

Communication from Public

Name: Ben Cassorla

Date Submitted: 11/29/2023 06:26 AM

Council File No: 22-1196-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Dear councilmembers, My name is Ben Cassorla. I live in CD13 and I am a member of LA Forward. I've been actively engaged with OUR LA's convenings this year providing my thoughts, concerns, and ideas to create an IRC that is inclusive and representative of my community and that it leads a process that deeply engages all Angelenos to help create fair district lines that reflects and unifies our diverse communities. I write to you today because I want to ensure that you vote in favor of establishing an independent redistricting commission and that you ensure that the City's IRC is equitable and represents as broad a swath of our citizens as possible Thank you for your consideration, Ben Cassorla

Communication from Public

Name: Elias Naranjo

Date Submitted: 11/29/2023 11:17 AM

Council File No: 22-1196-S1

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Elias. I live in East LA. I've been actively engaged with OUR LA's convening this year providing my thoughts, concerns, and ideas to create an IRC that is inclusive and representative of my community and that it leads a process that deeply engages all Angelenos to help create fair district lines that reflects and unifies our diverse communities. I write to you today because I want to ensure that you vote in favor of establishing an independent redistricting commission and that you ensure that the City's IRC Choose any and as many of the six priority issues from the first page to write about. This matters to me and my community because we deserve to have access to city counsel meetings during the weekends and evenings on weekdays. Doing the opposite doesn't fully get the full message from the community. While others are busy working, things in the city get passed which doesn't feel democratic. It is important for my community to show up and be able to actually show up because you all offer more accesible time to the community.

Communication from Public

Name: GAYLA KRAETSCH HARTSOUGH

Date Submitted: 11/29/2023 11:22 AM

Council File No: 22-1196-S1

Comments for Public Posting: As the 2021 Executive Director for the Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission, I can attest to the advantages of independent redistricting. I support the adoption of a truly independent redistricting commission in the City of Los Angeles. City Council lines should be drawn without the influence of politicians, and district boundaries should prioritize communities of interest. We deserve a fair process that puts Angelenos first. I urge you to vote for an independent redistricting commission and end gerrymandering in our city.

Communication from Public

Name: Empowering Pacific Islander Communities

Date Submitted: 11/29/2023 11:42 AM

Council File No: 22-1196-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Dear councilmembers, On behalf of Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC), I am writing to ensure that you vote in favor of establishing an independent redistricting commission and that you ensure that the City's IRC will increase public oversight of commissioner applications; support community based organizations (CBOs); set a higher equity standard for achieving meaningful community engagement; and prioritize an inclusive and unbiased selection process. EPIC is a pro-Black, pro-Indigenous and anti-racist national advocacy organization based in Los Angeles that was established in 2009 to advance social justice for the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) community through culture-centered advocacy, leadership development, and research. We have been actively engaged with OUR LA's convenings this year providing our thoughts, concerns, and ideas to create an IRC that is inclusive and representative of my community and that it leads a process that deeply engages all Angelenos to help create fair district lines that reflects and unifies our diverse communities. CBOs that directly work with and/or are located in regions containing hard-to-reach communities, including CBOs that engage with/serve communities that speak other languages/dialects, are consistently met with barriers to apply and have the opportunity to receive grants without the disproportionate burdens of bidding and reporting. It is critical that the IRC will provide CBOs with sufficient funding and resources to carry out community outreach, training, and education campaign efforts throughout the City's redistricting process. We appreciate that the proposal directs the City Clerk to monitor applications in order to adjust outreach efforts and enhance submissions of underrepresented groups/regions accordingly. Demographic data on applications should be made publicly available as well. The public can play an instrumental role in responding to missing or underrepresented demographic/regional groups by leading outreach efforts to increase application submissions from these groups. Additionally, this enhances transparency and trust in the redistricting process. This matters to our organization and community because private, aggregated data masks the language needs that exist in the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) population. Without public facing accurate data, the city is omitting a big part of the NHPI

community and closes any door for the city and the public to identify program gaps that exist. By not publicly reporting the number of NHPs and Indigenous people erase and diminish their existence and experiences. Increasing public oversight of commissioner applications is another step to dismantle systemic racism by finally shedding lights on groups that are often overlooked. In addition, English language proficiency, citizenship status, or voting record should NOT be requirements for serving on the commission, nor will they be used to discriminate against potential commissioners. The City Ethics Commission should not reduce the candidate pool to 150, an arbitrary number. All applicants that meet the qualifying criteria should have the opportunity to be selected as a commissioner through the two-step selection process. Reducing the pool of qualified candidates by any entity creates a process vulnerable to bias, potentially disadvantaging applicants by age, profession, income, education level, or English language proficiency. These indicators sets an unfair burden on the City Ethics Commission to determine which candidates are more qualified than others. The City's IRC must prioritize an inclusive and unbiased selection process throughout these processes. For these reasons, Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC) strongly supports that you vote in favor of establishing an independent redistricting commission. Thank you for your consideration, Estella Owoimaha-Church Executive Director Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC)

Communication from Public

Name: Aydin Yelkovan
Date Submitted: 11/29/2023 07:43 PM
Council File No: 22-1196-S1
Comments for Public Posting: I would love ethics reform that reflects public consensus! No public official should operate outside of this common public will!!!