



clerk CIS <clerk.cis@lacity.org>

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## Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 24-0011-S4

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**LA City SNow** <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>  
Reply-To: LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>  
To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org

Sun, Aug 25, 2024 at 10:09 PM

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 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 resolution 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](mailto:empowerla@lacity.org).

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

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Lincoln Heights

Name: Fernanda Sanchez

Email: [Fernanda.SanchezLHNC@gmail.com](mailto:Fernanda.SanchezLHNC@gmail.com)

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(9) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 01/18/2024

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 08/26/2024

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 24-0011-S4

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary:

Ref:MSG10986816



LHNC\_CIS\_LAART\_1.18.2024.pdf

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City of Los Angeles  
California  
Council District 1 & 14

Fernanda Sanchez  
**President**  
Selena Ortega  
**Vice President**  
Vincent Montalvo  
**Treasurer**  
Daisy Quinones  
**Secretary**

# **Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council**

## **Community Impact Statement**

January 18, 2023

To: Los Angeles Metro Board, Mayor Karen Bass, Council Member Kevin de Leon, Council Member Eunisses Hernandez

CC: Jerad Rivera, Jennifer Barraza, Ivette Serna

Re: **IN OPPOSITION** to the Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit Project ( LA ART)

We, the **Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council** represent over 30,000 Angelenos who reside in, or work in Lincoln Heights including Council Districts 1 and 14. We declare that on **January 18, 2023**, a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held by the **Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council** with a current quorum of **9** board members present and that by a vote of :

(9) yes, (0) no, and (0) abstentions

To pass the following resolution regarding the aforementioned project.

**Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council hereby declares that the LA ART project will negatively impact the communities of Chinatown, Solano Canyon, William Mead, El Pueblo, LA State Historical Park, and more.**

**We request the LA Metro Board to deny this project at the upcoming LA Metro General Board Meeting, and urge our Council Members to support the community against this development.**

## **Historical Findings and Justifications:**

- 1.** The proposed LA ART gondola project is a 1.2 mile long aerial gondola that is proposed to travel between Union Station and Dodger Stadium, with a loading tower in LA Historical Park. This project has been proposed as a permanent transportation system that would be privately owned and financed.
- 2.** The 1.2 mile aerial route goes through residential areas, public parks, historical sites such as the Pueblo, and above Chinatown. Once running, the project is proposed to run 19 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- 3.** The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) released on December 4, 2023 fails to mention how this project will be funded. This privately owned project is estimated to cost over \$500 million while using LA Metro as an avenue; LA Metro is designated for public transportation. A project paid for by a billionaire that provides transportation only to the Dodger's Stadium does not seem to be business in Good Faith, nor does it seem to be truly public transportation.
- 4.** The EIR also fails to mention the disruption in ecosystem of the species that will be affected, including the Monarch Butterflies. Project Monarch LA located in LA Historical Park will be removed and that ecosystem erased. Although not currently federally protected, the Monarch Butterfly is on the list of candidates to be reviewed for federal protection. <https://www.fws.gov/initiative/pollinators/monarchs>
- 5.** The EIR fails to mention any further studies on the impact of wildlife. The Least Bells Vireo , the Florida Bonneted Bat, and the Hoary Bat, all of which are federally protected species, are known to reside near the LA River.
- 6.** LA Metro should focus efforts on real transportation solutions. Chinatown once had 4 bus routes on Broadway, and it has now been reduced to 1. In a city where so many Angelenos rely on transportation, a privatized Gondola seems to contradict any real resolution.
- 7.** In regards to the Dodger Stadium concerns, stakeholders and residents have proposed parking permits for residents, as well as expanding the Metro Dodger Express busses to transport Dodger fans on game days, and modeling after the Hollywood Bowl's transportation system. This is a cheaper, less invasive, and accessible resolution to relieve the Dodger Stadium traffic and parking concerns.
- 8.** The gondola would negatively impact the residents on route, specifically at the Tower in LA Historical Park. Those seeking to ride the gondola, would need to find a place to park near the loading tower, and therefore would create massive traffic and parking issues for the Residents all around LA Historical including William Mead.
- 9.** In a city where our most vulnerable working class Angelenos continue to face the realities of being economically and culturally pushed out of their communities, a tourist attraction such as the Gondola will only contribute to such displacement. This is because having such an attraction in time for the Olympics, now becomes an asset to developers who are bypassing land use protocols to rapidly build luxury buildings, as we have seen in Chinatown and Lincoln Heights,

both on Main Street. The city should instead focus on how to protect the lifelong residents that love and care for Los Angeles.

**10.** In a district where we are faced with the highest eviction rates in the City, approving multi-billionaire projects that do not benefit the constituents of the area, only adds to the housing crisis of Los Angeles, as property owners are enticed to sell their properties due to property values increasing as a result of projects such as these. This cycle is what has fueled an unprecedented and accelerated form of evictions, both illegal and unjust, as most tenants cannot afford an attorney to represent themselves, whereas landlords and property owners can.

**11.** Chinatown Residents will be directly affected by the aerial route of the gondola, as it flies over their homes. Chinatown is lacking serious and vital resources, such as a hospital, grocery stores, and affordable housing.

**12.** The proposed gondola sits directly atop a liquefaction zone and a fault line.

**13.** Per AB 52 of the California Environmental Equity Act, meaningful consultation with tribal governments shall take place before any development.

Statements through the City Clerk's online web system at <http://cityclerk.lacity.org/cis>.

We therefore demand that our City elected officials and the LA Metro board to deny the LA Aerial Transit Project as it does not enhance the life of Angelenos, and negatively impacts the residents and ecosystem of our beloved communities.

Be it further resolved, in cases where an issue is moving quickly through the legislative process and a promptly issued statement is beneficial, the aforementioned board members are authorized to also WRITE and SUBMIT Community Impact Statements which express positions previously voted upon by the full board. Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council authorizes the following board members, Fernanda Sanchez, Vincent "Chente" Montalvo, to SUBMIT Community Impact Statements which have been passed by a vote of the full board.

**IN WITNESS** of the above action, the undersigned has executed and delivered this certificate in the name and on behalf of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council and as of the date set forth below.

**Signature of President**



Fernanda Sanchez, President of Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

