



clerk CIS <clerk.cis@lacity.org>

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## Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 26-0124

1 message

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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, Rep.Frishberg@gmail.com

Mon, Mar 23, 2026 at 8:11 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: Empowerment Congress Central

Name: Harry Frishberg

Email: [Rep.Frishberg@gmail.com](mailto:Rep.Frishberg@gmail.com)

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(10) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/23/2026

Type of NC Board Action: For

### Impact Information

Date: 03/24/2026

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 26-0124

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Empowerment Congress Central Area (ECC) Neighborhood Development Council strongly supports the proposed changes to the process by which cannabis businesses would be granted a type-10 (retail) license within the city of Los Angeles. We support changing the requirements for the reasons outlined in the motion, but also because of our Neighborhood Council's personal experience with this process.

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**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

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**INGRID RIVERA-GUZMAN**  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON

**XIOMARA FERNANDEZ**  
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**EMPOWERMENT CONGRESS CENTRAL AREA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

8475 S. VERMONT AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CA 90044 | [WWW.ECCENTRAL.ORG](http://WWW.ECCENTRAL.ORG)

**COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

**March 23, 2026**

To hon. members of  
**Los Angeles City Council and Government Operations Committee**

RE: COUNCIL FILE **26-0124**  
**Changes to Requirements for Type-10 (Retail) Cannabis License Applications**

Empowerment Congress Central Area (ECC) Neighborhood Development Council **strongly supports** the proposed changes to the process by which cannabis businesses would be granted a type-10 (retail) license within the city of Los Angeles. We support changing the requirements for the reasons outlined in the motion, but also because of our Neighborhood Council's personal experience with this process.

Throughout 2025, our organization was made aware of an applicant who was in the process of applying for a type-10 permit within a peaceful neighborhood without soliciting any meaningful consultation with the Neighborhood Council. Worse; when approached by community members and ECC board members for a dialogue, the applicants were insulting, rude, and dismissive of the residential neighbors who had legitimate questions about this cannabis dispensary.

Despite letters of protest from this organization, faith and community leaders, the signatures of over 250 residents opposing the dispensary, and public testimony from 40+ constituents, Council District 8, LAPD Representatives — the applicants remained strangely optimistic that they'd still be granted their license.

Paid consultants, hired by the applicants, told members of this board:

*“No matter how many people show up to complain or write letters, this application is going to be approved. It’s a done deal. This process is just theater.”*

That sentiment — abhorrent to the values of any civic democracy — was privately echoed by **members of the Department of Cannabis Regulation**, who believed their own organization was a “rubber stamp” for bad applicants like this.

It was only through heroic efforts, testimony, and repeated public outcry that this particular license was ultimately denied. But the cynical and anti-democratic threats from the applicant and their consultants linger. This system needs *drastic* changes to prevent such incidents from ever occurring again. The motion from Councilwoman Padilla is a step in the right direction. We applaud and support it.

This CIS was approved by a vote of our entire present and non-recused board members (10 in favor, 0 against), with no abstentions on March 23, 2026 during our Neighborhood Council’s designated meeting.

Janay Coplon  
Chairperson  
Empowerment Congress Central Area Neighborhood Development Council