



clerk CIS <clerk.cis@lacity.org>

Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 26-0286

1 message

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

Wed, Mar 25, 2026 at 2:03 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 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 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: Echo Park

Name: Windy OMalley

Email: womalley.epnc@gmail.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(14) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/24/2026

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 03/25/2026

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 26-0286

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date: 03/25/2026

Item Number:

Summary: Summary – Community Impact Statement (CF 26-0286) The Echo Park Neighborhood Council opposes Council File 26-0286, which would accept a \$2.1 million donation from the Los Angeles Police Foundation to expand LAPD's Drone as First Responder (DFR) program. The council argues that: LAPD already has a large \$3.3 billion budget, and additional funds should instead support underfunded city services like housing, infrastructure, and public resources. Claims that drones will improve safety and response times are questionable, given LAPD's history of misusing policing tools during protests and public events. Expanding drone use raises serious civil liberties concerns, including increased

surveillance and the potential targeting of immigrant communities and protected activities, especially due to LAPD's cooperation with federal agencies like ICE. The program may also contradict LAPD's justification for increased staffing, if drones reduce the need for officer response. Conclusion: EPNC urges the City Council to reject CF 26-0286 and instead redirect equivalent funding from LAPD toward other city priorities.



EPNC CIS Oppose 26-0286.docx.pdf

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Community Impact Statement in Opposition to Cou
26-0286: LAPD Drone First Responder Program

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MARCH 24, 2026

Community Impact Statement in Opposition to Council File 26-0286: LAPD Drone First Responder Program

The Echo Park Neighborhood Council opposes Council File 26-0286, which would accept a \$2.1 million donation from the Los Angeles Police Foundation to purchase drones, docking stations, and supporting infrastructure for LAPD's Drone as First Responder (DFR) program.

LAPD already operates on a \$3.3 billion budget. If the Police Foundation can raise \$2.1 million for drones, those funds should instead be redirected to underfunded city services — roads, street lights, housing — rather than supplementing an already substantial police budget.

Proponents claim DFR will improve response times, enhance officer safety, and support de-escalation by deploying drones with HD and thermal imaging before ground units arrive. These claims warrant scrutiny. LAPD's track record shows a pattern of misusing existing tools: riot gear, tear gas, and less-lethal ammunition have been deployed against peaceful protesters, World Series celebrators, and ordinary residents. There is no demonstrated correlation between LAPD's continued growth and a safer Los Angeles.

The civil liberties concerns are significant. Given LAPD's cooperation with ICE operations, expanded aerial surveillance creates serious risk of drones being used to target individuals based on immigration status or protected activity. Furthermore, if DFR can resolve calls without officer contact, that undermines the department's own justification for increased staffing and budget.

The Echo Park Neighborhood Council urges the Council to reject CF 26-0286. If the Police Foundation wishes to make a donation, the City should redirect equivalent funds from the existing LAPD budget to other city agencies.

On March 24, 2026, the EPNC Board of Governors held a Brown Act noticed-meeting, at 7pm. With a quorum of 14 board members present and vote count of 14 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions, the Board resolved to write a CISnOpposition to Council File 26-0286

Respectfully,
Echo Park Neighborhood Council

WINDY O'MALLEY
Windy O'Malley
Secretary, Echo Park Neighborhood Council