



clerk CIS <clerk.cis@lacity.org>

Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 23-1027

LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>

Wed, Mar 18, 2026 at 10:10 AM

Reply-To: LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>

To: reformlacher@lacity.org, Clerk.CIS@lacity.org, lizzyweinraubsinc@gmail.com

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 enabled 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 Council's 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.

***** This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. *****

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Silver Lake

Name: Elizabeth Weinraub

Email: lizzyweinraubsinc@gmail.com

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

Date of NC Board Action: 03/04/2026

Type of NC Board Action: Neutral Position

Impact Information

Date: 03/18/2026

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Charter Reform Commission, City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 23-1027

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date: 03/18/2026

Item Number:

Summary: The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council (SLNC) submitted this Community Impact Statement to provide recommendations on the City of Los Angeles Charter Reform process. The statement emphasizes the importance of structural reform to improve democratic participation, transparency, accountability, and public trust in City government. SLNC outlines a comprehensive set of recommendations across key areas of governance. These include expanding voter participation, reducing the influence of large donors, and establishing independent redistricting. The statement also calls for increasing the size of the City Council to better reflect population needs and improving procedures for vacancies and accountability. In public safety, SLNC supports stronger oversight of law enforcement, expanded funding for unarmed

crisis response, and increased transparency around police conduct. In housing and land use, the statement advocates for greater transparency, equitable development, and limits on developer influence. The filing also emphasizes civil rights protections, including language access and immigrant inclusion, and proposes aligning City policies with broader human rights standards. Additional recommendations focus on strengthening oversight bodies like the Ethics Commission and Controller, improving budget transparency through participatory budgeting, and ensuring long-term fiscal stability. Finally, the statement highlights the need to protect and strengthen the Neighborhood Council system by increasing funding, improving communication with City officials, and reducing barriers to participation. Overall, the filing positions Charter Reform as a critical opportunity to create a more responsive, equitable, and accountable City government that better reflects and serves its residents.



2026-03-05_SLNC Governing Board_CIS LA Charter Reform.pdf

238K



Serving the Silver Lake Community Since 2003

P.O. Box 26385
Los Angeles, California 90026

Phone: (323) 413-SLNC (7562)
Email: board@silverlakenc.org
Web: silverlakenc.org

Co-Chairs: David Omenn
Ibrahim Mimou
Vice Chair: Stephanie Fajuri
Treasurer: Maebe A. Girl
Secretary: Audrey Moyer

March 5th, 2026

TO
LA City Charter Reform Commission
and
Honorable City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE
LA City Charter Reform 23-1027

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Dear Members of the Charter Reform Commission,

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council (SLNC) appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the City of Los Angeles Charter Reform process.

As an advisory body established under the Los Angeles City Charter, the SLNC exists to promote meaningful civic participation, increase transparency in government, and ensure that the voices of neighborhood Stakeholders are reflected in City decision-making. We serve a diverse and civically engaged community that consistently expresses interest in stronger accountability, broader participation, and more responsive governance.

Charter reform presents a significant opportunity to address structural weaknesses in how Los Angeles governs itself. Residents across the City have expressed concern about representation, responsiveness, public trust, and transparency. Structural reform is one of the clearest tools available to strengthen democratic participation and improve public confidence in City government.

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council supports Charter reforms that:

- Expand democratic participation
- Increase transparency and accountability

- Improve representation and responsiveness
- Strengthen public oversight mechanisms
- Ensure equitable access to City services
- Enhance public trust in City institutions
- Protect City from the violence of climate change.

1. Democracy, Voting & Elections

Los Angeles should place on the ballot reforms that expand participation, reduce the influence of concentrated wealth when running for office, and ensure district boundaries are drawn independently and transparently. Strengthening democratic access and fair representation is foundational to rebuilding public trust and ensuring City government reflects the communities it serves.

SLNC Charter Reform Recommendations

- Independent redistricting protections for City Council and LAUSD.
- Legalize resident voting in City of Los Angeles elections regardless of citizenship status.
- Establish a Democracy Vouchers public financing program with the creation of a City-funded endowment.
- Prevent the influence of large donors in City of Los Angeles elections.

2. City Council Structure & Continuity of Governance

The City must advance ballot measures that improve representation and prevent bureaucratic paralysis, including expanding Council seats and establishing clear procedures for vacancies and accountability. Structural reforms to representation are necessary to reduce the distance between residents and decision-makers and ensure cohesive leadership.

SLNC Charter Reform Recommendations

- Expand the City Council from 15 seats to an equally representative number of district-based seats and require City Council size to be tied to population.
- Establish clear standards and due process procedures for suspension of indicted officials.
- Require defined timelines for filling Council vacancies
- Establish a set timeframe for recurring incremental Charter Reform process.

- The SLNC **opposes** at-large seats for City Council.

3. Public Safety Oversight & Accountability

Ballot reforms should strengthen independent oversight of public safety institutions and align budgetary responsibility with departmental performance. Increasing transparency, expanding non-police crisis response, and reinforcing accountability mechanisms will improve public trust and service effectiveness.

SLNC Charter Reform Recommendations

- Full citywide funding of unarmed crisis response programs.
- Require police misconduct settlements to be paid from the LAPD budget.
- Strengthen the independence and authority of the Police Commission and require NC level participation.
- End pretextual traffic stops.
- Guarantee public access to police misconduct and performance data.
- Establish and fund a City-level public defenders office.

4. Housing, Land Use & Planning

The Charter should support ballot measures that increase transparency in land-use decisions, expand public housing capacity, eliminate pay-to-play dynamics in development, and design and build a climate resilient City. Structural reform in housing governance can improve equity, long-term planning, and confidence in how growth decisions are made.

SLNC Charter Reform Recommendations

- Require rent stabilized units to be added every 25 years according to census data, and distribute equitable housing distribution across community plan areas.
- Creating a renter transparency dashboard similar to the dashboard piloted in Washington D.C.
- Require Capital Infrastructure Plan updates every five years.
- Eliminate donations between developers with pending projects to City officials.
- Expand and empower Area Planning Commissions for localized land-use decisions.

5. Civil Rights, Language Access & Immigrant Protections

The City should place on the ballot reforms that codify language access, strengthen sanctuary protections, and ensure meaningful civic participation for immigrant and multilingual communities. Expanding inclusion strengthens democratic legitimacy and ensures all residents can engage in City processes.

SLNC Charter Reform Recommendations

- Strengthen sanctuary protections, including right to counsel in deportation proceedings.
- Universal language access guarantees for meetings and City materials.
- Ensure equitable civic participation for immigrant and multilingual communities.
- Implementation of state-level reparations recommendations, including investment in services and capital, where applicable to City authority.

6. Human Rights–Aligned Governance

If considered for the ballot, any reforms in this area should clarify the City’s authority to align its infrastructure, investments, and contracting practices with established human rights standards. The Commission should carefully evaluate jurisdictional boundaries while recognizing the public interest in ethical governance.

SLNC Charter Reform Recommendations

- Ensure City infrastructure and services are not used to facilitate violations of international human rights law.
- City pension funds will be divested from governments credibly accused of war crimes and from fossil fuels, and instead reinvested into holdings that benefit the Los Angeles business community.
- Institute rules for City agencies that are consistent with federal and international legal frameworks.
- Allow City employees flexibility in how their pensions are being invested.
- Create a public facing dashboard to provide clear information where City investments have been made by country and company sector.

7. Ethics, Oversight & Administrative Accountability

Ballot reforms should strengthen independent oversight institutions, including the Ethics Commission and Controller, and protect their ability to audit, investigate, and enforce transparency standards. Durable

accountability mechanisms are essential to preventing corruption and maintaining public confidence in City governance.

SLNC Charter Reform Recommendations

- Strengthen the authority and independence of the Ethics Commission.
- Grant the Controller clear authority to audit any City program or office.
- Ensure the Controller has adequate resources to carry out oversight functions.
- Modernize civil service hiring rules to reduce administrative bottlenecks while maintaining merit protections.
- Artificial intelligence cannot be used in any administrative and hiring decisions.
- Transparency in use of large scale surveillance and third-party data sharing of resident and non-resident information.
- Codify whistleblower protections for fraud, waste, and abuse reporting mechanisms.
- Enhance the authority of the Ethics Commission to advance reforms when blocked.

8. Budget Reform & Participatory Governance

The City should consider ballot measures that increase long-term fiscal stability and expand resident participation in budgeting decisions. Structural budget reforms can improve transparency, planning continuity, and democratic engagement in how public funds are allocated.

SLNC Charter Reform Recommendations

- Codify a municipal public bank within the Charter.
- Ensure compensation and staffing decisions are aligned with long-term financial capacity and do not usurp core services or departments.
- Implement citywide participatory budgeting.
- Allow a biennial (two-year) City budgeting option.

9. Protecting and Empowering the Neighborhood Council System

Charter reform should protect and empower the advisory role of Neighborhood Councils, improve funding and administrative support, and streamline communication between City Council offices and Neighborhood Councils. Clearer authority, equitable resourcing, and stronger integration will enhance civic participation and ensure neighborhood voices are meaningfully incorporated into City decision-making.

SLNC Charter Reform Recommendations

- Reduce structural barriers to participation in the Neighborhood Council system by requiring mechanisms that make civic engagement more accessible regardless of income, including support for outreach and candidate participation.
- City Council members must engage personally with the formal advisory role of Neighborhood Councils in City processes via an appointed NC liaison, including expectations for how input is considered and responded to.
- Restore and increase funding levels and administrative support to ensure Neighborhood Councils can effectively fulfill their Charter-mandated purpose.
- Increase City responsibility for public education and outreach about the existence, purpose, and function of Neighborhood Councils.
- Streamline workflows and communication channels between City Council offices and Neighborhood Councils to improve transparency and responsiveness.

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council is appreciative of the Commission's efforts and dedication to this essential process. We welcome the opportunity to provide further input as this process moves forward.

Sincerely,
Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

c/o Lizzy Weinraub / Assistant Secretary

PRESENTED BY: Ibrahim Mimou
SECONDED BY: Stephanie Fajjuri
YES: (10) NO: (0) ABSTAIN: (2) ABSENT: (0) INELIGIBLE:(0)
ON THIS DATE: 3/4/2026