

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](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

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

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Arleta Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(10) Nay(0) Abstain(2) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 09/21/2021

Type of NC Board Action: Against

#### Impact Information

Date: 10/15/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 21-0407

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Dear Councilmembers: We write to you to inform that the Arleta Neighborhood Council opposes the Motion (CF: 21-0407) and the Report of the Arts, Parks, Health, Education and Neighborhood Council Committee regarding Neighborhood Council election rules and systems. The Charter of the City of Los Angeles states in Section 904, subparagraph (f): The Regulations shall not restrict the method by which the members of a neighborhood council are chosen, if the process otherwise satisfies the requirements of this Article. Standardization of neighborhood council (NC) elections is of concern as each community within the City of Los Angeles is as diverse and unique as the opinions and speech that comes from each of the millions of Angelenos—thus requiring diverse sets of processes to ensure that stakeholders who live, work, or own real property within a given community are able to protect their property and community from outside influences and decisions whether they be from government bodies or private enterprises with interests that do not reflect those of the given community and its stakeholders. Furthermore, the Desired Characteristics of Neighborhood Councils, in Article II, section 4, of the Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils (PLAN)2 states that: Certified Neighborhood Councils shall be as independent, self-governing, and self-directed as possible. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) shall assist Certified Neighborhood Councils to pursue options, including, but not limited to tax-exempt status and/or non-profit incorporation, to strengthen their independence.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

**Arleta Neighborhood Council**

Raymond Duran, President  
Jaime Gallo, Vice-President  
Loyce Lacson, Treasurer  
Margaret Shoemaker, Secretary  
Marco Valdez, At-Large Rep  
Joshua Duran, Youth Rep  
Gary Gallon, Senior Rep  
Burton Hunter, Renter Rep  
Mary Oberg, At-Large Rep  
Jose Pumay, Home/Condo Rep  
Jennifer Punay, Youth Rep  
Jesse Ramos, Home/Condo Rep  
Jesus Torres, Community Based Rep  
Christianna Hartwell, Business Owner Rep  
Brian Patton, Community Rep



**ARLETA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Attention: Arleta NC  
9300 Laurel Cyn.Bl., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Arleta, CA 91331  
[www.arletanc.org](http://www.arletanc.org)

*ARLETA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL*  
Community Impact Statement

September 21, 2021

RE: *Council File 21-0407*

Dear Councilmembers:

We write to you to inform that the Arleta Neighborhood Council **opposes** the Motion (CF: 21-0407) and the Report of the Arts, Parks, Health, Education and Neighborhood Council Committee regarding Neighborhood Council election rules and systems.

The Charter of the City of Los Angeles<sup>1</sup> states in Section 904, subparagraph (f):

The Regulations **shall not restrict** the method by which the members of a neighborhood council are chosen, if the process otherwise satisfies the requirements of this Article.

Standardization of neighborhood council (NC) elections is of concern as each community within the City of Los Angeles is as diverse and unique as the opinions and speech that comes from each of the millions of Angelenos—thus requiring diverse sets of processes to ensure that stakeholders who live, work, or own real property within a given community are able to protect their property and community from outside influences and decisions whether they be from government bodies or private enterprises with interests that do not reflect those of the given community and its stakeholders.

Furthermore, the Desired Characteristics of Neighborhood Councils, in Article II, section 4, of the Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils (PLAN)<sup>2</sup> states that:

Certified Neighborhood Councils shall be as independent, self-governing, and self-directed as possible. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) shall assist Certified Neighborhood Councils to pursue options, including, but not limited to tax-exempt status and/or non-profit incorporation, to strengthen their independence.

<sup>1</sup> [https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/los\\_angeles/latest/laac/0-0-0-3785#JD\\_Ch904](https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/los_angeles/latest/laac/0-0-0-3785#JD_Ch904).

<sup>2</sup> [https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/Plan\\_Amended\\_12-18-131.pdf](https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/Plan_Amended_12-18-131.pdf)

**APPROVED**

September 21, 2021

10 Yea 0 No 1 Absent 2 Abstain

Should NC voter identification be eliminated it will allow for the imposition of fake-stakeholders to take over a community's neighborhood council—that in itself is voter suppression and unconstitutional. The Motion itself is cynical in nature as it pretends to preserve democracy and root out voter suppression when in fact it will allow for the complete opposite to take place. The State of California allows for a driver's license, last 4 numbers of a Social Security number, and the address where the applicant lives as requirements in order to be able to register to vote.<sup>3</sup> Neighborhood Council elections must not be subjected to reduced identification requirements and particularly given that the Motion's content does not include reduced identification requirements when it comes to electing City Council members, Mayor, City Attorney, and the Controller in the 15 council districts.

Given the preponderance of the evidence, the Motion to standardize Neighborhood Council elections and rules grossly impacts Arleta and all communities in the City of Los Angeles. The Arleta Neighborhood Council opposes this Motion and violation attempt of the Charter of the City of Los Angeles.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/pdfs/quick-guide-vrc.pdf>