Council policies and practices. Its stated primary objective is to “promote public participation in City governance and decision-making process with the end goal being that City government should become more responsive to local needs and requests.”

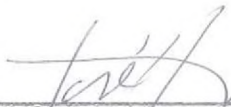
Since the adoption of neighborhood councils it has guaranteed any certified City neighborhood council the right to petition the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to adjust its boundaries, by increasing or reducing its size to increase effectiveness and efficiency. However, no policy or specific process is currently outlined for the exercise of that right to petition.

There is a need to allow neighborhood councils that same the capability to petition for a boundary adjustment at the same time the Commission considers new council certification for the area being removed if desired at the grass roots level; so long as no orphaned area would be created and the emerging neighborhood council(s) remained in compliance.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, the Office of the City Attorney and with input from the Commission, to report back in 90 days on the current policy and to look at potential policy changes whereby neighborhood councils might exercise their right under the Neighborhood Council system to petition the Commission for a “subdivision” or to otherwise adjust their boundaries, in order to increase/reduce their size for the purposes of better representation.

ORIGINAL

PRESENTED BY:


JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY:




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