

Communication from Public

Name: Nick Underwood

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 04:11 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices) Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission) Require minimum qualifications for the Controller Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer I'm Nick Underwood and I definitely approved this statement.

Communication from Public

Name: NoMoreWasteSpending

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 02:14 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices) Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission) Require minimum qualifications for the Controller Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer

Communication from Public

Name: Charles Lusher

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 01:25 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: 1. Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund 2. Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices) 3. Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary 4. Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission) 5. Require minimum qualifications for the Controller 6. Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer

Communication from Public

Name: Maria Luisa Palma
Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 01:35 PM
Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Our community members in Granada Hills North have grave concerns that the City Planning Department is giving preferential treatment to a developer and is prioritizing their interests over the interests of the community and taxpayer residents who will be harmed irrevocably if the city rubber-stamps their planning application. The history of illegal conduct at LA City together with our observations during this process on Case Number ZA-2021-5915-ELD-SPR lead us to believe that our due process rights as constituents have been violated. We members of the public and stakeholders in the Granada Hills North community have been irrevocably damaged by the concerted set of circumstances which we previously reported to the Ethics Department on this case Our Due Process rights under the United States Constitution, 14th Amendment, have been violated. The State and the City have deprived us of our right to equal protection under the law. The Property Owner, Hillcrest Christian Church and the Applicant, Marshall Burton, received preferential treatment. Email records obtained through the PRA process document that City Planning staff assisted the developer in filing the application. We can't help but wonder if documented relationships between LA City Planning, Confluent Development, Craig Lawson & Co., LLC, H. McNish, and Councilmember John Lee through their association with the Valley Industry & Commerce Association (VICA) played a role in these significant deviations from protocol and basic common sense. At a minimum, there is the appearance of a conflict of interest when we evaluate the totality of these significant deficiencies by LA City Planning. John Lee has received both direct campaign contributions and PAC support from parties related to these entities. LA City Planning has the opportunity to act with integrity and regain the public's trust by DENYING this application. We demand LA City Planning review all the possible law and policy violations evidenced by the documented actions noted in our prior communication and revise your procedures and training to ensure all staff cease violating law and harming the public.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 11:35 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: To whom it may concern in the LA City Council, I am a long time resident of Los Angeles and a native Southern Californian I am writing to oppose any changes to the charter to make it easier to sell PUBLIC park land. When even the \$4 million assessment even found that we need MORE parks! It is an absolute travesty that this is even being considered. PLEASE, DO NOT ALLOW the charter to be amended allow this. The public pays for and deserves our parks, they should be protected. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Cristina Pucelli

Communication from Public

Name: Mel ortega

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 09:04 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices) Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission) Require minimum qualifications for the Controller Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer. Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Gabriela Ruedas
Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 09:14 PM
Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices) Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission) Require minimum qualifications for the Controller Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer

Communication from Public

Name: Whitney R Sienko

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 08:50 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: 1. Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund; 2. Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices); 3. Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary; 4. Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission); 5. Require minimum qualifications for the Controller; 6. And designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer. As a practicing California CPA and citizen of Los Angeles, I fully support the reforms listed above.

Communication from Public

Name: Michele Fielding

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 02:00 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing BECAUSE I FULLY SUPPORT all of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: 1. Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund 2. Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices) 3. Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary 4. Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission) 5. Require minimum qualifications for the Controller 6. Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer

Communication from Public

Name: Maria Luisa Palma
Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 01:15 PM
Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: When Councilman John Lee answered our group of neighbors demanding he support our constitutional rights to due process — neighbors who are taxpayers, constituents and Americans of all stripes — he essentially said, “there is nothing I can do, it’s the law...”, you know democracy has hit rock bottom. We, the people of Granada Hills, find ourselves mounting a self-defense without warning against gross government overreach, defending our neighbors, our lives, and our properties from big money lobbyists acting in cahoots with a gang of elected officials — everyone from John Lee to Assembly Member Pilar Schiavo, acting in concert with Governor Newsom, the California State Legislature, the LA City Planning Department and Mayor Karen Bass. But we are told we must subordinate our rights to an obscure piece of new California legislation passed in June, 2025, a giant budget trailer bill inserted by Newsom: Assembly Bill 130. Its provisions give deep pocketed developers the expedited right to build a commercial establishment in a residential zone — a facility which our neighbors haven’t asked for and don’t want. We are told the developer has the right to be exempted from the California Environmental Quality Act — CEQA, under AB 130, regardless of what actual environmental findings exist, or which additional risks may be identified. They call it a “residential” project, a 98-unit luxury resort-style eldercare and memory care commercial facility to operate 24/7. But its proposed location at a busy traffic corner at a main ingress and egress point — to our hillside, residential, equine and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone community — creates a wildfire death trap for us, the existing residents, homeowners and taxpayers. Our neighborhood remains strongly opposed to this project since this developer’s initial application in 2021, and the new loophole allows them to barrel through the City of LA’s permitting process. Our community is made up of single family homes, horse trails, five schools and two churches. The project is completely out of character with the rest of our neighborhood. We’ve seen the lost lives, destruction of livelihoods and property caused by the 2025 wildfires in Pacific Palisades and Altadena. We have been under Mandatory Evacuation and Evacuation Warnings during past wildfires, including in January of 2025. Our hillsides and homes burn — that is a fact. We know firsthand how difficult traffic becomes during evacuations. A facility full of elderly residents in 98 units, with 30 of those units in memory care, will require extensive fire evacuation protocols by emergency personnel, which will further obstruct the evacuation of current residents all the way up and down our meandering hillsides. Their evacuation will block ours. Of the over 13,000 estimated residents living north of Rinaldi Avenue and west of Balboa Blvd, 20 percent are over 65 years old. Our existing residents have a right to age safely in their own homes and be able to access safe evacuation routes. No one in City Planning has confirmed if a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was completed for this project in 2024. The Initial Study dated January, 2024 concluded that the project may result in significant impacts on the environment and an EIR was required. Potential significant impacts were noted across many areas, including air quality, land use and planning, public services, and transportation. A Notice of Preparation of EIR was posted. Yet no EIR can be found anywhere in the City Planning website. Residents were not noticed of any mandatory comment periods. The Consent of the Governed is Usurped Under AB 130, Native American Tribes get formally notified of the proposed development and are invited to consult. Only the residents within 500 feet of the property are required to be notified. Our fire insurance system and availability has collapsed due to government mismanagement. There is no method to keep elected officials and bureaucrats accountable to regular people — but special interests always get a carve-out. The wildfire danger is real, and this lopsided system conspires to render us average citizens powerless, uninformed, and silent — and this is by design. Our elected officials are supposed to represent us, but power and influence push vast quantities of new laws into being every year, and their sheer volume and complexity obfuscate their effects until they steamroll over us, much too late to defend ourselves. But we are here now and we are taking a stand! We call on Councilman John Lee to take our community’s side and halt this project! We call on Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo and Senator Henry Stern to pass new legislation to close the CEQA evasion loophole and protect citizens from wildfire traps! Stop ignoring average folks! WE are the voters! Include the full text and images:
<https://medium.com/@ubirevera/john-lee-refuses-to-defend-granada-hills-constituents-from-wildfire-trap-01efd62cda3e>

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John Lee Refuses to Defend Granada Hills Constituents from Wildfire Trap

Residents remain Strongly Opposed to development of eldercare facility at Rinaldi and Shoshone

6 min read · Mar 22, 2026



Maria Luisa Palma

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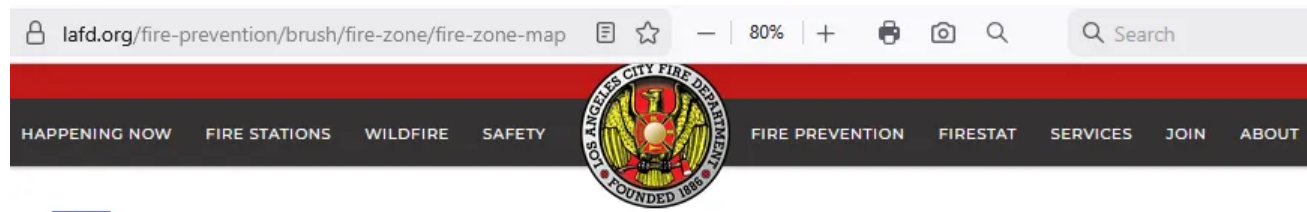


Collage by Author — Images by Gemini AI 2026

When Councilman John Lee answered our group of neighbors demanding he support our constitutional rights to due process — neighbors who are taxpayers, constituents and Americans of all stripes — he essentially said, “there is nothing I can do, it’s the law...”, you know democracy has hit rock bottom.

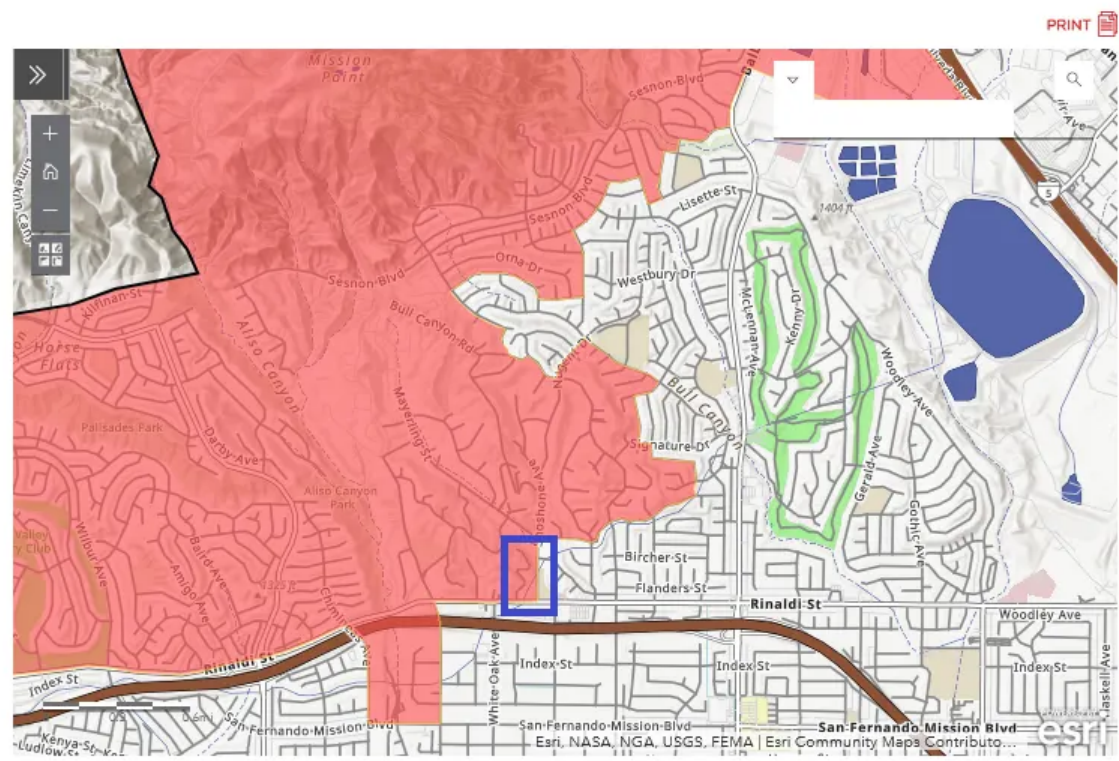
We, the people of Granada Hills, find ourselves mounting a self-defense without warning against gross government overreach, defending our neighbors, our lives, and our properties from big money lobbyists acting in cahoots with a gang of elected officials — everyone from John Lee to Assembly Member Pilar Schiavo, acting in concert with Governor Newsom, the California State Legislature, the LA City Planning Department and Mayor Karen Bass.

But we are told we must subordinate our rights to an obscure piece of new California legislation passed in June, 2025, a giant budget trailer bill inserted by Newsom: Assembly Bill 130. Its provisions give deep pocketed developers the expedited *right* to build a commercial establishment in a residential zone — a facility which our neighbors haven't asked for and don't want. We are told the developer has the right to be exempted from the California Environmental Quality Act — CEQA, under AB 130, regardless of what actual environmental findings exist, or which additional risks may be identified.



-Proposed Eldercare Site

FIRE ZONE MAP



PROPERTY SALES IN THE VFHSZ (AB38)

Markup of Screenshot of Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone — <https://lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush/fire-zone/fire-zone-map>

They call it a “residential” project, a 98-unit luxury resort-style eldercare and memory care commercial facility to operate 24/7. But its proposed location at a busy traffic corner at a main ingress and egress point — to our hillside, residential, equine and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone community — creates a wildfire death trap for us, the existing residents, homeowners and taxpayers.



<https://www.foxweather.com/extreme-weather/video-nursing-home-eaton-fire-pasadena-california-evacuated>

Granada Hills Residents are STRONGLY OPPOSED

Our neighborhood remains strongly opposed to this project since this developer's initial application in 2021, *and the new loophole allows them to barrel through the City of LA's permitting process*. Our community is made up of single family homes, horse trails, five schools and two churches. The project is completely out of character with the rest of our neighborhood.

We've seen the lost lives, destruction of livelihoods and property caused by the 2025 wildfires in Pacific Palisades and Altadena. We have been under Mandatory Evacuation and Evacuation Warnings during past wildfires, including in January of 2025. Our hillsides and homes burn — that is a fact. We know firsthand how difficult traffic becomes during evacuations.

The street is full of emergency vehicles, ambulances, vulnerable seniors in wheelchairs and stretchers. Vehicular traffic is blocked. NBCLA Live Video of Eaton Fire in Altadena — January 7, 2025

A facility full of elderly residents in 98 units, with 30 of those units in memory care, will require extensive fire evacuation protocols by emergency personnel, which will further obstruct the evacuation of current residents all the way up and down our meandering hillsides. **Their evacuation will block ours.** Of the over 13,000 estimated residents living north of Rinaldi Avenue and west of Balboa Blvd, 20 percent are over 65 years old. Our existing residents have a right to age safely in their own homes and be able to access safe evacuation routes.

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No one in City Planning has confirmed if a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was completed for this project in 2024. The Initial Study dated January, 2024 concluded that the project may result in significant impacts on the environment and an EIR was required. Potential significant impacts were noted across many areas, including air quality, land use and planning, public services, and transportation. A Notice of Preparation of EIR was posted. Yet no EIR can be found anywhere in the City Planning website. Residents were not noticed of any mandatory comment periods.

LIVE

here, these people in plain clothes, they've likely r

BREAKING NEWS

EVACUATIONS UNDERWAY AT SENIOR CENTER IN ALTADENA

HOMES DESTROYED  EVACUATIONS: MERRIMAC ROAD, WEST TO TOPANGA CYN, SOUTH TO PCH 8:37 62 

Seniors evacuated from nursing homes due to Eaton Fire near Altadena

Screenshot of NBCLA YouTube Channel

Newsom Hypocrisy

On March 19, 2026, [Newsom announced a lawsuit](#) by Attorney General Bonta challenging the Trump administration's repeal of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Endangerment Finding — the basis for federal regulation of climate pollution, which establishes that greenhouse gases endanger public health and welfare. Newsom's press office pointed at the administration by stating, "Repealing the Endangerment Finding fits squarely within the broader pattern of actions that **prioritize polluters over people** and ideology over evidence."

Yet AB 130 was lauded and required by Newsom as a budget trailer bill which would advance an "abundance agenda", by creating "sweeping CEQA exemptions" for certain housing development projects. [Newsom stated](#), "This isn't just a budget. This is a budget that builds. It proves what's possible when we govern with urgency, with clarity, and with a belief in abundance over scarcity."

the value of our lives? The hypocrisy is appalling.

Current Site Plan & Key Project Data



Where will emergency vehicles be staged to evacuate residents and allow neighborhood vehicular traffic to exit the hillsides during fire? (North is to the right of the development in this image) Image from developer presentation at LA Department of City Planning Public Hearing, March 10, 2026

The Consent of the Governed is Usurped

Under AB 130, Native American Tribes get formally notified of the proposed development and are invited to consult. Only the residents within 500 feet of the property are required to be notified. Our fire insurance system and availability has collapsed due to government mismanagement. There is no method to keep elected officials and bureaucrats accountable to regular people — but special interests always get a carve-out.

The wildfire danger is real, and this lopsided system conspires to render us average citizens powerless, uninformed, and silent — and this is by design. Our elected officials are supposed to represent us, but power and influence push vast quantities of new laws into being every year, and their sheer volume and complexity obfuscate their effects until they steamroll over us, much too late to defend ourselves.

But we are here now and we are taking a stand! We call on Councilman John Lee to take our community's side and halt this project! We call on Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo and Senator Henry Stern to pass new legislation to close the CEQA evasion loophole and protect citizens from wildfire traps! Stop ignoring average folks! *WE are the voters!*

Communication from Public

Name: Brian Poulter

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 11:28 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of District 11 (90045), and I am writing in strong support of the proposed Charter reforms to strengthen the City Controller's Office. Like many Angelenos, I am fed up with the continued waste of taxpayer dollars. We are constantly told there isn't enough money for essential services, yet billions are spent every year with limited transparency and accountability. It feels like some within City government treat public funds like a blank check, and that has to stop. We need real oversight with real teeth. That starts with ensuring the Controller has the independence and authority necessary to do the job effectively. I support reforms that: Provide the Controller with a truly independent budget so oversight cannot be undermined by political pressure Clarify the authority to audit ALL City programs that use taxpayer funds, including those under elected officials Allow the Controller to retain independent legal counsel when needed Protect and enshrine the Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function Establish minimum qualifications for the Controller Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer These are not abstract policy ideas. These are common-sense safeguards to protect the public and restore trust in how our City operates. The City Charter is the foundation of how Los Angeles governs itself. Opportunities to reform it are rare, and this is exactly the kind of moment where meaningful change is needed. Please support these Charter reform recommendations and help ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly, transparently, and with accountability.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 11:38 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices) Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission) Require minimum qualifications for the Controller Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer

Communication from Public

Name: Roger

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 12:01 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: 1. Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund. This insures there are no favorites and they can be fully transparent. 2. Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices). We need to hold departments accountable and regulate ridiculous over spending. 3. Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary. 4. Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission). 5. Require minimum qualifications for the Controller. Anyone without professional history or experience in Accounting or Finance and Budgeting and Auditing should not be allowed to hold the position. 6. Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristina Frausto
Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 12:07 PM
Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of CD6 (Lake Balboa), I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: 1. Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund 2. Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices) 3. Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary 4. Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission) 5. Require minimum qualifications for the Controller 6. Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer

Communication from Public

Name: Nicole

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 11:00 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the following reforms to the Charter, to ensure that the Controller can fulfill their role as the City's independent watchdog: Give the Controller an independent budget of no less than 0.42% of the City's General Fund Clarify the Controller's audit authority includes performance audits of ALL City programs that are sourced from or use City tax dollars (including those under elected offices) Allow the Controller to hire outside counsel when necessary Enshrine the Controller's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse function (recommended by the Charter Reform Commission) Require minimum qualifications for the Controller Designate the Controller as the City's Chief Financial Officer Stop taking our fucking tax dollars for your own wasteful purposes and allocate them to the city to fix our streets, help our people, help animals, clean our cities.