



June 15, 2026

TO: The Los Angeles City Clerk, the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), the City Administrative Officer (CAO), General Manager/Executive Director (Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department (LA Civil Rights), and Members of the Los Angeles City Council

FROM: Descendants, Historians, and Neighborhood Stewards of the Historic Brooklyn Avenue Corridor in Boyle Heights (Los Angeles), California

REFERENCE: Framework for City-Owned Assets and the Historic Preservation of the Historic Brooklyn Avenue Corridor (Mission Road to Indiana Street)

This memorandum is formally submitted to the legislative record regarding Council File: 26-0430, initiated via a motion on March 24, 2026. This motion instructed the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), with assistance from the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and relevant municipal departments, to compile a full inventory of city-owned or managed assets, facilities, and projects named after Cesar Chavez, and further mandated the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department, alongside the City Clerk, to deliver a community-informed framework within 30 days.

As local historians, property owners, residents, and direct descendants of the original multi-ethnic coalition that established and named Brooklyn Avenue in 1875, we write to state for the permanent record that our community has been entirely excluded from this legislative pipeline. This procedural isolation mirrors the exact lack of structural transparency, due process, and authentic local representation that occurred during the unilateral municipal renaming actions of 1994.

Boyle Heights is historically recognized as the "Ellis Island of the West Coast" and stands proudly as the second-oldest community in the City of Los Angeles. Our localized history does not belong to external special interest groups, political proxies, or top-down municipal mandates. We are the rightful, multi-generational stewards of this neighborhood's heritage, and our voices, records, and votes will no longer be bypassed or silenced by City Hall.

1. Geographic Boundaries & Structural Scope

The Historic Brooklyn Avenue Project seeks to restore, protect, and formally reclaim the historic integrity and naming of the primary commercial and residential corridor in Boyle Heights. The definitive scope of this historical reclamation project is clearly delineated as follows:

- Western Terminus: Mission Road (Boyle Heights)
- Eastern Terminus: Indiana Street (Bordering the unincorporated territory of East Los Angeles)

2. Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies & Council District 14 Grievance

To ensure total transparency for the full City Council, this community has painstakingly exhausted every standard diplomatic avenue available to us. We have made exhaustive, heavily documented attempts to secure the legislative sponsorship of Council District 14 Councilmember Ysabel Jurado—efforts that have been met with an unacceptable pattern of outright administrative resistance, deliberate evasion, and a flagrant disregard for the expressed will of the constituency.

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BOYLE HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PARTNERS
A HISTORICAL SOCIETY
603 North Breed Street
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- **Public Assembly & Press Releases:** Community stakeholders organized a formal press assembly uniting local historians and residents to support reclaiming Brooklyn Avenue. Councilmember Jurado sent a staff proxy who offered no official endorsement or follow-up action.
- **Written Correspondence & Council Testimony:** Our organization has provided the council office with formal correspondence outlining the historical documentation supporting this project. Additionally, community stakeholders have participated in public comment periods during full City Council meetings to request legislative support. To date, Councilmember Jurado has not formally addressed these requests on the council floor or issued an official response to these constituent inquiries.
- **Direct In-Person Consultation:** During direct discussions regarding the historical preservation of the 1875 Brooklyn Avenue corridor and its multi-ethnic legacy, Councilmember Jurado indicated that she and her staffers will defer any commitments or actions until the pending reports from the various city departments are officially released.

While the council office has chosen to sponsor initiatives in our districts with less established cultural history, it did not provide sponsorship for Boyle Heights' milestone 150th Anniversary events in 2025. Now in 2026, as we mark the 151st Anniversary of Boyle Heights, we firmly believe that protecting the literal historic nomenclature of this street is a vital, non-negotiable extension of preserving this 151-year history. We look forward to working with the full City Council to ensure it receives the civic priority it deserves.

Because the local district office has chosen to withhold sponsorship until a later administrative phase, we are proactively presenting our platform directly to the full legislative body to ensure our historical voices and documentation are included in the current departmental review.

We request that the CLA, CAO, and the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department integrate the following parameters into any pending reports or community frameworks under Council File: 26-0430:

- **Preservation of Historical Integrity:** The erasure of the Brooklyn Avenue designation severed a vital physical link to the multi-ethnic, immigrant foundational history of the Ellis Island of the West Coast. Reclaiming this identity is an absolute matter of historical justice for the original families, business owners, and descendants of this neighborhood.
- **Equitable Civic Engagement:** A top-down renaming framework that favors outside political entities while ignoring immediate corridor residents, property owners, and local preservationists violates the core tenets of community-driven governance. We mandate an open, transparent, and binding process where local stakeholders hold a direct vote.
- **Cultural and Economic Continuity:** Forcing localized identity shifts without deep, localized consultation creates cultural displacement and erases historical truth. Our living history, oral narratives, and multi-generational roots must serve as the primary baseline for any street or asset designations along this corridor.

Pursuant to standard municipal accountability and the public's right to participate in pending legislation, we request immediate, written clarification on the following three items:

1. **Report Timelines:** What is the current status and anticipated release date of the joint reports requested from the CLA, CAO, and City Clerk that were originally due under the 30-day mandate of Council File: 26-0430?

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2. Formal Mechanism for Input: What specific, legally recognized mechanism is being established by the City Clerk and the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department for local historians, residents, and original community descendants to submit physical evidence, historical archives, and testimony into this process?
3. Community Impact Statement (CIS) Protocol: Please provide the immediate technical instructions and authorization parameters required for our community coalition to formally submit a comprehensive Community Impact Statement (CIS) directly attached to Council File: 26-0430 so it appears on all subsequent City Council agendas.

We look forward to your prompt, formal response detailing how we can present our historical records, community legacy, and extensive documentation to participate fully and equitably in this legislative process.

Sincerely,



Vivian M. Escalante, President & C.E.O
Boyle Heights Community Partners, a historical society

In Partnership with Local Historians, Property Owners, and Multi-Generational Stakeholders of Boyle Heights

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