



clerk CIS <clerk.cis@lacity.org>

Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 25-0600

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

Mon, May 19, 2025 at 8:52 PM

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

To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org, commission@empowerla.org, mkalaydjian@winnetkanc.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 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 resolution 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: Winnetka

Name: Mihran Kalaydjian

Email: mkalaydjian@winnetkanc.com

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(11) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 05/13/2025

Type of NC Board Action: Against Unless Amended

Impact Information

Date: 05/20/2025

Update to a Previous Input: No

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

Council File Number: 25-0600

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date: 05/13/2025

Item Number:

Summary: The Winnetka Neighborhood Council ("WNC") urges the City Council to reconsider key aspects of the proposed FY 2025–26 City Budget and amend them to better reflect fiscal responsibility and community-centered priorities. We oppose the proposed reduction in funding for Neighborhood Councils from \$32,000 to \$25,000 per fiscal year. COVID-era cuts have already inflicted millions of dollars in NC funding losses even though other departments regained their prior funding levels. The diminished funding has drastically and negatively impacted the ability of NCs to fund important community projects and programs. Neighborhood Councils and community members and organizations that rely on them have already contributed more than their share to City-wide savings. A large city like Los Angeles

requires professional fiscal oversight. We support the creation of a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) role to provide year-round financial strategy, long-term capital planning, and fiscal accountability — something this budget urgently lacks. In Conclusion, the WNC urges the City Council to amend the budget accordingly before adoption. The proposed budget does not adequately prioritize essential services or reflect a sustainable financial vision for our city.



Council File 25-0600 Winnetka NC CIS.pdf

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WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

20122 Vanowen St. Winnetka, CA 9130

May 19, 2025

Re: Council File 25-0600 - Community Impact Statement – Oppose Proposed Budget Unless Amended

Budget Proposal Fiscal Year 2025-26

Attention: City Council and Committees; BONC; Ethics

The Winnetka Neighborhood Council (“WNC”) urges the City Council to reconsider key aspects of the proposed FY 2025–26 City Budget and amend them to better reflect fiscal responsibility and community-centered priorities.

1. Do Not Further Cut Neighborhood Council Funding

We oppose the proposed reduction in funding for Neighborhood Councils from \$32,000 to \$25,000 per fiscal year. COVID-era cuts have already inflicted millions of dollars in NC funding losses even though other departments regained their prior funding levels. The diminished funding has drastically and negatively impacted the ability of NCs to fund important community projects and programs. Neighborhood Councils and community members and organizations that rely on them have already contributed more than their share to City-wide savings.

2. Defer Convention Center Expansion

The proposed \$5 billion investment in the Convention Center (including interest) is fiscally irresponsible in our current economic environment. These funds could preserve public sector jobs or repair critical infrastructure. We urge the City to suspend or significantly scale down this project and reallocate funds toward core municipal services.

3. Provide a Realistic Liability Budget

The City's liability reserve of \$187 million is nearly \$100 million short of anticipated expenditures. The continued reliance on artificially low liability projections undermines public trust and sets the City up for future budget shocks. A credible liability estimate must be included to ensure transparency and preparedness.

4. Stop Replacing Civilian Roles with Sworn LAPD Officers

The proposed layoffs of LAPD civilian staff will result in costly inefficiencies. When sworn officers are tasked with clerical or non-law enforcement duties, taxpayers bear the burden. Rebalancing staffing by preserving key civilian roles saves money without reducing public safety.

5. Reevaluate Cuts to Animal Services

The closure of the West Los Angeles animal shelter and reduced spay/neuter funding will increase stray animal populations and long-term costs. A short-term cut now risks a larger crisis later. The humane and financially prudent path is to preserve key Animal Services functions.

A single unaltered female cat and her offspring can produce up to thousands of cats in seven years. Preventing that through spay/neuter costs as little as \$70–\$100 per animal, making it far more cost-effective than sheltering or euthanizing abandoned pets. The last time LA underfunded sterilization efforts in the early 2000s, expensive intake and euthanasia rates spiked. The underfunding then required even more expenditures to correct the problem later. Cutting the animal services budget is penny wise, pound foolish.

6. Appoint a Chief Financial Officer for the City

A large city like Los Angeles requires professional fiscal oversight. We support the creation of a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) role to provide year-round financial strategy, long-term capital planning, and fiscal accountability — something this budget urgently lacks.

In Conclusion, the WNC urges the City Council to amend the budget accordingly before adoption. The proposed budget does not adequately prioritize essential services or reflect a sustainable financial vision for our city.

Winnetka Neighborhood Council



Mihran Kalaydjian, President

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Winnetka Neighborhood Council
20122 Vanowen St, Winnetka CA 91306