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Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 24-1562

1 message

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

Fri, Sep 4, 2026 at 9:01 AM

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

To: commission@ladwp.com, Clerk.CIS@lacity.org, stevenlopez@gmail.com, tj.knight@lacity.org, elyse.matson@lacity.org

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 enable 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 Councils 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: Boyle Heights

Name: Steven LopezDeler

Email: stevenlopez@gmail.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(12) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 12/10/2025

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 09/04/2026

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees, Board of Public Works Commissioners, Board of Water and Power Commissioners

Council File Number: 24-1562

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date: 12/10/2025

Item Number:

Summary: The Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council supports the expedited completion and reopening of the Benjamin Franklin Branch Library. BHNC requests coordinated action and full transparency from the Bureau of Engineering, Los Angeles Public Library Facilities Division, LADWP, and LADBS regarding all remaining repairs, approvals, schedules, funding gaps, and capital needs. The Council asks that the solar-panel parking canopy and related decarbonization elements remain funded and fully integrated and that any additional allocation necessary to prevent further delay be

secured. The centrally located library is an essential educational, technological, civic, cultural, and cooling resource for a densely populated and underserved community. Its prolonged closure creates barriers for youth, seniors, immigrant families, residents without home internet or air conditioning, and others who rely on daily library services. BHNC urges immediate, coordinated action to restore and reopen the facility without further interruption.



BHNC_CIS_Benjamin_Franklin_Library_24-1562.pdf

96K

Community Impact Statement: In Favor of Fast Tracking The Opening of the Benjamin Franklin Branch Library

From: The Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council

To: Honorable Councilmember Ysabel Jurado, Representing Council District 14

Date: November 10th, 2025

Subject: Prioritizing the Reopening the Local Library Facility

Council File: 24-1562 – BENJAMIN FRANKLIN LIBRARY RENOVATION

Summary The Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council urges expedited action on the Benjamin Franklin Library (the Library) renovation (the Project) and increased transparency from all relevant Los Angeles City Departments including but not limited to the Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering (BOE), the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL): Facilities Division, the LA Department of Water & Power (LADWP) and the Department of Building and Safety (LADBS). We represent a significantly underserved community that views the continued delay in reopening the Benjamin Franklin Library as an unacceptable quality of life issue.

Background In 2021, the BOE was said to be planning a redesign of the Library with a reopen date scheduled for 2023. In 2022, the BOE decided not to continue with the Project in-house and the Project sat in bidding limbo for that year. LAPL: Facilities Division did not inquire as to why the BOE had decided to not continue with the project or put forth any urgency in the Library's completion. The BOE now contends that the budget shortfall presented by LA City in July of 2025 is to blame for not honoring various earlier reopen dates.

Furthermore, the Project was handed off to Xten Architecture in 2023 after many delays incurred by the BOE. The BOE's own May 8, 2025 report (Council File No. 24-1562) claims that delays were due to staffing shortages, environmental and historical assessments, electrification goals; including solar panels, battery energy storage, and EV charging infrastructure and mainly due to the Project's \$2.2 million Decarbonization Fund being deferred in the FY25–26 Mayor's Proposed Budget. But as is evident at the beginning of this decade, the project was long delayed in the BOE prior to the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year.

We acknowledge the complexities of the renovation, including sustainability goals and administrative challenges, such as the postponement of the \$2.2 million Decarbonization Fund. However, we cannot allow these issues to further compromise our community's access to this essential facility.

Action Items *The Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council respectfully urges the expedition and prioritization of the Benjamin Franklin Library.*

The community requests clarity and transparency on all remaining repairs including but not limited to; LADBS prioritization, a Funding Assurance Request from LADWP so that solar panels

continue to be fully integrated as a parking lot canopy, identification of any funding gaps, and an increase in capital allocation if necessary to ensure the project proceeds without further interruption and in an expedited fashion.

Conclusion For decades, the Benjamin Franklin Library has been a beacon of the Boyle Heights community. A space that provides access to education resources, literacy programs, and civic engagement. Beyond its role as a library, it serves as:

- A cooling center during extreme heat days, offering refuge to vulnerable residents. Many of which do not have air conditioning in their homes.
- A community hub where communities including youth, seniors, and immigrant families access literacy services, technology, internet access, and cultural programming.
- A trusted civic space that supports City initiatives like the Adult Literacy and New American Centers, offers meeting space that is a safe and welcoming environment for residents of all ages.

The library is also the most centrally located library in Boyle Heights, accessible by transit and in the most densely populated area of the community. The prolonged closure of this critical facility increases the barriers for the community to access their most basic of rights and negatively impacts public health and resilience.

The Benjamin Library is more than a building, it is a vital community pillar in Boyle Heights. Reopening and maintaining regular, recurring and daily library services in Boyle Heights is an investment in our collective future. *We respectfully urge Councilmember Jurado, the Mayor's Office, the Los Angeles Public Library, and the Bureau of Engineering to take immediate, coordinated action to restore and reopen the Benjamin Franklin Library.* Doing so will affirm our shared commitment to education, equity, and community well-being.