

Communication from Public

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Date Submitted: 05/28/2025 08:30 PM

Council File No: 25-0600-S7

Comments for Public Posting: In several other Community council systems (D.C., New York City, and -- not exactly similar in nature -- the Parish Council system in the UK) councils are allowed to utilize their funding for hyper-local issues such as trash removal, street and sidewalk repairs, tree trimming, and graffiti removal. With the local councils handling the very area-specific issues of small size, this leaves the larger more involved issues to the municipal authority. Within the LAMC Article IX (sec 908) the City Council can allocate some vetting powers to the NCs to gauge the local community prior to a City Council vote. These powers can be extended so the NCs can use a designated percentage of their budget for projects (fixing potholes, robust websites which can be used as up-to-date information portals for the area, local events to highlight important City resources to the stakeholders, etc.). All professional services employed by the NCs would be authorized by the City at specific rates to both ensure quality work and value. Ex.: With a \$32,000 budget, \$8000 could be earmarked for local services/repairs, with \$24,000 remaining for NC function, NPGs, and elections. The NCs can target the most pressing concerns within their boundaries, and respective City departments -- many of whom are already stretched to their breaking point -- could authorize repairs. With over 500 square miles to cover, directing the unbelievably under-utilized NC system to "handle the small stuff" would free overwhelmed and under-budget City departments to deal with mid to major projects.