

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MARES

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 10:58 PM

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,

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MARES

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 11:01 PM

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,

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MARES

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 11:13 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, Civil Service protections are essential to maintaining a fair, professional, and politically independent city workforce. These protections ensure that employees can do their jobs without fear of retaliation—whether from elected officials, department leadership, or other city entities. Strengthening these safeguards is critical to preserving integrity and stability in our government. At the same time, our Civil Service hiring system is outdated and no longer serves the needs of a modern city. The current examination process is slow, difficult to navigate, and often out of sync with the actual skills required for today's jobs. These delays leave departments understaffed and make it harder for qualified Angelenos to access city employment. For current employees, transferring between departments or divisions is also far too complicated. Internal mobility should be efficient and transparent, not a barrier that discourages career growth or slows down city operations. I also want to highlight the importance of the Targeted Local Hire program. TLH has become one of the City's most effective pathways for bringing in diverse, community-based talent. It opens doors for people who have historically been excluded from traditional hiring pipelines. For that reason, TLH should be enshrined in the City Charter and granted full Civil Service protections. This would ensure the program's permanence and strengthen the City's commitment to equitable hiring. Civil Service Reform should not weaken worker protections. It should modernize outdated systems while reinforcing fairness, transparency, and accountability. By updating the Charter to reflect today's workforce needs, the Commission can help build a city government that is more responsive, more equitable, and better equipped to serve all Angelenos. Thank you for your time and consideration.
Respectfully submitted,

Communication from Public

Name: Nick Ciarelli

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 10:16 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Councilmembers, My name is Nick Ciarelli and I am a constituent of yours in CD13. I'd like to uplift LA Forward Institute's support of two police accountability reforms brought to you by the Rules Committee: First, CRC 54, which would enable Council to have the power to make LAPD policy; and Second, CRC 58, which would require the Chief of Police to ensure that the Police Department abides by the First Amendment, AND allows the Chief of Police to remove officers with repeated histories of harm. We can't believe these reforms do not exist yet. These reforms don't give the Chief of Police or Council any special powers; they simply give the Chief and Council tools that other Departments have access to. Additionally, these reforms do nothing to change the high bar of removal of an employee, or the high bar of passing an ordinance with a council majority. These reforms simply reinforce powers typically held by City Council or department heads. I urge you to support both of these reforms. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MARES

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 10:37 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, As you consider the Rules Committee's charter reform package, I urge you in the strongest possible terms to adopt the accountability measures that Angelenos have been demanding for years. I stand with LA Forward, Fair Rep LA, and Unrig LA in calling for immediate support of: CRC 54 — Requiring LAPD to follow ordinances passed by the City Council, just as every other City department is expected to do. CRC 58 — Mandating that the Chief of Police ensure the department protects the constitutional rights of all people, including the right to assemble and protest; Empowering the Chief to remove officers with repeated histories of harm — a basic accountability tool that should never have been out of reach. These reforms are not radical. They are not new powers. They are the bare minimum required for a functioning system of oversight. Every other City department already operates under these expectations. LAPD should not be the exception. For too long, structural gaps in the City Charter have allowed harmful behavior to persist without meaningful consequences. CRC 54 and CRC 58 close those gaps. They preserve the existing high bar for employee removal and the existing democratic process for passing ordinances. What they change is simple: they ensure that the rules actually apply. Angelenos deserve a police department that is accountable to the public and to the laws of this city. I urge you to demonstrate leadership and support both CRC 54 and CRC 58 without delay. Thank you. Respectfully yours,

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MARES

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 10:40 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I support expanding the City Council and implementing Ranked-Choice Voting, including both single-winner RCV and Proportional RCV. These reforms aren't 'radical' -- they're practical! They reduce vote-splitting, encourage coalition-building, reduce the cost of elections and make sure elections reflect how people actually vote. Los Angeles is diverse, and our democracy should reflect that reality. Council expansion and Ranked-Choice Voting are smart, proven tools to make our elections more fair and representative. Ranked choice voting is a way of voting that allows voters to rank candidates in their order of preference. With ranked choice voting, you're not limited to voting for your 1st choice only – you can vote for your 1st choice plus "backup" choices. This way, your voice won't be fully lost if your 1st choice doesn't win – your support for your next choices will also be counted. Currently, the City of LA is split into just 15 City Council Districts for 4 million people – meaning that for every 250,000 Angelenos, there's only one council member representing a quarter million people. One councilmember can't possibly respond to all their constituents' needs (unless those constituents are wealthy or well-connected). By comparison, NYC has 51 districts & Chicago has 50. LA needs more council districts and a bigger City Council so that everyone is represented. Thank you for your time and consideration. Respectfully submitted,

Communication from Public

Name: Crystal Santoso

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 01:30 PM

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: Allow the Chief of Police to remove officers with repeated histories of harm Ensure LAPD honors ordinances passed through normal City Council processes 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 clarifying authority to hold LAPD accountable, 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, Crystal R. Santoso

Communication from Public

Name: Carlos Singer

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 01:51 PM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Chair Harris-Dawson and Members of the Committee: On behalf of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, thank you for your continued work reviewing the Charter Reform Commission's recommendations and the related Council motions before your Committee today. The Chamber recognizes the seriousness of this undertaking and the importance of getting it right. We write to offer our perspective on three points as your deliberations continue. First, we encourage the Committee to prioritize reforms that would tangibly improve the City's ability to deliver basic services to residents and businesses alike. Measures that streamline procurement, modernize personnel and hiring practices, strengthen long-range infrastructure and capital planning, and improve coordination across departments responsible for public works and permitting are the kinds of commonsense, broadly supported changes that can restore public confidence in City government. The Chamber stands ready to support efforts in these areas and to help build the broad coalition such measures will need to succeed at the ballot. Second, we respectfully encourage the Committee to be judicious about which items advance to the ballot this cycle. Several of the motions before you today — including proposals not originally part of the Commission's core recommendations — raise significant questions about implementation, cost, and legality that do not yet appear to have been fully vetted. Placing measures on the ballot before they have received adequate analysis risks voter confusion, dilutes attention and resources from the reforms that matter most, and may produce outcomes that are difficult to unwind once embedded in the Charter. We urge the Committee to distinguish between proposals that are ready for voter consideration and those that would benefit from further study, stakeholder engagement, and refinement before being presented to Angelenos. Third, and relatedly, we recognize that the Council and Mayor have been asked to consider an extraordinary volume of significant structural changes in a compressed period of time. Charter reform of this magnitude — touching the size and composition of the Council, the structure of elections, the City Attorney's office, labor and pension matters, and the governance of major proprietary departments, among others — deserves a level of expertise, public deliberation, and sustained attention that is difficult to achieve

under the current timeline. To that end, the Chamber would welcome the opportunity to serve as a good-faith partner to the City in continuing to study these proposals — whether on the current timeline or as part of a future, more deliberate effort. Our members (which include businesses large and small, nonprofits, educational institutions, and government agencies) have a direct stake in a City government that is efficient, transparent, and predictable, and we are committed to bringing that perspective constructively to this process. Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to continuing to work with the Committee and the full Council as this important work proceeds.

June 15, 2026

The Honorable Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Chair
Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: June 15, 2026 Special Meeting — Charter Reform Recommendations (CF 26-0489)

Dear Chair Harris-Dawson and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, thank you for your continued work reviewing the Charter Reform Commission's recommendations and the related Council motions before your Committee today. The Chamber recognizes the seriousness of this undertaking and the importance of getting it right. We write to offer our perspective on three points as your deliberations continue.

First, we encourage the Committee to prioritize reforms that would tangibly improve the City's ability to deliver basic services to residents and businesses alike. Measures that streamline procurement, modernize personnel and hiring practices, strengthen long-range infrastructure and capital planning, and improve coordination across departments responsible for public works and permitting are the kinds of commonsense, broadly supported changes that can restore public confidence in City government. The Chamber stands ready to support efforts in these areas and to help build the broad coalition such measures will need to succeed at the ballot.

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Third, and relatedly, we recognize that the Council and Mayor have been asked to consider an extraordinary volume of significant structural changes in a compressed period of time. Charter reform of this magnitude — touching the size and composition of the Council, the structure of elections, the City Attorney's office, labor and pension matters, and the governance of major proprietary departments, among others — deserves a level of expertise, public deliberation, and sustained attention that is difficult to achieve under the current timeline.

To that end, the Chamber would welcome the opportunity to serve as a good-faith partner to the City in continuing to study these proposals — whether on the current timeline or as part of a future, more deliberate effort. Our members (which include businesses large and small, nonprofits, educational institutions, and government agencies) have a direct stake in a City government that is efficient, transparent, and predictable, and we are committed to bringing that perspective constructively to this process.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to continuing to work with the Committee and the full Council as this important work proceeds.

Respectfully,



Carlos Singer
Chief Policy Officer

Communication from Public

Name: Edward Berdan

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 06:23 PM

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: 1.) Allow the Chief of Police to remove officers with repeated histories of harm 2.) Ensure LAPD honors ordinances passed through normal City Council processes 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 clarifying authority to hold LAPD accountable, 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, Edward Berdan

Communication from Public

Name: Neal Mulani

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 09:32 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

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Communication from Public

Name: Genevieve Bruno

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 09:43 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: Allow the Chief of Police to remove officers with repeated histories of harm Ensure LAPD honors ordinances passed through normal City Council processes 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 clarifying authority to hold LAPD accountable, 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, Genevieve Bruno

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 11:45 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I write as a resident of Council District 2 in strong support of three long-overdue reforms. Expand the City Council. One councilmember per 250,000+ residents is the worst ratio in the nation, unchanged for nearly a century when LA was six times smaller. Expansion means smaller districts, more accessible representatives, greater diversity of voices, diffused power, and lower barriers for grassroots candidates. Recent polling shows 64% of likely voters in LA support it. Adopt ranked choice voting. RCV can consolidate runoff elections, saving taxpayer money and boosting turnout, while producing more representative outcomes. It rewards coalition-building over negative attack campaigns, and leads to more women, people of color, and independent candidates winning office. Lower the voting age to 16 for LAUSD elections now, not 2028. LAUSD students live with Board decisions daily and deserve a voice in who makes them. This is proven and legal: the Court of Appeal affirmed cities' authority in *Lacy v. San Francisco*, Alameda County already runs these elections smoothly, and LA County uses the same election software, meaning lower implementation costs. Council should not let the City Charter remain an obstacle. These reforms are proven, popular, and actionable. I urge the Council to advance all three without delay.

Communication from Public

Name: Ricky Ignacio

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 11:51 AM

Council File No: 26-0489

Comments for Public Posting: I support the reforms form the Charter Reform committee!
Especially the following: Expanding the city council, ranked choice voting, strengthening ethics enforcement, better police accountability, more funding for parks and libraries, better infrastructure planning! There are no more studies required! We created the Charter Reform in order to better our city and the City Council is supposed to listen to us!

Communication from Public

Name: Madeleine

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 12:41 PM

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: -Allow the Chief of Police to remove officers with repeated histories of harm -Ensure LAPD honors ordinances passed through normal City Council processes 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 clarifying authority to hold LAPD accountable, 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!