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## Community Impact Statement - Submission Details

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LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>  
Reply-To: LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>  
To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org

Wed, Aug 2, 2023 at 11:18 PM

A Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement (CIS) has been successfully submitted to your Commission or City Council. We provided information below about CISs and attached a copy of the CIS.

We encourage you to reach out to the Community Impact Statement Filer to acknowledge receipt and if this Community Impact Statement will be scheduled at a future meeting. Neighborhood Council board members are volunteers and it would be helpful if they received confirmation that you received their CIS.

The CIS process was enable by the to Los Angeles Administrative Code §Section 22.819. It provides that, "a Neighborhood Council may take a formal position on a matter by way of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) or written resolution." NCs representatives also testify before City Boards and Commissions on the item related to their CIS. If the Neighborhood Council chooses to do so, the Neighborhood Council representative must provide the Commission with a copy of the CIS or rResolution sufficiently in advance for review, possible inclusion on the agenda, and posting on the Commission's website.Any information you can provide related to your agenda setting schedule is helpful to share with the NC.

If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *listed on the Commission's agenda*, during the time the matter is heard, the designated Neighborhood Council representative should be given an opportunity to present the Neighborhood Council's formal position. We encourage becoming familiar with the City Councils rules on the subject. At the Chair's discretion, the Neighborhood Council representative may be asked to have a seat at the table (or equivalent for a virtual meeting) typically reserved for City staff and may provide the Neighborhood Council representative more time than allotted to members of the general public. They are also permitted up to five (5) minutes of time to address the legislative body. If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *not listed on the agenda*, the designated Neighborhood Council representative may speak during General Public Comments.

We share this information to assist you with the docketing neighborhood council items before your board/commission. If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [empowerla@lacity.org](mailto:empowerla@lacity.org).

\*\*\*\*\* This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. \*\*\*\*\*

### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: North Westwood

Name: Jacob Wasserman

Email: [jacobnwwnc@gmail.com](mailto:jacobnwwnc@gmail.com)

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(13) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 08/02/2023

Type of NC Board Action: For if Amended

### Impact Information

Date: 08/03/2023

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 22-1232

Agenda Date:


Item Number:

Summary: The North Westwood Neighborhood Council supports the recommended changes to the charter if amended. An update to our city's Ethics Commission rules is long overdue. However, the recommendations fail to fully enhance the independence of the commission. They deserve a full and fair hearing in committee with robust discussion. We recommend the following amendments: Independent Appointment: A truly independent Ethics Commission requires ending the involvement of elected officials in the appointment process. The incumbent commissioners should be responsible for accepting and vetting applications through a public process, like the Oakland and Long Beach Ethics Commissions. Eligibility Requirements: The commission proposes adding restrictions excluding any bidder, contractor, or developer and anyone with a direct financial interest in work of the city from service on the commission. We also

recommend excluding anyone who is a recent candidate for city office, former city elected officials, and anyone who has donated or raised above a certain threshold for local candidates. Higher Threshold for Removal: We recommend requiring a two-thirds vote for all removal proceedings of commissioners. Increased Maximum Penalty: We recommend adopting Chicago's maximum penalty of \$20,000 per violation. Higher Minimum Budget: The commission recommends their budget be set at \$4.5 million and tied to CPI. While this would protect against retaliation or defunding during a financial crunch, this essentially freezes the status quo into the charter. A minimum budget in the range of \$7 to 10 million would give the commission the resources needed for its mandate. These reforms and the others proposed would ensure the commission is sufficiently independent to be entrusted with the expanded power offered.

Ref:MSG8767460

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 **CIS\_CF 22-1232\_NWWNC.pdf**  
143K



- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -

Council File: [22-1232](#)

Title: Charter Reform / Ethics Commission / Powers and Responsibilities / Ballot Measure

Position: Support if Amended

Ethics Commission: [Recommended Changes to Article VII of the City Charter](#)

Position: Support if Amended

Summary:

The North Westwood Neighborhood Council supports the recommended changes to the charter if amended. An update to our city's Ethics Commission rules is long overdue. However, the recommendations fail to fully enhance the independence of the commission. They deserve a full and fair hearing in committee with robust discussion.

We recommend the following amendments:

*Independent Appointment:* A truly independent Ethics Commission requires ending the involvement of elected officials in the appointment process. The incumbent commissioners should be responsible for accepting and vetting applications through a public process, like the Oakland and Long Beach Ethics Commissions.

*Eligibility Requirements:* The commission proposes adding restrictions excluding any bidder, contractor, or developer and anyone with a direct financial interest in work of the city from service on the commission. We also recommend excluding anyone who is a recent candidate for city office, former city elected officials, and anyone who has donated or raised above a certain threshold for local candidates.

*Higher Threshold for Removal:* We recommend requiring a two-thirds vote for all removal proceedings of commissioners.

*Increased Maximum Penalty:* We recommend adopting Chicago's maximum penalty of \$20,000 per violation.

*Higher Minimum Budget:* The commission recommends their budget be set at \$4.5 million and tied to CPI. While this would protect against retaliation or defunding during a financial crunch, this essentially freezes the status quo into the charter. A minimum budget in the range of \$7 to 10 million would give the commission the resources needed for its mandate.

These reforms and the others proposed would ensure the commission is sufficiently independent to be entrusted with the expanded power offered.