



clerk CIS <clerk.cis@lacity.org>

Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 15-0524

LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>
Reply-To: LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>
To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org

Thu, May 2, 2024 at 8:52 AM

A Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement (CIS) has been successfully submitted to your Commission or City Council. We provided information below about CISs and attached a copy of the CIS.

We encourage you to reach out to the Community Impact Statement Filer to acknowledge receipt and if this Community Impact Statement will be scheduled at a future meeting. Neighborhood Council board members are volunteers and it would be helpful if they received confirmation that you received their CIS.

The CIS process was enabled by the to Los Angeles Administrative Code §Section 22.819. It provides that, "a Neighborhood Council may take a formal position on a matter by way of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) or written resolution." NCs representatives also testify before City Boards and Commissions on the item related to their CIS. If the Neighborhood Council chooses to do so, the Neighborhood Council representative must provide the Commission with a copy of the CIS or rResolution sufficiently in advance for review, possible inclusion on the agenda, and posting on the Commission's website. Any information you can provide related to your agenda setting schedule is helpful to share with the NC.

If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *listed on the Commission's agenda*, during the time the matter is heard, the designated Neighborhood Council representative should be given an opportunity to present the Neighborhood Council's formal position. We encourage becoming familiar with the City Council's rules on the subject. At the Chair's discretion, the Neighborhood Council representative may be asked to have a seat at the table (or equivalent for a virtual meeting) typically reserved for City staff and may provide the Neighborhood Council representative more time than allotted to members of the general public. They are also permitted up to five (5) minutes of time to address the legislative body. If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *not listed on the agenda*, the designated Neighborhood Council representative may speak during General Public Comments.

We share this information to assist you with the docketing neighborhood council items before your board/commission. If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at empowerla@lacity.org.

***** This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. *****

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: North Westwood

Name: Jacob Wasserman

Email: jacobnwwnc@gmail.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(12) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 05/01/2024

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 05/02/2024

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 15-0524

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Unlike any other department, Neighborhood Councils cannot seek outside funding to support their base operations and neighborhood projects as a way of offsetting their costs. The North Westwood Neighborhood Council believes there are at least two viable pathways for Neighborhood Councils to pursue outside grant funding. The revival of a sunsetted Ordinance 179545 or the funding model used by the Police Commission both present options that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) should consider and pursue. We are asking the commission to actually empower Neighborhood Councils to do the work at a scale so many of us would like to pursue. Section 5.467 of the LAMC established the creation of the Police Department Trust Fund. The amount the Commission can approve is tied to

the consumer price index; thus, the cap increases every year. If BONC adopted a similar model to the Police Department Trust Fund, a Neighborhood Council could apply for outside grant funding, and if they are awarded the grant, BONC could accept that grant on behalf of the Neighborhood Council without seeking City Council approval. The City Clerk already administers special funding accounts intended for Neighborhood Councils. BONC would do well to seek a report back from the Office of the City Clerk regarding the feasibility of establishing accounts for grant money. Ordinance 179545 is a sunsetted ordinance that allowed Neighborhood Councils to accept gifts and in-kind donations between 2008-2011. The ordinance was allowed to expire and despite attempts in 2018 by Neighborhood Council leaders to reinstate the ordinance and remove the sunset provision, there has been no significant movement by the City Council or BONC to address this problem. Our financial situation has only deteriorated since 2018, with Neighborhood Councils being expected to do even more administratively with less budget to fulfill those tasks.

Ref:MSG10280567

 **RFA_Accepting Donations.pdf**
143K



- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -

Council File: [03-1260](#)

Title: Neighborhood Councils Accept Gifts and Donations

Position: For

Council File: [15-0524](#)

Title: Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils

Position: For

Summary:

Unlike any other department, Neighborhood Councils cannot seek outside funding to support their base operations and neighborhood projects as a way of offsetting their costs. The North Westwood Neighborhood Council believes there are at least two viable pathways for Neighborhood Councils to pursue outside grant funding. The revival of a sunsetted [Ordinance 179545](#) or the funding model used by the Police Commission both present options that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) should consider and pursue. We are asking the commission to actually empower Neighborhood Councils to do the work at a scale so many of us would like to pursue.

[Section 5.467](#) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code established the creation of the Police Department Trust Fund. The fund is “used to augment established programs and activities of the Police Department, and may be used for the purchase of equipment, services or furnishings in support of such programs and activities, subject to any special terms or conditions attached to individual gifts, contributions, or bequests to the City” When the Trust was first established, it allowed for the Police Commission to accept gifts valued up to \$10,000. The amount the Commission can approve is tied to the consumer price index; thus the cap increases every year.

If BONC adopted a similar model to the Police Department Trust Fund, a Neighborhood Council could apply for outside grant funding, and if they are awarded

the grant, BONC could accept that grant on behalf of the Neighborhood Council without seeking City Council approval. The City Clerk already administers special funding accounts intended for Neighborhood Councils, such as the Clean Streets Fund. BONC would do well to seek a report back from the Office of the City Clerk regarding the feasibility of establishing accounts for grant money.

[Ordinance 179545](#) is a sunsetted ordinance that allowed Neighborhood Councils to accept gifts and in-kind donations between 2008-2011. The ordinance was allowed to expire and despite attempts in 2018 by Neighborhood Council leaders to reinstate the ordinance and remove the sunset provision, there has been no significant movement by the City Council or BONC to address this problem. Our financial situation has only deteriorated since 2018, with Neighborhood Councils being expected to do even more administratively with less budget to fulfill those tasks. In a [June 22, 2015 report](#), DONE stated that “the Office of the City Attorney has stated that the reinstatement of the previous donation ordinance is possible by removing the sunset clause.”

The North Westwood Neighborhood Council believes either of these administrative methods provide a viable pathway forward for Neighborhood Councils to work with BONC on expanding our opportunities. We also believe that many Neighborhood Councils would be supportive of the development of a process that allowed us to seek outside grant funding, as long as it was clearly communicated that these actions were not being made in lieu of fighting for our budgets to be restored, but rather as an additional augmentative tool for Neighborhood Councils to advocate for their communities.