

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Woodland Hills-Warner Center

Name: Sheppard Kaufman

Phone Number: (818) 854-6249

Email: s.kaufman@whcouncil.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(13) Nay(1) Abstain(0) Ineligible(1) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 05/08/2019

Type of NC Board Action: For if Amended

Impact Information

Date: 05/30/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 19-0600

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates (NCBA) 2019 White Paper found a lack of general cohesive city management, under-staffed departments, and the propensity for legislation that establishes controls or projects that are then not enforced or funded. The NCBA found many departments acting as self-contained entities, interacting minimally with other departments. The Budget Advocates concluded that the City needs a non-elected City Manager who, as stated in their report, is “a non-political hire with the requisite experience to manage a big city, oversee departments including sweeping out the “silo-ization” that impedes their efficient operation, coordinate long-term solutions to current problems and proactively ensure decisions are made to best serve the City’s needs, address the structural deficit and over-spending, effectively implement transparency and accountability across all departments and Council Districts, and give us the quality of life all Angelenos deserve. The Woodland Hills – Warner Center Neighborhood Council [WHWCNC] substantially accepts the conclusions of the Budget Advocates and agrees that a City Manager could substantially improve much of the functioning of City departments.



Community Impact Statement

9/12/18

To: The Mayor and City Council (cc: Councilmember Bob Blumenfield)
From: Woodland Hills-Warner Center Neighborhood Council (WHWCNC)
Re: CF 19-0600 (Budget Advocates White Paper)
Position: Comments

*The Board Approved this CIS on 05/08/19 by a vote of: Aye (13) – Nay (1) – Abstain (0) – Ineligible (1)
Update to Previous Input: NO*

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates (NCBA) are volunteers representing Neighborhood Councils from all parts of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the NCBA spent many hours with City Department Heads discussing Department Budgets; and,

WHEREAS, the NCBA wrote an extensive White Paper that evaluated each department and the cooperation among departments as a whole; and,

WHEREAS, the NCBA found many operational deficiencies in city departments; and,

WHEREAS, the NCBA found a lack of general cohesive city management; and

WHEREAS, the NCBA found the City of Los Angeles routinely spends each year more than was budgeted; and,

WHEREAS, the NCBA found Los Angeles' two pension plans are only 82% funded, but may be more realistically only 72% funded; and,

WHEREAS, the Budget Advocates found at the same time departments are undermanned, including the Personnel Department; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council establishes controls or projects that are then not enforced or funded; and,

WHEREAS, the Budget Advocates present numerous good recommendations in their report to the City Council and the Mayor; and,

WHEREAS, because they found departments acting as self-contained entities, interacting minimally with other departments, the Budget Advocates concluded that the City needs a non-elected City Manager who, as stated in their report, is "a non-political hire with the requisite experience to manage a big city, oversee departments including sweeping out the "silo-ization" that impedes their efficient operation, coordinate long-term solutions to cur-



rent problems and proactively ensure decisions are made to best serve the City's needs, address the structural deficit and over-spending, effectively implement transparency and accountability across all departments and Council Districts, and give us the quality of life all Angelenos deserve. And provide departments and stakeholders, creditors and the financial markets, with the assurance the City would continue to run smoothly in the event of investigations for possible ethical and/or fiduciary violations by our elected officials and staff"; and,

WHEREAS, the Woodland Hills – Warner Center Neighborhood Council [WHWCNC] substantially accepts the conclusions and recommendations to the Budget Advocates; and,

WHEREAS, the WHWCNC Board agrees that a City Manager could substantially improve much of the functioning of the City;

THEREFORE, the Woodland Hills Impacts and Policies Committee recommends that the Board of the WHWCNC resolve to notify the City Council and the Mayor's Office of its support of the work done by the Budget Advocates and their recommendations. Furthermore, the Board asks Council Member Blumenfield work on implementation of these recommendations in the budget process.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joyce Fletcher".

Joyce Fletcher
President
Woodland Hills-Warner Center NC

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sheppard Kaufman".

Sheppard Kaufman
Vice President
Woodland Hills-Warner Center NC

Cc: Councilmember Blumenfield (CD3)