

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(14) Nay(0) Abstain(2) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 10/02/2018

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 10/15/2018

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 18-0467

Agenda Date: 10/02/2018

Item Number:

Summary: See attached CIS with bullet point recommendations.

**EAGLE ROCK  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**Executive Committee**

Lisa Kable Blanchard, President  
Becky Newman, Vice President  
Bridget Byrnes Hirsch, Treasurer  
Pat Niessen, Communications  
Matt Hemingway, Secretary  
David Greene, Immediate Past President

**CITY OF  
LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA**



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**COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

October 8, 2018

Health, Education, and Neighborhood Councils Committee  
Los Angeles City Council  
200 N. Spring St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Committee Members:

On October 2, 2018, a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held with a quorum of 16 board members present and that by a vote of 14 yes, 0 no, and 2 abstentions, the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council (ERNC) adopted the following Community Impact Statement concerning Council File 18-0467, Neighborhood Council System Reforms:

- **Bullet 1:** Regarding changing the name and branding for BONC, DONE, and EmpowerLA:
  - ERNC supports this change due to the confusion reported by the public and the perception of Neighborhood Council members, but stresses that the rebranding-related costs should be minimized as much as possible to taxpayers.
- **Bullet 2:** Regarding recommendations for removing Community Interest Stakeholder (erroneously “Community Impact Stakeholder” in the motion) and replacing it with more specific definitions:
  - ERNC does not support removing the term “Community Interest Stakeholder” but supports broader definitions beyond the current “live/work/own property” in the neighborhood council jurisdiction, such as parent/guardian of a student attending a school within the neighborhood council jurisdiction.
- **Bullet 3:** Regarding amending the City Charter, Article IX Section 901 .d and 904.f to remove selections as a method of filling NC board seats:
  - ERNC opposes this change and requests further clarification of the impact of removing selections as a method of filling board seats, particularly for dealing with resignations. For ERNC, having the board elect stakeholders to fill vacant seats has been a necessary step toward continuing to function as a board, and removing this selection process may negatively impact the board’s ability to deal with frequent resignations. We support stakeholders electing board members in standard elections under normal circumstances.
- **Bullet 4:** Regarding a one-time review of NC seat allocation to increase equity:
  - ERNC takes no position on this item and requests a specific definition of “equitably

allocated,” since this item is centered entirely around that definition.

- **Bullet 5:** Regarding a uniform minimum voting age:
  - ERNC supports this item and recommends a minimum voting age of 16, as long as parent/guardian consent is provided for minors under 18. A minimum voting age of 16 would facilitate early engagement of young people in the neighborhood council system and in civic participation generally, which ERNC views as very positive.
- **Bullet 6:** Regarding requiring planning and land use training for committee leadership dealing in those areas:
  - ERNC supports this item, as long as it is paid for and executed by DONE, and training should also be required to be available online for those who cannot attend in-person trainings due to other obligations.
- **Bullet 7:** Regarding rolling over \$10,000 of NC funds to the next year:
  - ERNC supports this item, as long as the dollar amount is changed to a percentage of the total budget - we recommend up to 25%, which will allow this amount to scale with any future budget changes.
- **Bullet 8:** Regarding allowing NCs to accept in-kind donations:
  - ERNC does not support this item without further definitions/parameters for avoiding potential ethical issues such as conflicts of interest and undue influence.
- **Bullet 9:** Regarding holding all NC elections on the same day:
  - ERNC supports this item, as long as vote by mail and online voting are made available so stakeholders in multiple NCs can easily vote in more than one election.
- **Bullet 10:** Regarding allowing NCs to access shared space in city facilities:
  - ERNC supports this item.
- **Bullet 11:** Regarding developing and sharing best practices between NCs:
  - ERNC supports this item, as long as best practices are available online and with language translation available upon request.
- **Bullet 12:** Develop point of contact lists for key city departments and agencies, share those lists with Neighborhood Councils, facilitate the training of those points of contact, and coordinate with Neighborhood Councils to formally appoint a point of contact at each NC to communicate between each NC and the point of contact at each department, thus creating a single line of communication:
  - ERNC does not support this item. ERNC is very concerned that designating a single point of contact for departments and agencies will result in communications challenges and a bottleneck if that point of contact is fielding requests from potentially dozens of neighborhood councils. Further, in the event of staff turnover/transfers/leaves, etc. in city departments and agencies, designating a single point of contact/communication would inevitably result in delayed response to urgent requests and inquiries.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important issue.

Respectfully,

The Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council

cc: Sean Starkey, Field Deputy, Office of Councilmember Jose Huizar  
Nicholas Greif, Chief of Staff, Councilmember David Ryu  
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), % [lorenzo.briceno@lacity.org](mailto:lorenzo.briceno@lacity.org)