

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

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CLAUDIA M. DUNN  
Chief, Council and Public Services Division

05-0894

March 16, 2006

Honorable Antonio Villaraigosa, Mayor  
City Administrative Officer  
Chief Legislative Analyst  
City Attorney  
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Controller, Room 300  
Accounting Division, F&A  
Disbursement Division

RE: STAFFING, COSTS AND TIME LINE FOR APPOINTING A COMMISSION TO EVALUATE  
THE SYSTEM OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 912 OF THE  
CITY CHARTER

At the meeting of the Council held March 10, 2006, the following action was  
taken:

Attached report adopted.....	<u>          X          </u>
Attached motion ( - ) adopted.....	<u>                          </u>
Attached resolution adopted.....	<u>                          </u>
Motion adopted to approve attached report.....	<u>                          </u>
Motion adopted to approve committee report recommendation(s)...	<u>                          </u>
FORTHWITH.....	<u>          X          </u>
Findings adopted.....	<u>                          </u>
Negative Declaration adopted.....	<u>                          </u>
Categorical exemption approved.....	<u>                          </u>
Generally exempt.....	<u>                          </u>

*Frank T. Martinez*

City Clerk  
SOS



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TO THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Your EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS Committee

reports as follows:

Public Comments: Yes No  
XX —

EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to staffing, costs and time line for appointing a Commission to evaluate the system of Neighborhood Councils, pursuant to Section 912 of the City Charter.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. APPROVE that \$500,000 be included in the 2006-07 Unappropriated Balance for expenses related to the establishment of the Commission to review the system of Neighborhood Councils pursuant to Section 912 of the City Charter.
2. APPROVE the Neighborhood Council Review Commission Proposed Time Line (attached to the council file) for consideration and adoption of an ordinance prescribing the method for appointing a commission to evaluate the system of Neighborhood Councils.
3. DIRECT the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to: 1) report back with a list of staff members that will be attending Neighborhood Council meetings to inform and solicit the participation of the Neighborhood Councils in the drafting of the ordinance prescribing the method for appointing a commission to evaluate the system of Neighborhood Councils, including the dates attended and names of the Neighborhood Councils visited, and 2) provide feedback from the staff members that attend the Neighborhood Council meetings for the above described purpose with comments and responses from the Neighborhood Councils.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Administrative Officer reports that the recommended action would require a \$500,000 General Fund appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Unappropriated Balance. Future year General Fund costs would be incurred if the commission took more than one year to complete its review. Considering this recommendation as part of the 2006-07 budget process is consistent with the Financial Policies.

Community Impact Statement: The Glassell Park Neighborhood Council supports council file 05-0894 on the establishment of a Neighborhood Council Review Commission. In compliance with Charter section 912, this Commission should review and evaluate the Citywide System of NC's and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to ensure the efficacy of the system and its provisions therein. We also support that individual NC's be afforded the opportunity for input throughout the process and that the Commission not be limited or restricted on the issues it reviews.

Summary:

At its regular meeting held on February 28, 2006, the Education and Neighborhoods Committee considered a report from the City Administrative Officer (CAO) relative to potential staffing and costs for the commission to evaluate the system of Neighborhood Councils, pursuant to City Charter Section 912 (912 Commission). The CAO reports that a review of the five most recent commissions with similar scope and authority to the 912 Commission was completed. The five commissions reviewed were: the President's Joint Commission on Los Angeles Unified School

District Governance, the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education Redistricting Commission, the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission, the Elected Charter Reform Commission, and the Appointed Charter Reform Commission. The CAO reports that these five commissions hired contract staff for the majority of their analysis, outreach, and support. In addition, the primary source of funding for the five commissions was the General Fund. As the 912 Commissions work will be temporary and intermittent like that of the five commissions reviewed, the CAO reports that it would appropriate for the 912 Commission to also hire contract staff and be funded through the General Fund as well.

The Committee also considered a Neighborhood Council Review Commission Proposed Time Line for consideration and adoption of an ordinance prescribing the method for appointing a commission to evaluate the system of Neighborhood Councils. According to the Time Line, sections of the ordinance regarding the title of the commission, meeting requirements, scope of review, submission of the commissions initial and final reports with recommendations, and the appointment process will be finalized by the Education and Neighborhoods Committee at its meetings held on March 24, March 28 and April 11, 2006. The Time Line also sets April 11, 2006 for the final approval of the ordinance by the Education and Neighborhoods Committee, potentially April 21, 2006 for approval of the ordinance by Council, and June 23, 2006 for appointments to be made to the Commission. It was expressed by the Committee members that the Time Line was necessary in order to accomplish the following: 1) to inform the Neighborhoods Councils and interested public of the dates on which the Committee would be considering and finalizing the ordinance, 2) to fully inform and involve the Neighborhood Councils in this process and to solicit their input, and 3) to provide needed structure to ensure the approval of the ordinance and the subsequent appointment of the commission by the Charter-mandated deadline of June 24, 2006.

After some discussion of this item, the Committee recommended to approve the CAO report and the Neighborhood Council Review Commission Proposed Time Line. The Committee also recommended that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment be directed to: 1) report back with a list of staff members that will be attending Neighborhood Council meetings to inform and solicit the participation of the Neighborhood Councils in the drafting of the ordinance, including the dates attended and names of the Neighborhood Councils visited, and 2) provide feedback from the staff members that attend the Neighborhood Council meetings for the above described purpose with comments and responses from the Neighborhood Councils. This matter is now forwarded to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

EDUCATION AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

  


<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
PADILLA	YES
HAHN	YES
HUIZAR	YES

PYL  
3/2/06  
#050894.wpd

REPORT  
**ADOPTED**

MAR 10 2006

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

*Forthwith*

**Neighborhood Council Review Commission  
Timeline**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Latest Date</b>
<b>E&amp;N Cmte Mtg</b> <i>Committee to discuss and make selections relative to proposed draft timeline; recommend approval of the CAO report relative to funding for the commission.</i>	<b>Feb. 28, 2006</b>
<b>E&amp;N Cmte Mtg</b> <i>Committee to (1) select a title for the commission; (2) finalize its meeting requirements; and (3) discussion of commission's scope of work/review</i>	<b>March 24, 2006</b>
<b>E&amp;N Cmte Mtg</b> <i>Committee to (1) discuss details relative to the commission's submission of its initial and final reports with recommendations; and (2) discuss the appointment process and commission composition</i>	<b>March 28, 2006</b>
<b>E&amp;N Cmte Mtg</b> <i>Committee to (1) finalize details relative to the commission's submission of its initial and final reports with recommendations; and (2) finalize the appointment process and commission composition</i>	<b>April 5, 2006</b>
<b>Approved by E&amp;N Committee</b> <i>Committee to (1) finalize all aspects of the charter-mandated 912 Commission and move the entire matter to City Council.</i>	<b>April 11, 2006</b>
<b>Vote/Approval by City Council</b> <i>(allow for first and second read)</i>	<b>April 21, 2006</b> April 28
<b>Ord Signed by Mayor</b>	<b>April 25/26, 2006</b> May 1 or 2

MAR 10 2006

Proposed Timeline  
Continued, Page 2

**Ord Publication Date**  
*(must be published in local newspaper for 1 day)*

**April 27, 2006**  
*May 3*

**Ord Effective Date**  
*(31 days after publication)*

**May 29, 2006**  
*June 2*

**Appointments to the Commission**

**June 23, 2006**