

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: West Los Angeles Neighborhood Council

Name: Jay Ross

Phone Number: 310 979 9-255

Email: jayr@westlasawtelle.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(12) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(2) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 10/26/2022

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 11/04/2022

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 22-0560

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Board of Directors voted 12-0-0, to support CF22-0560, which includes revisions the Municipal Lobbying Ordinance to require that lobbyists affirmatively disclose during testimony to NCs that they are being paid to advocate, and other minor revisions. NC requests a similar lobbying disclosure for City Council and its committee meetings. This announcement could be done by the lobbyist or by the presiding officer to ensure that the public is fully aware of the associations of speakers who are paid lobbyists. a. Findings and justifications: NC members frequently listen to City Council meetings and this would notice them about paid lobbyists. Lobbyists sometimes claim to be voluntary (unpaid) members of “grass roots” community groups, when they are actually paid lobbyists for groups that corporate interests establish to appear to represent regular citizens (“astro turf” groups). 2. Amendment #2: NC requests the City Council reduce the non-profit exemption of \$200,000 in revenue or \$500,000 in assets instead of the proposed \$2,000,000. a. Findings and justification: This reduction aligns with the IRS tax filing system and would allow the majority of non-profits that file a 990-N or 990-EZ to gain exemption. This standard is similar to San Francisco ethics ordinance. The current recommendation of \$2,000,000 in revenue is very high and would exempt the vast majority of non-profits in Southern California (only 16% non-profits have revenues higher than \$1,000,000), so the majority of non-profits would be exempt and the public would not know if they are paid advocates.

WLASNC Board FY 2022-2023

Jamie Keeton - Chair/ Organizational Rep.
Ron Migdal - Vice Chair/ At Large Rep.
Jay Handal - Treasurer/ Business Rep.
Jay Ross- Secretary/ Organizational Rep.

Walton Chiu- North West Rep.
David Sanchez - North East Rep.
Arman Ghorbani - South East Rep.
Galen Pindell - South West Rep.
Monica Mejia-Lambert - At Large Rep.
Ehsan Zahedani - At Large Rep.
Alexandra Polin - At Large Rep.
Teri Temme - At Large Rep.
Pierre Tecon - At Large Rep.
Danilo Torro - Business Rep.
Adriane Ransom - Business Rep.



West Los Angeles Sawtelle N.C.
1645 Corinth Ave.
Los Angeles Calif. 90025
(310) 235-2070

Chair - Jamie Keeton
Jamie@WestLASawtelle.org

Website:
www.WestLASawtelle.org

City Council
Mayor Eric Garcetti

**Re: Resolution - Support for CF22-0560 (lobbyist testimony / disclosure of payments)
Amendment of Aug. 24 resolution**

To the City,

At the Oct. 26 2022, meeting of the West Los Angeles Sawtelle N.C., the Board of Directors voted 12-0-0, to support for CF22-0560, which includes revisions the Municipal Lobbying Ordinance to require that lobbyists affirmatively disclose during testimony to NCs that they are being paid to advocate, and other minor revisions, and authorize the Chair to submit Community Impact Statements in the future.

1. Amendment #1: NC requests a similar lobbying disclosure for City Council and its committee meetings. This announcement could be done by the lobbyist or by the presiding officer to ensure that the public is fully aware of the associations of speakers who are paid lobbyists.
 - a. Findings and justifications: NC members frequently listen to City Council meetings and this would notice them about paid lobbyists. Lobbyists sometimes claim to be voluntary (unpaid) members of “grass roots” community groups, when they are actually paid lobbyists for groups that corporate interests establish to appear to represent regular citizens (“astro turf” groups).
2. Amendment #2: NC requests the City Council reduce the non-profit exemption of \$200,000 in revenue or \$500,000 in assets instead of the proposed \$2,000,000.
 - a. Findings and justification: This reduction aligns with the IRS tax filing system and would allow the majority of non-profits that file a 990-N or 990-EZ to gain exemption. This standard is similar to [San Francisco ethics ordinance](#). The current recommendation of \$2,000,000 in revenue is very high and would exempt the vast majority of non-profits in Southern California (only 16% non-profits have revenues higher than \$1,000,000), so the majority of non-profits would be exempt and the public would not know if they are paid advocates.

Ex parte communications: None disclosed by any committee members.

Disclosures and conflicts of interest: None disclosed by any committee members.

To government agencies: Only the Chair and designated Boardmembers may testify to public agencies on behalf of the West L.A. Sawtelle NC. The Board requests that the Council Office and private/non-profit entities do not testify or speculate on behalf of the NC.

/s/ Jamie L. Keeton

Jamie L. Keeton, Chair WLASNC

cc: Noah Fleishman, Council District #11