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Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 25-0600

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

Mon, May 19, 2025 at 2:16 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.

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

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: North Hollywood West

Name: Greg Wright

Email: Gregwrightnohowestnc@gmail.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(5) Nay(0) Abstain(2) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 05/14/2025

Type of NC Board Action: Against Unless Amended

Impact Information

Date: 05/19/2025

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 25-0600

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council (NHWNC) Board has voted to OPPOSE the proposed reduction to Neighborhood Council funding within the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget. This decision is based on the attached critical impacts to our community and the broader Neighborhood Council system.



North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council



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Community Impact Statement

Council File 25-0600

RV Rentals / Public Right-of-Way / Selling / Leasing / Renting / Business Prohibition / Los Angeles Municipal Code / Amendment

May 14, 2025

Council File 25-0600, the proposed City Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26, includes a provision to reduce annual Neighborhood Council budgets from their current level of \$32,000 to \$25,000. This represents a significant decrease of over 21% and follows a history of reductions from an initial \$50,000 allocation that have not been restored in line with other City departments during periods of fiscal recovery.

The North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council (NHWNC) Board has voted to **OPPOSE** the proposed reduction to Neighborhood Council funding within the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget. This decision is based on the following critical impacts to our community and the broader Neighborhood Council system:

1. **Impairment of Essential Community Services:** Neighborhood Councils (NCs) play a vital role in fostering civic engagement, addressing local concerns, and facilitating communication between communities and City Hall. The current budget of \$32,000 is

already strained. A further reduction to \$25,000 will severely cripple our ability to conduct meaningful outreach, host community meetings and events, support local improvement projects through Neighborhood Purposes Grants, and cover essential operational costs (e.g., meeting spaces, communication tools, translation services).

2. **Historical Disinvestment:** When Neighborhood Councils were established, they were allocated \$50,000 annually. This was subsequently reduced to \$40,000 in 2008 and further cut to \$32,000 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Unlike many other City departments whose budgets were reinstated or increased as the City's financial situation improved, Neighborhood Council funding has remained stagnant at these reduced levels. The proposed cut to \$25,000 compounds this historical disinvestment.
3. **Disregard for Rising Costs:** The operational costs for NCs, like all other entities, have increased due to inflation. The current \$32,000 allocation already fails to keep pace with these rising costs. Reducing the budget further demonstrates a disconnect from the financial realities faced by NCs in trying to effectively serve their stakeholders.
4. **Undermining Grassroots Democracy:** Neighborhood Councils are the most grassroots level of City government, run by dedicated volunteers. Adequate funding is essential for these councils to function effectively and fulfill their Charter-mandated responsibilities. Slashing their budgets undermines their capacity and sends a discouraging message about the City's commitment to local participatory democracy. Had NC budgets been appropriately restored to their original levels or even adjusted for inflation, a 20% cut from that baseline would still likely result in a budget significantly higher than the proposed \$25,000.

The NHWNC believes that investing in Neighborhood Councils is an investment in stronger, more engaged communities. The proposed budget cuts will have a direct and detrimental effect on our ability to represent and serve the diverse stakeholders of North Hollywood West.

The North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council urges the Budget and Finance Committee and the full Los Angeles City Council to **REJECT** the proposed reduction of Neighborhood Council budgets to \$25,000. We further urge the City Council to:

- Maintain Neighborhood Council funding at a minimum of the current \$32,000 per NC for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year.
- Initiate a plan to restore Neighborhood Council funding to levels that reflect their importance, historical allocations, and current operational needs, including consideration for cost-of-living adjustments.
- Explore and implement measures to allow Neighborhood Councils to roll over unspent funds to maximize their ability to plan and execute multi-year projects beneficial to their communities.