

**HEALTH, EDUCATION,
NEIGHBORHOODS,
PARKS, ARTS, AND RIVER**

Motion

Due to public health orders during the COVID-19 pandemic that prohibit public gatherings, the Westside Neighborhood Council (WNC) may be unable to hold its spring 2021 in-person election. While most neighborhood councils in the City of Los Angeles are able to and have opted to do mail-in ballots this year, the WNC is one of three neighborhood councils that don't utilize a traditional process for their elections.

WNC bylaws state that their selection election is to be a town hall meeting, and the voting is to be done in-person by the raising of hands. If WNC proceeded with a mail-in election, they would be in violation of their bylaws. Simultaneously, WNC cannot amend their bylaws at this time, as the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment will not accept bylaw changes until summer 2021.

On November 30, 2020, the WNC held a special meeting. They discussed their selection election options and unanimously passed the following motion:

“The WNC supports Councilman Paul Koretz presenting a motion to LA City Council to extend our elected term of service and delay our selection town hall until it is safe to have in-person meetings in the County of Los Angeles, or no later than March, 2022.”

Although a vaccine is anticipated to be available in the few months, we do not know exactly when Angelenos will be able to safely hold large meetings.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, the City Attorney, and any other relevant department recognize an extended elected term of service for current Westside Neighborhood Council (WNC) board members, and that their in-person selection town hall be delayed until it is safe to do so in Los Angeles, no later than March, 2022.

PRESENTED BY: _____
PAUL KORETZ, 5th District (verbal)

SECONDED BY: _____
BOB BLUMENFIELD (verbal)
Councilmember, 3rd District