

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Woodland Hills-Warner Center

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(18) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/08/2017

Type of NC Board Action: For if Amended

Impact Information

Date: 04/03/2017

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 15-1022-S2

Agenda Date: 03/08/2017

Item Number:

Summary: Type of NC Board Action: SUPPORT AND NON-SUPPORT OF PORTIONS OF THE MOTION Date: March 8, 2017 Update to a Previous Input: NO Directed to: City Council and Committees Council File Number: 15-1022-S2– Online Voting Pilot for Neighborhood Council Elections Board Meeting Agenda Date: March 8, 2017 Motion: The Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council (WHWCNC) Board of Directors does not support portions of the motion related to Council File 15-1022-S22 relative to the Online Voting Pilot for Neighborhood Council Elections. The stance of the neighborhood council regarding each part of the motion is as follows in the attached Community Impact Statement.

Community Impact Statement

Contact Information:

Neighborhood Council: Woodland Hills Warner Neighborhood Council
Name: Joyce Fletcher, President
Phone Number: 818-340-6554
Email: joycefletcher@yahoo.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of:

Yea (18) Nay (0) Abstain (0) Ineligible (0) Recusal (0)

Date of NC Board Action: March 8, 2017

Type of NC Board Action: **SUPPORT AND NON-SUPPORT OF PORTIONS OF THE MOTION**
Date:

Update to a Previous Input: NO

Directed to: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 15-1022-S2– Online Voting Pilot for Neighborhood Council Elections

Board Meeting Agenda Date: March 8, 2017

Motion: The Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council (WHWCNC) Board of Directors **does not support portions of the motion related to Council File 15-1022-S22** relative to the Online Voting Pilot for Neighborhood Council Elections. The stance of the neighborhood council regarding each part of the motion is as follows:

1. Instruct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Office of the City Clerk to continue the build out of Neighborhood Council Voter registration and online voting platform to be available for 2 Neighborhood Council subdivision elections (Herman Neighborhood Council and Skid Row Neighborhood Council) in 2017 and to be completed for the 96 -98 Neighborhood Councils in time for the 2018 elections.
 - The Woodland Hills- Warner Center Neighborhood Council conditionally supports this portion, Item 1 in concept but withholds final decision making regarding this item until a review of the final platform is made available to the WHWCNC 120 days prior to the election of 2018.
Justification- The details of the platform will determine its success and as representatives of the stakeholders of Woodland Hills- Warner Center our review of the platform before implementation will provide us the ability to determine if this system is the best way to enable stakeholder participation in the election process.
2. Instruct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to require picture identification along with self-affirmation of stakeholder type (live, work, own real property or substantial and on-going community interest stakeholder) to register

to vote in order to make the voting process easier and for the voting age to be set by the Neighborhood Councils to be between 12 and 16 years old for their elections and selections of citywide in order to encourage youth participation.

- The Woodland Hills- Warner Center Neighborhood Council supports the portion of Item 2 of the motion regarding the minimum voting age to be between and including 12 to 16 years of age. The WHWC Neighborhood Council minimum age will be 16 years old. **The WHWCNC does not support self-affirmation for stakeholders to register to vote.**

Justification- Stakeholders should bring proof that they qualify to vote in any of the categories required including living, working, owning real property or having substantial and on-going community interest in Woodland Hills-Warner Center. The required methods of proof should be made clear and concise. Self-affirmation can bring into question the validity of election results especially when initiated by opposing sides of the election or opposing sides of a community issue.

3. Instruct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to work with the Neighborhood Councils and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to change the individual voting requirements if necessary, the applicable Neighborhood Council board structures so that there are no more than 3 ballot types are required for the Neighborhood Council elections or selections in 2018.

- **The Woodland Hills- Warner Center Neighborhood Council does not support this portion, Item 3, of the motion.**

Justification- Woodland Hills is a large area with over 75,000 residents. The neighborhoods vary greatly within its borders including Warner Center (a regional core), hillside neighborhoods on both the north and south sides of the 101 freeway, the Valley's main street Ventura Boulevard, two large distinctive RA zone neighborhoods and the primarily single family neighborhood on LA's western border. It is critical to continue the 7 NC districts of separate representation that define the areas plus an at-large position. Currently half of the representatives of the districts are elected at each two-year election interval serving four year terms. This requires at least four ballots per election. The limiting of ballot types would cause a restructuring of the WHWCNC that would be detrimental to its stakeholders.

4. Instruct the Neighborhood Councils to set aside at least 20% of their yearly funding in election and selection years to notify stakeholders of candidates filing and of the election and to support any election day costs for location, refreshments, and volunteers. This funding would be in addition to the election outreach that will be conducted by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment if such funding is allocated.

- **The Woodland Hills- Warner Center Neighborhood Council does not support this portion, Item 4, of the motion.**

Justification- The allocation of Neighborhood Council Funds should be left to the Neighborhood Councils and not mandated by outside authorities and should only be limited by the current rules and regulations already in place. Election costs vary year to year based on selected election locations, advertising and refreshment costs, number of stakeholders running for board seats and the need for volunteers.

5. Instruct the Office of the City Administrative Officer to identify \$342,000 in funding for the following election outreach and expansion of the online voting platform this current year to begin as soon as possible:
 - a. \$150,000 for the continued build-out of online platform
 - b. \$90,000 for Printing and Binding
 - c. \$67,000 for As-Needed Staffing
 - d. \$35,000 for Office and Admin

- The Woodland Hills- Warner Center Neighborhood Council supports this portion, Item 5, of the motion.

Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council

President, Joyce Fletcher Date: 3 -14-2017



Vice President, Dennis DiBiase Date: 3-14-2017

