

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.

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

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(9) Nay(1) Abstain(3) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 10/09/2018

Type of NC Board Action: For if Amended

Impact Information

Date: 12/20/2018

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 18-0467

Agenda Date: 10/9/2018

Item Number: 18-0467

Summary:

Pamela Thornton – Chairperson
Saira Cooper - Vice Chairperson
Rosalie Preston - Recording Secretary
Hannah Woods – Corres. Secretary
Joan Jacobs - Treasurer
Mark Lupfer - District 1 Rep.
Clyde Noguchi - District 2 Rep.
Reynaldo Paduani - District 3 Rep.
Betty Hawkins - District 4 Representative



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Llewyn Fowlkes - District 5 Rep.
Marvin Bell - District 6 Rep.
Janet Mitchell - District 7 Rep.
Larry J. Morrison - District 8 Rep.
Deborah Lee – Community Org. Rep.
Richard Lee - Youth Representative
Outreach Representative - vacant
Eva Cooper-Pace - At-Large Rep.

October 25, 2018

Councilmember David E. Ryu
Chair of the Health, Education, and Neighborhood Councils Committee
City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Council File 18-0467 (Neighborhood Council System Reform Recommendations)

Dear Councilmember Ryu:

On October 9, 2018, our Board voted 9-1-3 to take positions on the various Neighborhood Council System Reform Recommendations with our positions and suggested amendments as follows:

1. Amending City Charter Article IX to change the name of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment {DONE} to the Neighborhood Councils Department (NCD), the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) to the Neighborhood Councils Commission (NCC), and phasing out the use of the term/branding “EmpowerLA” due to the confusion reported by the public and the perception of Neighborhood Council members that DONE’s role should be primarily to support Neighborhood Councils, which the name Neighborhood Councils Department would better reflect. **Oppose**
2. Amending the Los Angeles Administrative Code to remove the “Community Interest Stakeholder,” which has caused substantial confusion and disputed elections and next steps for including specific additional definitions by ~~ordinance of eligible voters and Board members of Neighborhood Councils, such as student or parent/guardian of a student~~ Board members of Neighborhood Councils as is appropriate to that particular Neighborhood Council, only. **Support if amended; oppose if additional definitions by Ordinance of eligible voters**
3. Amending City Charter Article IX Section 901.d and 904.f to remove any reference to “selections” and clarify that Neighborhood Council Board members ~~will~~ shall be elected. Neighborhood Council “selection” processes are utilized by a limited and decreasing number of Councils and are not viewed by the public as being as democratic as elections as they do not provide for a secret ballot or equitable participation. **Support**
4. Creating a one-time review process, overseen by the Board of Neighborhood Commissions, to evaluate Neighborhood Council bylaws to determine if Board seats are equitably allocated amongst stakeholder types and provide formal suggestions to Neighborhood Councils on ways to adjust board seats as needed to increase equity. **Oppose**
5. Adopting regulations to provide a uniform minimum voting age and Board member age to allow consistent participation across the City and what that age should be. **Support**

6. Developing and adopting a planning and land use training required for all Chairs and Vice Chairs of Neighborhood Council planning and land use committees. **Support**

7. A process for Neighborhood Councils to be able to roll-over a non-cumulative maximum of \$10,000 in any given fiscal year. **Support**

8. Removing Section 5.485.h of Chapter 88 of Division 5 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (Ordinance 179545; see Council File 03-1260) and recommendations for other amendments to that Chapter, in order to remove the expiration of the ability for Neighborhood Councils to accept in-kind or monetary donations, with a required report of all in-kind and monetary donations via the Monthly Expenditure Report. **Support if amended**

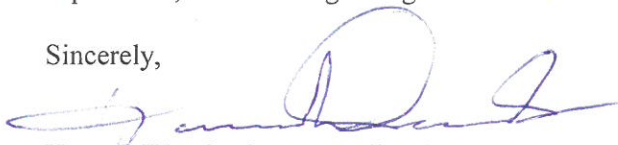
9. Recommendations and next steps on the costs and other implications of holding all Neighborhood Council elections on the same day in order to provide for a uniform citywide advertising and outreach campaign. **Support**

10. Develop a process, with the assistance of GSD and the City Clerk, to assist Neighborhood Councils with accessing shared space in City facilities, as envisioned in Council File 16-0298. **Support**

11. Develop an ongoing compendium of best practices generated from Neighborhood Councils and share those on a periodic basis with all Neighborhood Councils and include “how-to-guides” for accomplishing those best practices. **Support**

12. Develop point of contact lists for key city department and agencies, including DCP, DOT, Public Works’ Bureaus, Aging, Disability, HCID, DCA, LADWP, Port, Airport, Cannabis Regulation, EMD, Animal Services, LAPD, LAFD, Recreation and Parks, Zoo, Finance, Library, Economic and Workforce Development and BIDS, with assistance from those listed departments and agencies, and share those lists with Neighborhood Councils, facilitate the training of those points of contact at those relevant departments on the most fruitful ways to assist and communicate with Neighborhood Council members, and coordinate with Neighborhood Councils to formally appoint a point of contact at each Neighborhood Council to communicate between each Neighborhood Council and the point of contact at each department, thus creating a single line of communication. **Support**

Sincerely,



Hannah Woods, Corresponding Secretary
Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council

cc: Councilmember Joe Buscaino
Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
City Attorney’s Office – Neighborhood Council Advice Division
City Clerk’s Neighborhood Council Funding Program
City Clerk’s Elections Division
John Jones III, Field Deputy – Council District 15
Arely Garcia, Constituent Services – Council District 15
Albizael Del Valle, Deputy District Director – Council District 8