

CLA MEMORANDUM

Assignment No.:05-10-1665
Council File No.: 05-0894

TO: Honorable Members, Education and Neighborhoods Committee

FROM: Gerry F. Miller *GFM by WPK*
Chief Legislative Analyst

October 25, 2005

DISCUSSION PAPER ON FORMATION OF SEVERAL COMMISSIONS

The Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), with the assistance of the City Attorney was asked to report to the Education and Neighborhoods Committee on the formation and implementation of commissions over which City Council has jurisdiction. This information will be useful to the Committee as it considers the establishment of the Neighborhood Council Review Commission. This report provides background information on the formation of the Charter Commissions, LAUSD Redistricting Commission and the Presidents' Joint Commission on LAUSD Governance.

A voter approved initiative required the establishment of the Charter Commission. The City Charter stipulates that the LAUSD Redistricting Commission be established by ordinance. The Presidents' Joint Commission on LAUSD Governance was established by the adoption of a Resolution (Padilla-Hahn-Parks). The latter Commission began meeting this year, while the first two have completed their assignments.

Charter Commissions

There were two charter reform commissions created in 1997: one by initiative which created a commission of people elected by the voters and one appointed by the City Council. The appointed Charter Commission was comprised of 21 citizen members. Members were appointed as follows: three members by the Mayor; two members by the Council President, one by each of the Council Members and one each by the City Attorney and the Controller. The appointments by the Mayor and the President of the Council were to be made after the Council appointments to ensure a broad diversity that reflects the population of the City.

LAUSD Redistricting Commission

The new City Charter required that the City Council adopt an ordinance relative to the redistricting of the LAUSD into seven districts no later than July 1, 2002, and each subsequent tenth anniversary of that date. The Redistricting Commission is to advise the City Council on drawing the LAUSD Board District lines. The Redistricting Commission was required to seek public input throughout the redistricting process. This Commission was required to present its proposal for redistricting to the council no later than a date prescribed in the ordinance.

The appointing process for the Redistricting Commissioners is stipulated in the Charter. The Commission members were appointed in the following manner: one by each member of the Board of Education, four by the Council President, and four by the Mayor. One of the Council President's appointees, and one of the Mayor's appointees, was required to reside within LAUSD but outside the City. No officer or employee of the School District was eligible to serve on the Commission. This Commission was allowed to appoint a director and other personnel, consistent with budgetary approval. The personnel positions were exempt from the civil service provision of the Charter.

The Presidents' Joint Commission on LAUSD Governance

At its meeting of May 13, 2005 the City Council adopted a Resolution (Padilla-Hahn-Parks) creating the Presidents' Joint Commission on Los Angeles Unified School District Governance (Commission on LAUSD Governance). The resolution requires that the Commission on LAUSD Governance recommended ways to align the LAUSD governance structure to enhance student academic rigor and achievement, and prepare our young people for adult life in the 21st Century. The appointments to the Commission on LAUSD were required to be made within 31 days after the passage of this resolution. The Commission on LAUSD Governance scheduled date of termination is June 30, 2006.

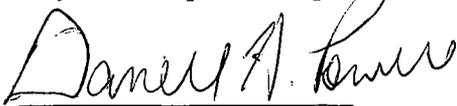
The resolution required that the Commission on LAUSD Governance review the historical development of the current LAUSD governance structure, and alternate approaches to the current governance structure. The Commission on LAUSD Governance is to provide a report and specific recommendations to City Council that address this matter. The initial report, due January 31, 2006 is required to be delivered to the Los Angeles City Council, the Mayor, Board of Trustees and the Superintendent of LAUSD, the Governor and Legislature of the State of California, Mayors and City Councils of other cities in the LAUSD, and other state or federal governmental organizations who have a role in effectuating governance change at LAUSD.

This subject resolution stipulated that the Commission on LAUSD Governance be composed of:

- 1.) One Co-Chair appointed by the President of the Los Angeles City Council;
- 2.) One Co-Chair appointed by the President of the Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District;
- 3.) One member appointed by the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles;
- 4.) One member appointed by the remaining Los Angeles City Councilmembers;
- 5.) One member appointed by all remaining Board Members of LAUSD;
- 6.) One member appointed by and agreed to by the Mayors of the Cities of South Gate, Maywood, Bell, Huntington Park, Cudahy and Vernon;
- 7.) One member appointed by and agreed to by Mayors of the Cities of Carson, Lomita, and Gardena; and
- 8.) One member appointed and agreed to by Mayors of the Cities of San Fernando, West Hollywood, and Monterey Park

To date, the Commission on LAUSD Governance has had several meetings throughout the City of Los Angeles.

If you have questions, please contact us.



Darrell H. Powell
Legislative Analyst

GFM:MK:dhp