

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(14) Nay(1) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 3/1/18

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 03/11/2018

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 17-1311

Agenda Date:

Item Number: 8

Summary: The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council supports CF 17-1311 which, if the suggestions are implemented, will improve coordination among City departments, deliver better services in a more timely fashion and improve relationships between residents and City government. Along with this approval, we request the City include and publicize an expedited schedule for review and implementation of the various elements addressed within the Council File, as well as full and immediate disclosure of any elements not being pursued and why.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

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

CALIFORNIA

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Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

March 1, 2018

Mayor Eric Garcetti & the Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CIS in strong support of CF 17-1311 and request to the City to act on the recommendations

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood. In February we had an excellent presentation from Laila Alequresh, a 2017 FUSE Corps Fellow who did in-depth research on the issues relating to the confluence of street-related infrastructure, prepared an evaluation of the conflicts that contribute to the City's too-often dysfunctional Public Works projects, and made a number of systemic recommendations based on her work (and that of approximately 30 previous reports prepared by and for the City which have *not* been acted upon).

We *strongly* recommend the Mayor and City Council take immediate action to implement these recommendations, the cost of which will more than be paid for out of the potentially massive savings resulting from these improvements including:

- creating an office of infrastructure management to break down the silos that exist with the multiple City departments that impact the streets of Los Angeles;
- developing appropriate asset management with an inventory across all programs and departments to maximize use and reduce costs;

HHPNC – Support CF 17-1311 and call on the City to act forthwith

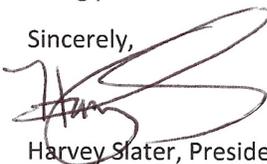
- prioritizing and digitizing utility coordination between the departments and the over 200 service providers with an automated data tracking system (currently reviewed by eye) and have this database accessible by the City Council and all stakeholders;
- understanding this is a long-term process and not a quick fix: with 70 thousand intersections and 7,500 lane miles of streets there needs to be an evolution to avoid costly mistakes and maintain a level of trust and confidence in all workers and staff;
- increasing inspectors and scheduling inspections on a timely basis to ensure quality work, the cost of which will be more than off-set by the savings resulting from incomplete or shoddy work;
- moving the Department of Transportation under the umbrella of Public Works that will help with oversight and transparency;
- underlining that deferred maintenance leads to increased costs in the long run; and
- reestablishing and maintaining a capital plan and policy list such as existed until 2008, and ensuring that criteria are in place that represent a true capital expenditure plan.

We also understand there are report-backs in process but that these responses will probably not come until April or May, too late for the FY 18-19 City Budget. However, since many of the recommendations have little or no budget implications, we call on the Mayor and City Council to approve the recommendations forthwith and then expedite implementation.

Furthermore, although some seed money will be needed to set up and train necessary personnel and initiate converting from the current manual to the much-needed automated data tracking systems, the initial savings in other cities which have pursued this route in recent years (Chicago, Seattle and Boston together achieved savings in excess of \$140 million to date) should justify a pay-it-forward approach.

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council therefore requests approval of CF 17-1311 to help improve coordination among City departments, deliver better services in a more timely fashion and improve relationships between residents and City government. Along with this approval, we request the City include and publicize an expedited schedule for review and implementation of the various elements addressed within the Council File, as well as full and immediate disclosure of any elements *not* being pursued and why.

Sincerely,



Harvey Slater, President
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council