

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: Wilmington Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(8) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(3) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 05/26/2020

Type of NC Board Action: Against

#### Impact Information

Date: 06/06/2020

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-0600

Agenda Date: 05/26/2020

Item Number: 7.h

Summary: The Wilmington Neighborhood Council held a meeting and took official action to approve submitting a community impact statement for the Mayor's budget cut for all Neighborhood Councils in LA. We cannot agree with this. Neighborhood Councils are an integral part of the City of Los Angeles. We are a valuable resource to the larger City of LA and City Council. Wilmington is 22 miles away from City Hall therefore, our NC is more accessible and can interact with our resident which allow us to respond quickly in the event of an emergency. With our city in so many pending crisis one right after another, there is no reason to cut your hand and fall short on the NC budget. We oppose it. We are your first responders and an extension of City Hall. Please see the attached letter/CIS from our full board. Thank you



## WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

544 N. Avalon Boulevard, Suite 103, Wilmington,  
California 90744 (310) 522-2013 [wilmingtonNC@empowerLA.org](mailto:wilmingtonNC@empowerLA.org)  
Website: [Wilmingtonneighborhoodcouncil.com](http://Wilmingtonneighborhoodcouncil.com)

*LA's 1<sup>st</sup> Certified Neighborhood Council*



Valerie Contreras, Chair  
Carlos Sanchez, Co-Chair  
Santiago Sedillo, Secretary  
Gina Martinez, Treasurer  
Barbara Zepeda, Parliamentarian

Los Angeles City Council  
Mayor Eric Garcetti  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, Ca 90012

May 26, 2020

Reference: CF 20-0600

Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council

The Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) is the first Certified Neighborhood Council in Los Angeles. Since inception our council has been dedicated advocates, for maintaining the funding for Neighborhood Councils' at the initial budget amount of \$50,000 annually, and now at \$42,000.

Neighborhood Councils advocate on issues such as emergency preparedness, housing, land use, homelessness, environmental concerns, public works, parks, transportation, and Port related projects.

Our NC has provided local expertise and a local voice on the delivery of City services to our underprivileged & underserved community. Neighborhood Councils are an integral part of Los Angeles. We have offered extensive assistance and current updates to our stakeholders before COVID 19 and will continue to do so during and after the current global crisis.

The WNC was certified in 2001 and for the past 18 years we have existed to promote participation by all members of the community and advise government agencies to improve the quality of life for all in Wilmington. We engage all stakeholders to collaborate and deliberate. We are the primary forum for discussion of community issues. We advocate for Wilmington at all levels of government and the private sector. We remain non-partisan and unaffiliated with any political party or candidate. We implement fair, ethical and open procedures. We strive to promote civic engagement and work to improve government responsiveness to local needs.

Neighborhood Councils are a valuable resource for LA City Council and the Mayor, because we are more accessible and can interact with our residents which allows us to respond more quickly to their needs

than the larger City Council. We are 22 miles from City Hall and we can reach our constituents in a moment's notice. In the event of an emergency we are here. Each community needs are different and unique.

While we are unpaid, we are elected official by our stakeholders and are appointed representatives who require consistent funding in order to fulfill our city mandated charter to serve our stakeholders. We understand that this Corona Virus pandemic has affected all of us and has been a challenging financial situation, but the value of Neighborhood Councils remains the same or even greater during these unforeseen circumstances. We therefore have obligation to the Angelenos of our community of Wilmington to help see them through.

Our Port generates billions of dollars and the City of LA is a part of the economic wealth of our world class port. Los Angeles is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest City in the wealthiest Nation. We therefore humbly request to continue to be funded our annual \$42,000.00 and the roll- over amount of \$10,000.00.

We request that the budget recommendations of our NC Budget Advocates' 2020 White Paper be accepted by City Council and the Mayor. We oppose the purposed budget cut to \$32,000.

Wilmington community members and those that live in the neighborhood, continue to feel overburdened by industry without enough services in return from the Los Angeles city government and the Port of Los Angeles.

Industrial commerce, in the name of economic development for the city and beyond, directly leads to our crumbling roads and streets, port truck traffic, noise, air, trash, trains, water and land pollution. This community is a coastal community with contaminated ocean waters, no safe beach access or community coastal access. No views due to the increased Port growth, unsightly container storage yard, and port cranes. Our underprivileged community is in great need of basic resources.

These issues intersect with our daily lives and causes unfair burdens. It all makes for a more dangerous and unsafe community. Our community members must pay for sidewalk repairs out of pocket and long the term effects of no city services. While home values decrease, rents increase, jobs decrease and our community continues to fall short compared to other communities within Los Angeles.

We thank the Mayor for his initial proposed budget, and departments for doing your part to ensure our community has what it needs to be safe, well- run, livable, sustainable and with a government that puts community first.

We request that the budget recommendations of our NC Budget Advocates' 2020 White Paper be accepted by City Council and the Mayor. We oppose the purposed budget cut to \$32,000.

Sincerely,

*Valerie Contreras*

Valerie Contreras, Chair

On behalf of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council

