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: Reseda Neighborhood Council
Name: Jamie York
Phone Number:
Email: JamieY@resedacouncil.org
The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(11) Nay(0) Abstain(1) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)
Date of NC Board Action: 11/15/2021
Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information
Date: 11/17/2021
Update to a Previous Input: No
Directed To: City Council and Committees
Council File Number: 21-1255
Agenda Date: 11/15/2021
Item Number: IX. E.
Summary: The Reseda Neighborhood Council voted to support this motion. We also have suggestions regarding how this motion could be used to improve the neighborhood council system as well. Our full statement is attached.

Reseda Neighborhood Council

DJ FRANK	**THOMAS BOOTH**
PRESIDENT	**SHARON BREWER**
MAYA WHITECLOUD	**KARLA ESCOBAR**
VICE-PRESIDENT	**REEMA HAQUE**
JAMIE YORK	**JENNIFER HUNT GUDERNATCH**
SECRETARY	**MAYA HWANG**
ANGELA SABORIO	**GUILLERMO MORALES-**
TREASURER	**VITOLA**
MICHELLE GALLAGHER	**ANAT INDIG-PEDDICORD**
PARLIAMENTARIAN	**JOE PHILLIPS**
VICTOR SABORIO	**MARIA SKELTON**
SERGEANT-AT ARMS	

CIS: [21-1255](#)

RNC Position: The Reseda Neighborhood Council is FOR this motion.

General Position

The Reseda Neighborhood Council applauds this sweeping motion to bring the Los Angeles information technology infrastructure and services into the 21st century. By centralizing web and mobile services across departments, increasing online services, revolutionizing usability, city residents will finally be able to access information and access services in an intuitive, modern way. Further, the financial and time investments made now will reap the benefits inherent to streamlining and modernization, as well as the benefits of increased transparency and communication between citizenry and city.

Suggested Amendments

Include Neighborhood Councils In This Proposal

As part of the plan calls for bringing all departments and commissions under one digital umbrella, we urge the council to consider including the individual neighborhood councils in this plan. As you know, individual neighborhood councils currently pay for web and other digital services on a per council basis, thus greatly increasing cost both financially and in terms of training requirements. If independence of content is maintained, folding the NCs into this plan would decrease the financial burden of website and email upkeep and maintenance. Importantly, it would also increase the visibility of individual NCs and, potentially, resident participation at the NC level.

Provide More Guidance And A Stricter Timeline For Departmental Input

We are very excited about the coming changes. We only wish they could happen more expeditiously. Currently, once this motion is adopted, the Information Technology Agency, according to the current language, has 120 days to coordinate with departments regarding ideas and report back. We recommend a

stepwise approach. The Information Technology Agency should prepare guidelines regarding how departments should provide input and necessary information, thus optimizing the quality of input received. Individual departments should then report back in 60 days to the Information Technology Agency. This will give the Information Technology Agency additional time to process departmental ideas and recommendations, synthesizing them into the report.

Implement .Pdfs For City Agendas

We understand the desire to move completely away from .pdfs. However, in certain use cases .pdfs (particularly those generated on the fly) can be a preferred solution. Currently, when you subscribe to an agenda for the city, you receive a series of links. However, dynamically generating a .pdf is more universally printer friendly than following the links. In general, the new proposal to eliminate .pdfs should be evaluated in the context of users' need to print documents for their own records. Where appropriate, .pdfs generated on the fly from web forms could be a solution.

Improve Searchability Of Council Files By Listing All Districts And NCs Affected

As a Neighborhood Council, it is important to be able to easily find Council Files that affect the district(s) within which the NC is situated. Currently, not all affected districts are searchable for every council file. The new system should solve this issue. Similarly, in addition to tagged city council districts, council files should be tagged with affected NC areas. So, if a new housing project within both district 3 and Reseda Neighborhood Council Boundaries is proposed, that file should be tagged with both "District 3" and "Reseda Neighborhood Council".

Grandfather Alerts When A Council File Is Split Into Supplemental Files

When an individual subscribes to alerts on a council file, but that file is subsequently split into supplemental files, the individual does not receive alerts on those supplemental files without resubscribing. This should be fixed in the new system.

Implement An App Alert System For Council Files

While the entire system is being overhauled, modernizing the alert system by adding app alert functionality for council files either to LA311 or a new app, would make it easier for users to remain updated on current council files. Youth stakeholders have moved increasingly away from email so this would encourage more youth participation.

The Department Of Neighborhood Empowerment Should Post All Q&As With NC Officials

While we are discussing the overhaul of all city digital resources and services, the Reseda Neighborhood Council would like to highlight an opportunity to reduce duplication of work at the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. With so many Neighborhood Council Members and such a high turnover rate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment Representatives end up answering the same questions over and over again. When there are slight differences in responses, this creates confusion in addition to the duplication of work. This could be solved by posting all Q&As online, thereby developing a transparent bank of official answers to which NC officials can be pointed.

CPRAs – Allow Neighborhood Councils to Use Whatever Becomes the New Tracking System
Neighborhood Council Representatives are fully volunteer. Thus, it behooves the city to add any tool possible to the NC arsenal to facilitate city compliance with CPRA requests. As a tracking system is standard for any public records request architecture and currently exists for every department, it makes sense from a liability point of view to give volunteer elected officials access to the new system.

CPRA Please Put The Substantive Responding Documents Online
CPRA duplication (multiple requests for the same or similar information) can sometimes be a burden, particularly for volunteer elected officials, who do not have access to a tracking system. This burden can be decreased by posting responses under 100 pages online for anyone in the public to examine.

Ideas Applicable If NCs Are Not Completely Folded Into The New Plan
We do have a couple of suggestions as to what might be helpful even if NCs are not folded into this plan.

> Make NC CIS's easily identifiable and searchable on the city website. Currently, both NCs and the city posts CIS's online, however, it can be difficult to see e.g. all CIS's from one NC in one place with the date stamp. There is indeed a website dedicated to making it easy to see what the city and various NCs are doing – http://www.kegel.com/los-angeles/cis/. The new city information technology infrastructure should make this obsolete.
> Similarly, recordings of NC meetings, could be automatically updated when available, and displayed in an appropriate place in the new website hierarchy.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to seeing the results of this motion.
Sincerely,
Reseda Neighborhood Council