



clerk CIS <clerk.cis@lacity.org>

Community Impact Statement - Submission Details

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

Thu, Mar 7, 2024 at 9:42 AM

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 enabled by the 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 resolution 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 Council's 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.

***** 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

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(17) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/06/2024

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 03/07/2024

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 15-0389-S1

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: In the name of fair representation and equal applicability of Neighborhood Council rules promoting transparency and democracy, the North Westwood Neighborhood Council opposes granting community councils the same privileges as those afforded to NCs, as envisioned by this motion. All certified NCs are required to comply with the Brown Act, Public Records Act, relevant City ordinances, and policies and rules of BONC, DONE, and the City Clerk, including training, funding, and records requirements. In contrast, community councils are not subject to these requirements, which serve to promote transparency, accountability, and public participation. Several years ago, the Pacific Palisades Community Council declined to seek NC status, stating it did not wish to comply with the Brown Act and other laws. It also solicits private contributions, which NCs are not allowed to accept. The Brentwood Community Council

requires annual payment by each person serving on its Board, contrary to the City ordinance governing NCs. The Westwood Community Council, unnamed in this motion, operates with “annual voluntary dues” and “contributions,” which NCs are again not allowed to accept. It also exists in an area already covered by two certified NCs, ours and the Westwood NC. This both could provide an unfair advantage to one community and could also muddle the stance of our area when there are disagreements. Rather than providing special treatment of community councils, the City Council should instead instruct the DONE to prioritize the formation of NCs in community council areas where NCs do not now exist. If the City Council is concerned with hearing from NC and community voices, it should reinstate telephonic comment at committee meetings and make NC comment separate from public comment. Additionally, the City Council should address the movement of general comment to the end of the agenda, which was done in contradiction of Council rules and without debate or discussion.

Ref:MSG9953008



CIS_Community Council NC Rights.pdf

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- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -

Council File: [15-0389-S2](#)

Title: Community Councils / Same Privileges As Neighborhood Councils / Legal and Charter Considerations / Brown Act Compliance / Los Angeles Administrative Code Amendment

Position: Against

Council File: [15-0389-S1](#)

Title: Addressing City Council, Commissions or Boards / Extend Time Allowance to Non-Certified Community Councils / Los Angeles Administrative Code Amendment

Position: Against

Summary:

In the name of fair representation and equal applicability of Neighborhood Council rules promoting transparency and democracy, the North Westwood Neighborhood Council (NWWNC) opposes granting community councils the same privileges as those afforded to Neighborhood Councils, as envisioned by this motion.

All certified Neighborhood Councils are required to comply with the Brown Act, Public Records Act, relevant City ordinances, and the policies and rules of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, and the City Clerk's Neighborhood Council Funding Program and Election Division, including several training, funding, and records requirements. In contrast, community councils are not subject to these requirements, which serve to promote transparency, accountability, and public participation.

Several years ago, the Pacific Palisades Community Council declined to seek Neighborhood Council status, stating it did not wish to comply with the Brown Act and other laws. It also solicits private contributions, which Neighborhood Councils are not allowed to accept. The Brentwood Community Council requires the annual payment of \$150 by each person serving on its Board, contrary to the City ordinance

governing Neighborhood Councils. The Westwood Community Council, unnamed in this motion, operates with “annual voluntary dues” and “contributions,” which Neighborhood Councils are again not allowed to accept. It also exists in an area already covered by two certified Neighborhood Councils, ours and the Westwood Neighborhood Council. If this motion is implemented, this both could provide an unfair advantage to one community (of double speaking time, CIS filing, etc.) that is not available anywhere else in the City and could also muddle the stance of our area when there are disagreements.

Rather than providing special treatment of community councils, the City Council should instead instruct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to prioritize the formation of Neighborhood Councils in community council areas where Neighborhood Councils do not now exist.

If the City Council is concerned with hearing from Neighborhood Council and community voices, it should reinstate telephonic comment at committee meetings and make Neighborhood Council comment separate from public comment. Additionally, the City Council should address the movement of general comment to the end of the agenda, which was done in contradiction of Council rules and without debate or discussion.