

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MARES

Date Submitted: 06/11/2026 07:42 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the Chief Legislative Analyst report presented to the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee on June 10, 2026. In the report, the CLA recommended that certain reforms and proposals be "noted and filed," effectively delaying or dismissing critical changes at a pivotal moment for our city's future. For the past eight to nine months, I—along with many community advocates—have consistently and passionately called for meaningful reforms. These efforts reflect a broad and diverse coalition of Angelenos who believe our city deserves a more accountable, transparent, and responsive government. I strongly urge the City Council to reconsider the CLA's recommendations. The people of Los Angeles deserve the opportunity to decide what reforms they want for their city. This is a democracy, and civic engagement should be encouraged, not sidelined. I stand with LA Forward, Fair Rep LA, Unrig LA, and countless community advocates who are calling for real, substantive change in how our city is governed and how services are delivered to all Angelenos. Please do the right thing. Listen to the people. Allow these reforms to move forward. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Lionel Mares, MPA

Communication from Public

Name: Ruth
Date Submitted: 06/11/2026 01:19 AM
Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Councilmembers, We have waited long enough for the following four LA Forward charter reform priorities. Please do not delay these to future committees. Pass these to full Council now, for inclusion on the November ballot: Expand the number of City Council Districts from 15 to 25 Allow the Chief of Police to remove officers with repeated histories of harm Ensure LAPD honors ordinances passed through normal City Council processes Additionally, although there were initial calls to action for a bifurcation or trifurcation of the Office of the City Attorney's responsibilities, we heard some council members express the need for more runway to fully reimagine the City Attorney's office. For now, we believe a first step toward reimagining the City Attorney's office is possible, via the creation of an Office of Legislative Counsel, which can handle the drafting of legislation for City Council. Thus, this makes up our fourth priority reform: Creating an Office of Legislative Counsel, to handle the drafting of legislation that is currently assigned to the City Attorney's office; this is a first step toward reimagining the City Attorney's office At LA Forward, we are excited about the opportunity to update the City Charter. We believe that part of the goal of charter reform is to strengthen trust between Angelenos and their local government. By strengthening representation through council expansion; clarifying authority to hold LAPD accountable; and depoliticizing the City Attorney's Office through the creation of an Office of Legislative Council, we believe we can do exactly that: continue to rebuild trust with the larger public. We hope the recommendations above are ones you can support for inclusion in the November ballot. Thank you, Ruth

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MARES

Date Submitted: 06/11/2026 05:49 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council, As you consider the Charter Commission's recommendations, I stand with LA Forward, Fair Rep LA, Unrig LA, and Community Advocates in urging you to adopt a set of common-sense charter reforms that strengthen police accountability for all Angelenos. These reforms would: Allow the Chief of Police to remove officers with repeated histories of harm, Ensure that LAPD complies with ordinances passed through the normal City Council process. These measures do not grant new or extraordinary powers to the Chief or the Council. Instead, they simply align LAPD oversight with the authority already exercised by other City departments. They do not lower the high bar for employee removal, nor do they change the high threshold required to pass ordinances. They simply reinforce the basic accountability mechanisms that should exist in any well-functioning city government. I urge you to support all three reforms and help ensure a safer, more accountable Los Angeles. Thank you. Sincerely, Lionel Mares, MPA

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MARES

Date Submitted: 06/11/2026 05:53 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council, No one believes that 15 council districts—each representing more than 270,000 residents and growing—is the most effective structure for ensuring meaningful representation for Angelenos. Community members have called for expanding the City Council for years, including with renewed urgency since the leaked audio tapes earlier this decade. Please do not delay placing council expansion on the November 2026 ballot. I stand with LA Forward, Fair Rep LA, Unrig LA and the OUR LA coalition in supporting the proposal to expand the number of City Council districts from 15 to 25. Reducing each district to roughly 160,000 residents would allow council offices to focus on a more manageable set of neighborhoods and better serve the communities they represent. Delaying expansion will only deepen public distrust in local government and reinforce the perception that councilmembers are protecting their own power rather than prioritizing the needs of Angelenos. While the city has adopted Independent Redistricting, its benefits will be limited if we continue drawing districts that encompass more than a quarter million people each. The districts are simply too large. You have the ability to change this. If there are outstanding questions about implementation, the five years ahead—before the next census—provide ample time for an ad-hoc committee, commission, or task force to thoroughly evaluate the details of any expansion plan. At the County level, voters approved expanding the Board of Supervisors from 5 to 9 districts while the Measure G Task Force continued its work on implementation. The City can follow a similar path: give voters the opportunity to approve expansion now, and continue refining the details in the years to come. Make the move now. Support council expansion, strengthen representation, and help Angelenos build a closer, more trusting relationship with their local government. Thank you. Sincerely, Lionel Mares, MPA

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MAREE

Date Submitted: 06/11/2026 05:54 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council, I am writing as a concerned Angeleno to urge you to reconsider and advance the proposal to double the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP)'s Charter allocation from 0.033% to 0.065% of assessed property value. LA has dropped from 49th to 90th in the Trust for Public Land's national ParkScore ranking. RAP's Charter allocation has been frozen since 1937, yet today 40% of its budget (\$145M) is diverted to cover indirect costs never included in the original formula. Between FY 2009–2023, RAP's budget grew at half the rate of the rest of the City. The Parks Needs Assessment — developed with input from over 100,000 Angelenos — makes clear that our parks are underfunded and underserved. Doubling the Charter allocation is a necessary step to restore decades of cuts and ensure safe, clean, accessible parks for all Angelenos. Our parks are in crisis. Recreation centers and senior centers are already operating with reduced hours and Sunday closures — a direct result of chronic underfunding. Further cuts would mean even more shutdowns, more deferred maintenance, and a parks system that continues to deteriorate. We are already the lowest-funded major park system in the country. The consequences are visible in every neighborhood: aging facilities, limited programming, and communities losing access to safe, healthy public spaces. Now is the time for leadership — not retreat. Protecting and strengthening our parks is an investment in public health, youth opportunity, climate resilience, and community well-being. Please include this proposal in your final recommendations. For Reference: Los Angeles ranks the lowest among Southern California 2025 ParkScore list | Los Angeles County Thank you. Sincerely, Lionel Mares, MPA

Communication from Public

Name: Courtney Davis

Date Submitted: 06/11/2026 08:23 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to express my SUPPORT for ranked choice voting. I understand that on June 12, the Rules Committee will decide on LA City Charter Reform recommendations for the November 2026 ballot, including whether or not to include Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) into an updated City Charter. I believe RCV is simple, fair, and more democratic, and we should have it in Los Angeles. Please include RCV in the updated City Charter. Thank you!