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Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 26-0489

1 message

LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 12:24 PM

Reply-To: LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>

To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org, commission@empowerla.org, jendevore@gmail.com

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: Greater Wilshire

Name: Jennifer DeVore

Email: jendevore@gmail.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(13) Nay(1) Abstain(3) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 01/14/2026

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 04/13/2026

Update to a Previous Input: Yes

Directed To: City Council and Committees, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Council File Number: 26-0489

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: (Update with new CF number) Our recommendations refer to the Charter Reform Commission Staff Report dated November 14, 2025: "REVISED Proposed Reforms for Planning and Infrastructure" (https://drive.google.com/file/d/179jYpAtq0A6sgrUy_jzl_cM3mJkCXpQG/view). Our format is "Reform Category" and "Sub Reform" numerical indicator from the Staff Report) "Sub reform" description. The GWNC supports the following recommendations: (B.4.) Give ministerial approval to all projects that are in compliance with Re:Code LA. This measure expedites projects that are consistent with Community Plans and the new Zoning Code. (E.1.) Make City Council ultimate authority over all City-

owned land. This gives City Council needed additional discretion where unused lands can be put to good use. (I. 1.) Establish a high legislative threshold to increase capacity in single-family zoned areas. This affords protection in the Charter to single-family and historic districts. (I. 2.) Defend local zoning authority. This assures rapid response from City Council and the Mayor in response to State actions to diminish local authority. The GWNC opposes the following recommendations: (A.3.) Make the Zoning Administrator (ZA), Director of Planning or City Planning Commission the highest land use appeals body for adjudicatory actions. To quote the Staff report, "This would take certain decisions on land use out of [City Council's] hands and leave them to an unelected body that may have limited knowledge of the area... City Councilmembers have deep knowledge of their districts and are elected to make decisions regarding [them]." This would concentrate power in the hands of Mayoral appointees. (B.1.) Eliminate Charter Section 245(e). Section 245(e) is a seldom utilized but invaluable failsafe against the unintended and irreversible consequences of unchallenged bureaucratic control. (see attached PDF for entire recommendation list)

 **CF-26-0489-GWNC_Charter-Reform-Planning-Infrastructure_260413.pdf**

342K



April 13, 2026

To: Los Angeles City Council and Committees
Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Submitted via the Community Impact Statement Filing Portal

Community Impact Statement from the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council regarding Council File 26-0489 (Charter Reform Recommendations / November 3, 2026 General Election / Charter Reform Commission) —PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE: LAND USE DECISION-MAKING STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Honorable Council Members:

The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC) thanks the Council for the opportunity to share this Community Impact Statement (CIS).

GWNC Recommendations on Planning and Infrastructure

Our recommendations refer to the Charter Reform Commission Staff Report dated November 14, 2025: “REVISED Proposed Reforms for Planning and Infrastructure” (https://drive.google.com/file/d/179jYpAtq0A6sgrUy_jzl_cM3mJkCXpQG/view).

Our format is “Reform Category” and “Sub Reform” numerical indicator from the Staff Report) “Sub reform” description. The rationale for the GWNC recommendation/position.

The GWNC supports the following recommendations:

(B.4.) Give ministerial approval to all projects that are in compliance with Re:Code LA. This measure expedites projects that are consistent with Community Plans and the new Zoning Code.

(E.1.) Make City Council ultimate authority over all City-owned land. This gives City Council needed additional discretion where unused lands can be put to good use.

(I. 1.) Establish a high legislative threshold to increase capacity in single-family zoned areas. This affords protection in the Charter to single-family and historic districts.



(I. 2.) Defend local zoning authority. *This assures rapid response from City Council and the Mayor in response to State actions to diminish local authority.*

The GWNC opposes the following recommendations:

(A.3.) Make the Zoning Administrator (ZA), Director of Planning or City Planning Commission the highest land use appeals body for adjudicatory actions. *To quote the Staff report, "This would take certain decisions on land use out of [City Council's] hands and leave them to an unelected body that may have limited knowledge of the area... City Councilmembers have deep knowledge of their districts and are elected to make decisions regarding [them]." This would concentrate power in the hands of Mayoral appointees.*

(B.1.) Eliminate Charter Section 245(e). *Section 245(e) is a seldom utilized but invaluable failsafe against the unintended and irreversible consequences of unchallenged bureaucratic control.*

(B.2.) Codify time limit for all City Council land use actions in the City Charter and automatically deem actions approved if Council fails to act. *The expediting of land use actions would better be addressed selectively through ordinances; whereas a Charter amendment would create a mechanism for developers who use stalling tactics to avoid addressing and correcting project deficiencies.*

(D.1.) Ministerially approve projects under a certain size. *Absent a defined threshold, this policy proposal appears to be intended to remove neighbors and elected officials from the process.*

(D.2.) Mandate sufficient base zoning capacity. *This would create a redundancy and confusion as base zoning capacity is already required by State law.*

About the GWNC

The GWNC represents more than 50,000 stakeholders in the geographic area roughly bordered by Melrose Ave. to the north, Olympic Blvd. to the south, La Brea Ave. to the west, and Western Ave. to the east.

Our 21-person board represents low-density, single-family zoned neighborhoods, extremely high-density, multifamily neighborhoods, and everything in between.

According to the Neighborhood Council Demographic Data portal (<https://neighborhoodempowerment.lacity.gov/data/>, data from the American Data Survey (ACS) 2018 5-Year estimates), 64% of our housing units are renter-occupied and 29% are owner-occupied.

Background and Approach

Our GWNC Ad Hoc Charter Reform Committee was created at our duly noticed October 2025 General Board Meeting and has met mostly biweekly in public, online, Brown Act meetings, starting October 23, 2025. Our committee members have attended Charter Reform

Commission (and Committee) meetings both virtually and in person. We have reviewed Commission materials (including helpful staff reports) and have hosted representatives of the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates, the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition, and others at our committee meetings.

Presentation of this CIS

In the case that the GWNC President is unable to provide public comments in presentation of this CIS to the Commission and/or its Committees, it has appointed the following individuals to do so: John Gresham (GWNC Vice President), Erika Stuart (GWNC Secretary), Conrad Starr (GWNC Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee Chair), or Mark Alpers (GWNC At Large Representative and Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee member).

We thank the Charter Reform Commission, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, and City Council for their service and for considering our Community Impact Statement.

Jennifer DeVore, President