



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

## Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 17-0981

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

Wed, Apr 10, 2024 at 2:38 PM

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 enable 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 Councils 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: Historic Highland Park

Name: Angela Gonzales

Email: [angela.gonzalestorres@highlandparknc.com](mailto:angela.gonzalestorres@highlandparknc.com)

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(18) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/07/2024

Type of NC Board Action: Against

### Impact Information

Date: 04/10/2024

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 17-0981

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date: 04/10/2024

Item Number:

Summary: The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council (HHPNC) represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property or conduct business in the neighborhoods of Highland Park and Garvanza. The HHPNC voted at its General Board meeting held March 7, 2024 to approve this Community Impact Statement (CIS) regarding the Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP). Council File 17-0981 (the RBP Ordinance) seeks to expedite the administrative determination process (from 6 months down to 2 weeks) for Conditional Use Permits (CUB) sought by restaurants eligible deemed by the program. This City of Los Angeles ordinance accelerates the approval process for licenses to serve alcoholic beverages while eliminating the public hearing portion of the process. In addition to not being required or asked

to conduct public hearings within neighborhoods applicants wish to serve, applications under RBP would not be subject to CEQA review or appeals according to the March 21, 2018 report by the Planning Department. Providing a platform for community input and protecting public hearing portions of city processes is of utmost importance to our council. Therefore, the HHPNC does not support the streamlined CUB ordinance for the following reasons listed in the CIS.

Ref:MSG10151256

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 **CIS Restaurant Beverage Program (2).pdf**  
188K

HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
Post Office Box 50791 Los Angeles, CA 90050  
<http://www.highlandparknc.com>  
Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT  
200 N. Spring St. Ste.2005 Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Telephone: (213) 978-1551

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# HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

## COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT ON COUNCIL FILE 17-0981 (Restaurant Beverage Program Ordinance)

March 7, 2024

Los Angeles City Council  
City Hall  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### **RE: Restaurant Beverage Program, Council File Number: 17-0981**

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council (HHPNC) represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property or conduct business in the neighborhoods of Highland Park and Garvanza. The HHPNC voted at its General Board meeting held March 7, 2024 to approve this Community Impact Statement (CIS) regarding the Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP).

Council File 17-0981 (the RBP Ordinance) seeks to expedite the administrative determination process (from 6 months down to 2 weeks) for Conditional Use Permits (CUB) sought by restaurants eligible deemed by the program. This City of Los Angeles ordinance accelerates the approval process for licenses to serve alcoholic beverages while eliminating the public hearing portion of the process.

In addition to not being required or asked to conduct public hearings within neighborhoods applicants wish to serve, applications under RBP would not be subject to CEQA review or appeals according to the March 21, 2018 report by the Planning Department. Providing a platform for community input and protecting public hearing portions of city processes is of

utmost importance to our council. Therefore, the HHPNC **does not support the streamlined CUB ordinance** for the following reasons:

- The proposed process does not include public hearings nor an appeals process
- The Planning Department dismissed development of multiple sets of standards for different neighborhoods based on density of existing CUPs
- An opting-out option in RBP has not been articulated for neighborhoods adopted into RBP
- Exterior advertising of alcohol licenses approved through the program has not been established in the ordinance nor is there language in the same that prohibits signage advertising alcoholic beverages within the applicant's restaurant or in other words, there is no established way for stakeholders to directly report violations nor a standard set to prevent alcoholic beverages from being the primary focus of the establishment
- Happy hours or drink specials are not prohibited with the program
- There are insufficient enforcement resources (both local and State) to ensure both conditional use permit and alcohol license adhere to operating restrictions or comply with existing ABC (California Alcohol Beverage Control Department) standards
- The proposed ordinance does not have a requirement for applicants to provide verifiable proof that their primary residence is within the City of Los Angeles

We recognize that Council District 1 is the sole district to not have been adopted into the program, and thus urge the Mayor's Office, our City Council representative and its Committees to maintain the current CUB entitlement process for our district to ensure our stakeholders and council have the opportunity to provide community input in decision making processes surrounding alcohol establishments approved in our neighborhood.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments.

Thank you,



Angela Gonzales-Torres, President  
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council