



March 3, 2026

VIA E-MAIL

City of Los Angeles
Council District 10
5213 West Pico Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90019
Attn: Kimani Black, Chief of Staff

Re: Wilshire BID – Request for Immediate Oversight, Transparency, and Board Reconstitution

Dear Mr. Black,

On behalf of the Korean American Federation of Los Angeles (KAFLA), we write to formally express our deep concern regarding the apparent lack of activity, transparency, and measurable impact of the Wilshire Business Improvement District (Wilshire BID), which operates with an annual budget of approximately \$850,000 approved by the City of Los Angeles.

As you know, Koreatown is facing serious and ongoing challenges — including public safety concerns, cleanliness issues, graffiti, illegal dumping, and deteriorating streetscape conditions. In this environment, every public and quasi-public entity entrusted with resources must be fully engaged, visible, and accountable.

Unfortunately, for the last several years we have not seen visible evidence of Wilshire BID services being performed at a level commensurate with its annual funding. Community members and business owners consistently report:

- No identifiable BID ambassadors or clean teams in the field;
- No noticeable enhancement of safety or maintenance services;
- No proactive engagement with local stakeholders;
- No recent updates to its website or social media platforms for several years; and
- No public reporting or communication demonstrating how the annual budget is being deployed.

For an organization entrusted with approximately \$850,000 annually in assessments, this absence of visibility and transparency raises serious concerns. At a time when Koreatown urgently needs coordinated leadership and measurable action, we cannot afford inactivity or opacity from an entity specifically created to enhance the district's vitality. Property owners and businesses deserve clarity regarding how funds are allocated and spent, what services are contractually required each year, performance metrics and reporting mechanisms, and oversight and evaluation processes conducted by the City.



Accordingly, KAFLA respectfully requests the following actions:

1. Immediate audit and performance review of the Wilshire BID's operations and expenditures;
2. Public disclosure of current service contracts, performance benchmarks, and annual reports;
3. A public stakeholder meeting in Koreatown to allow community input;
4. Reconstitution of the BID Board of Directors, with new members who are actively engaged, responsive, and capable of delivering meaningful results for the community, and therefore propose a reconstitution of the Board consisting of the following organizations and their representatives:
 - Korean American Federation of Los Angeles – Robert Ahn
 - Wilshire Koreatown Neighborhood Council – Bill Robinson
 - Council District 10 – Diane Cho
 - Jamison Services – Stacey Yu
 - At Large Member – Steven Kang

We believe that new leadership is necessary to restore accountability, energy, and effectiveness to the Wilshire BID. Koreatown deserves a BID that is visible, proactive, and aligned with the urgent needs of our neighborhood. KAFLA stands ready to work collaboratively with Council District 10 and other community partners to ensure that BID resources are deployed strategically and transparently to improve safety, cleanliness, and economic vitality in Koreatown.

We appreciate your leadership and your willingness to address this matter promptly. Please let us know a convenient time to meet and discuss next steps.

Respectfully,

Robert Ahn
President