

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

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

Date of NC Board Action: 10/17/2022

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 10/17/2022

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 22-1192

Agenda Date: 10/17/2022

Item Number: X. D.

Summary: The Reseda Neighborhood Council supports the appointment of a new Council President. It is clear the Council needs new uncompromised leadership in the interim before the next Council is seated in December. However, the Reseda Neighborhood Council does have concerns over those we have seen proffering themselves for the position of Council President. We wish to speak to those concerns given the great need for leadership in this urgent moment. We oppose the nomination of Curren Price for interim Council President. We support the nomination of Paul Krekorian for interim Council President. Please see attached document for our full statement. .



Reseda Neighborhood Council

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MARIA SKELTON
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[Council File 22-1192](#)

(Removed from Office / Select New Council President / Vacant)

[Council File 22-1193](#)

(Replacement / Elect New Council President / Resigned from Office)

The Reseda Neighborhood Council supports the appointment of a new Council President. It is clear the Council needs new uncompromised leadership in the interim before the next Council is seated in December. However, the Reseda Neighborhood Council does have concerns over those we have seen proffering themselves for the position of Council President. We wish to speak to those concerns given the great need for leadership in this urgent moment.

The Reseda Neighborhood Council opposes the appointment of Curren Price for interim President. Mr. Price has frequently voted in decisions where he should have recused himself due to significant economic interests regarding his wife's employment. As [reported in the LA Times](#), "Price voted on decisions involving at least 10 companies in the same years they were listed as providing at least \$10,000 in income to Del Richardson & Associates, according to his annual financial disclosures and council records reviewed by The Times." Despite the reporting by the Times, Mr. Price has continued a pattern of failing to follow proper recusal procedure for items where he has a conflict. In addition, as the role of the Council President is to create the agenda, we worry about the ability of Mr. Price to perform this essential function. At this moment, we feel it is imperative to elect an interim President who follows ethics rules meticulously.

In addition, "Price ha[d] been under additional scrutiny after he was named among more than a

dozen people on a federal warrant seeking evidence of possible crimes including bribery and money laundering” which eventually ended in the arrest of Councilmember Jose Huizar, according to reporting in the LA Times. Lastly, Price encouraged the development of The Reef and the three blinding billboards visible from the 10 freeway on top of the building. We have written extensively about our concerns for driver distraction and the high injury network and oppose digital billboards of that size. Thus reading that after CM Price encouraged his fellow councilmembers to vote in favor of the project, significant funds to support his reelection by that developer came as an independent expenditure, it raises questions that the Council cannot afford to grapple with at this precarious time. We cannot afford even a whiff of unethical behavior at this fraught time in Los Angeles’ history when it is clear that an understanding of the basic ethics rules and the procedures is paramount to navigating successful reforms such as independent redistricting, council expansion, the municipal lobbying ordinance, charter reforms and others.

While we agree with the sentiment that Mike Bonin is certainly a poetically just choice for Council President, it has been expressed that Mr. Bonin is not interested in the position due to the significant effect these damning revelations have had on his family. Therefore, we turn to other possible choices. During redistricting, only two council districts, 2 and 4, faced significant unwanted changes to their electorate and shared a similar uncertainty regarding their ultimate disposition until the final days of map drawing. This leads us to believe that the two councilmembers representing those districts were likely not involved in the clear manipulation of the redistricting process. We therefore would feel comfortable with the nomination of Paul Krekorian or Nithya Raman for the Council Presidency.

However, given the seniority and experience of Councilmember Krekorian, the fact that he is in his last term of office, the advocacy of his redistricting Commissioner Denis Cagna on behalf of the 4/2 district, and that he is spoken of very highly by fellow neighborhood council members in District 2, we believe Paul Krekorian would be most likely to serve well and honorably as interim Council President during this difficult period in Los Angeles’ history. Mr. Krekorian has also called attention, before the new scandal at City Hall, to the urgent need for Charter reform. We recommend the appointment of Paul Krekorian as Council President for this interim period.

Sincerely,

Reseda Neighborhood Council