



clerk CIS &lt;clerk.cis@lacity.org&gt;

## Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 15-1207-S1

1 message

LA City SNow &lt;cityoflaprod@service-now.com&gt;

Tue, Sep 9, 2025 at 8:27 PM

Reply-To: LA City SNow &lt;cityoflaprod@service-now.com&gt;

To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org, tj.knight@lacity.org, tourism@lacity.org, jens.midthun@dlanc.com, elyse.matson@lacity.org

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 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 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](mailto:empowerla@lacity.org).

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

### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Downtown LA

Name: Jens Midthun

Email: [jens.midthun@dlanc.com](mailto:jens.midthun@dlanc.com)

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(16) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 09/09/2025

Type of NC Board Action: For if Amended

### Impact Information

Date: 09/10/2025

Update to a Previous Input: Yes

Directed To: City Council and Committees, Los Angeles City Tourism Commission, Board of Public Works Commissioners

Council File Number: 15-1207-S1

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: At a regular public meeting on September 9, 2025, the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") voted to submit this Community Impact Statement in support if amended of CF 15-1207-S1: Los Angeles Convention Expansion Project. Please see our attached letter.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



**DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
OFFICERS**

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VICE PRESIDENT OF  
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TATHEER ADNAN  
TREASURER



WWW.DLANC.COM

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September 9, 2025

**RE: Community Impact Statement on CF 15-1207-S1: Los Angeles Convention Expansion Project**

To Whom It May Concern:

At our regular public meeting on September 9, 2025, the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") voted to provide the following comments below:

The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council submits this additional Community Impact Statement **in support if amended** of CF 15-1207-S1: Los Angeles Convention Expansion Project

As highlighted in our Community Impact Statement dated [February 13, 2024](#) and [February 11, 2025](#), DLANC reaffirms its overwhelming support to see a phased expansion of the Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) proceed. Like any major infrastructure project, especially one involving the expansion and upgrade of existing facilities at this scale, there are inherent project risks. However, the risks associated with not moving forward with this investment now could have far-reaching regional consequences, affecting labor, supply chains, and foreclosing on valuable economic development opportunities surrounding the LACC that rely on the facility for their financial viability.

As outlined in the CAO report dated August 22, 2025, safeguards such as liquidated damages for project delays, along with the inclusion of project contingencies and allowances, offer industry-standard protections to address the challenges inherent to fast-track projects with complex constraints. That said, while cost controls and Value Engineering (VE) efforts are crucial to maintaining project feasibility and ensuring completion, they must be approached with care to avoid unintended trade-offs that could compromise the long-term value of the project, particularly to the Downtown community and LACC visitors.

One such concern is the VE recommendation to remove Gilbert Lindsay Plaza (GLP) from the current project scope. Beyond direct facility upgrades, few public-facing design elements remain that engage the community and activate much-needed public space. Upgrading the plaza balances the need for a world-class facility, while removing these vital amenities diminishes the LACC's integration into Downtown LA's urban fabric and its ability to serve as a holistic space for events and community participation both inside and outside the hall. While we understand this VE adjustment is necessary to help realize the LACC expansion, **we strongly urge** the City Council to **codify the establishment of a separate bid package for a future stand-alone project** that would allow for GLP improvements in a subsequent phase after the LA28 games.

Additionally, we recommend that funding required by the Public Works Improvements Arts Program (PWIAP) be preserved and earmarked for **a future stand-alone scope of work**. This funding should support place-making enhancements and public realm improvements around the project site, while also exploring revenue-generating opportunities that could offer long-term financial support for enhancements recommended by the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) and the City Tourism Department (CTD). We ask that DCA and CTD work with community stakeholders to incorporate this scope with ample community feedback and public outreach.

The LACC expansion is a crucial infrastructure project, similar to upgrades at LAX or new transit lines, and its public benefits extend far beyond a simple financial return. While revenue and net financial benefits, particularly those from the digital signage program, are important, the City must not let challenges like the signage issue become a barrier to progress. An outdated, underutilized, or even obsolete LACC poses a much greater financial and civic risk to the City if timely investment isn't made.

The recent 34th Annual Anime Expo, held at the Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) from July 3–6, 2025, saw a turnout of more than **410,000 attendees from over 65 countries** and delivered an **estimated economic return of over \$110 million to local hotels, restaurants, and businesses across Downtown and the greater Los Angeles region—all in just four days**.<sup>1</sup> This type of economic activity demonstrates the critical value of these events to the city's broader economy. Investments like these, made by attendees into the local economy, and by extension into tax bases such as Sales Tax, Business Tax, and the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), further underscore the urgent need for the expansion of the LACC to proceed. The indirect benefits of a world-class Convention Center are substantial and long-lasting, fueling regional growth and reinforcing Los Angeles' position as a global destination.

As such, we urge the City and the project delivery team to continue developing creative and inclusive solutions that move the project forward, ensuring that this vital civic asset can evolve and thrive for decades to come. Moreover, the communities that live near and contribute to the

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<sup>1</sup> The Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation. "Anime Expo 2025 Wraps Four Days of Celebration with Attendees from Over 65 Countries, 1300+ Hours of Programming, and Discussions on Its Future." Anime Expo, July 14, 2025. <https://www.anime-expo.org/2025/07/14/anime-expo-2025-wraps-four-days-of-celebration-with-attendees-from-over-65-countries-1300-hours-of-programming-and-discussions-on-its-future>

vibrancy and success of the LACC mustn't be forgotten, but rather supported and uplifted through this legacy investment.

Sincerely,



Jens Midthun  
President,  
DLANC



Heera Kapoor  
Chair,  
DLANC Livability Committee

Cc: Office of the Mayor (via email)  
City Tourism Department (via email)  
City Tourism Commission (via email)  
City Administrative Officer (via email)  
Chief Legislative Analyst (via email)  
Board of Public Works (via email)  
Bureau of Engineering (via email)  
Council District 14 (via email)  
Council District 9 (via email)  
Council District 1 (via email)