



**Los Angeles Charter Reform Commission**

**200 N Spring St, Room 277**

**Los Angeles, CA 90012**

**January 13, 2026**

The Honorable City Council  
of the City of Los Angeles  
c/o City Clerk  
City Hall, Room 395

**Subject: Charter Reform Commission's Work on Proposing Reforms to the Structure of the Office of City Attorney**

On January 7, 2026 at a meeting of the Charter Reform Commission (CRC), a unanimous vote was passed requesting the City Council to approve the use of outside legal counsel after the City Attorney's Office denied the request.

A conflict of interest arises when the representation will be directly adverse to another client. Here, the CRC is studying different reforms to the structure of the Office of City Attorney, and current City Attorney, Hydee Feldstein Soto, has expressed her firm belief that no changes should be made at all (see attachment). Therefore CRC believes that unbiased advice would not be possible from the same office it proposes to change, and a clear conflict of interest is present. Lawyers working for City Attorney Feldstein Soto would have a conflict advising the CRC on positions that Feldstein Soto publicly opposes.

The City Council has the authority to override the City Attorney and allow the CRC to make use of outside legal counsel, and the CRC requests that authority be exercised.

Regards,

  
Justin Ramirez  
Executive Director  
City of Los Angeles  
Charter Reform Commission