



Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



April 3, 2006

TO: Members of the L.A. City Council's EDUCATION & NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE
- Alex Padilla (CD) – Chairperson
- Janice Hahn (CD 15) – Vice Chairperson
- Jose Huizar (CD 14) – Member

FROM: VAN NUYS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

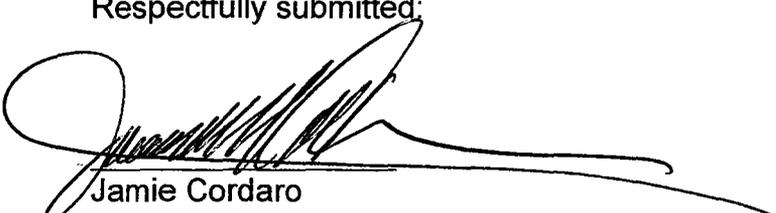
Honorable Councilmembers:

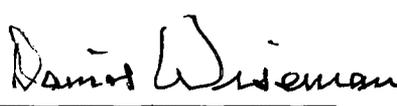
The VAN NUYS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (VNNC) Board of Directors held a Special Meeting on this date and is pleased to present our observations and recommendations to L.A. City Council's Education & Neighborhoods Committee, to the L.A. City Council and to the Mayor of Los Angeles regarding the **COMPOSITION and ACTIVITIES of the "912 COMMISSION" which will evaluate the L.A. CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL "system."**

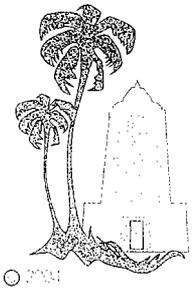
This Community Impact Statement and its attachment present specific suggestions for the **Charter-required Review of the Neighborhood Council "system,"** (see Charter Article IX, Section 912).

We hope you will give this submission your most serious consideration.

Respectfully submitted:


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COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Contact Information:

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Impact Information:

Date: 04/03/2006

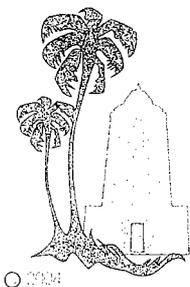
Directed To: City Council and its E&N Committee

On 04/03/2006, VNNC met and voted (unanimously) to submit the following:

To assure the permanence and progress of our NCs, VNNC recommends that the **PRIMARY PURPOSE** of the “**912 COMMISSION**” is **TO IMPROVE OUR L.A. City NC “system.”**

The Commission should:

- 1. Be composed of 24 Members**
 - 2 appointed by the Mayor,
 - 1 appointed by each of the 15 City Council Members and
 - 1 NC Activist/Representative from each of the 7 NC Regions.
- 2. Solicit, record and file data, opinions & recommendations from a wide variety of sources and produce reports based on the Charter and Plan (see attachments) before 04/30/2007.**



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Dynamic and Functional Recommendations of the VAN NUYS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL regarding the “912 COMMISSION” which will evaluate the L.A. CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL “system” following specific provisions of the L.A. City Charter and the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils.

1. The Commission should be composed of 24 Members:

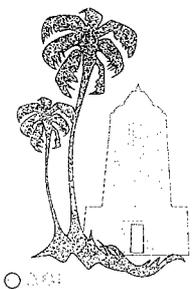
- Two (2) appointed by the Mayor,
- Fifteen (15) appointed by the 15 City Councilmembers (one each) and
- Seven (7) L.A. Activists selected from the 7 NC Regions (one from each Region).

The Commissioners should be qualified in one or more of the following areas:

- Academia,
- Experienced Experts in Community Organizations and Organization,
- L.A. City Government and/or
- Experienced Activists in local-L.A. and non-L.A. NCs.

2. The Commission should gather and compile data in order to describe and document the following:

- a. The Theory, History and Purposes of L.A. City NCs. (Charter Article IX, Section 900 and Plan, Articles I & II(4))
- b. The effects of NCs on their “home” neighborhoods. (Plan Article VI(1))
- c. The NC’s Compliance with State Laws (Ralph M. Brown Act, Fair Political Practices Act, Public Records Act), the L.A. City Charter, the “Plan” (Charter Article IX, Section 904(b)) and the Regulations (Charter Article IX, Sections 904(c...g))
- d. The NC’s Interactions with other NCs. (Charter Article IX, Section 901(f)). (Specific Inter-Community Projects, Alliances, LANC Congress, MOUs, etc.)
- e. The NC’s Interactions with the Mayor and his Deputies.
- f. The NC’s Interactions DONE & BONC. (Charter Article IX, Sections 901, 902 & 913 and Plan Articles VII & VIII)
- g. The NC’s Interactions with the City Council (Charter Article IX, Sections 907 & 908)
- h. The NC’s Interactions with the City Departments (43 regular & 3 proprietary) (Charter Article IX, Section 910) and with non-City Agencies (LAUSD, MTA, NUSA, etc.)



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i. "Other" Concerns

- **Consider revising the definition of "STAKEHOLDER"**
- **Consider better describing and/or redefining the NC's role as "advisors" to L.A. City Government Agencies**
- **Consider better describing and/or redefining the "independence" of NCs from undue influence, restraint and repercussions from other City Agencies.**
- **Evaluate successful and unsuccessful NC outreach methods.**
- **Evaluate successful and unsuccessful NC Meetings Management.**
- **The nature and objectives of the Congress of Neighborhood meetings (Charter Article IX, Section 901(c))**
- **Other Concerns as recommended by the Mayor, City Council and the 912 Commission, itself.**

3. The Commission should solicit, receive, file and use submissions of experiences, opinions and recommendations from, at the very least, all NCs (certified, decertified and "in-formation") as well as every City & non-City Entity named above.

4. The Commission should schedule, notice and hold Meetings throughout the 7 NC Regions of L.A. in order to elicit the greatest possible participation of all interested parties.

5. Drafts of the final findings and recommended Charter change(s) should be prepared and submitted to the City Council by April 30, 2007 to allow for Public Comment, final review, revision and approval before June 30, 2007.