



clerk CIS <clerk.cis@lacity.org>

Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 15-0389-S2

LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>
 Reply-To: LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com>
 To: Clerk.CIS@lacity.org, commission@empowerla.org

Fri, Apr 19, 2024 at 9:07 PM

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: Palms

Name: Kay Hartman

Email: kay.hartman@palmsnc.la

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(7) Nay(2) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 04/03/2024

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 04/20/2024

Update to a Previous Input: No

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

Council File Number: 15-0389-S2

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Palms Neighborhood Council opposes Council File 15-0389-S2 granting the Community Councils of Brentwood and Pacific Palisades the same privileges as those afforded to certified Neighborhood Councils under Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 22.819. We recommend that Community Councils follow the current procedures to become certified Neighborhood Councils.

Ref:MSG10207888



Oppose 15-0389-S2 final clean.pdf

12K

Council File 15-0389-S2
To City Council and Departments and BONC
Oppose

The Palms Neighborhood Council opposes Council File 15-0389-S2 granting the Community Councils of Brentwood and Pacific Palisades the same privileges as those afforded to certified Neighborhood Councils under Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 22.819. We recommend that Community Councils follow the current procedures to become certified Neighborhood Councils.

Neighborhood Councils have to follow a number of procedural rules in order to file Community Impact Statements including, but not limited to, compliance with the Brown Act, the California Public Records Act, certified elections or selections, relevant City ordinances, as well as the policies and rules set by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Los Angeles Ethics Commission, and the City Clerk. Our meetings are free and open to all members of the public. Community Councils are not legally required to adhere to these same rules, creating a lack of transparency and procedural oversight.

All Neighborhood Council members are also required to complete City training on funding, records requirements, and ethics compliance. Community Councils are privately-run entities that are not held to the same standards as Neighborhood Councils, but would be able to influence City decision making in the same way as Neighborhood Councils which opens up the possibility of corruption, unethical practices, and unfair financial advantages.

Most Community Councils privately select their boards, requiring an application process and suggested monetary contribution or dues payment which is *absolutely antithetical* to democracy.

Community Councils also solicit monetary contributions which Neighborhood Councils are not allowed to accept. This would allow for a *pay-to-play* loophole where wealthy entities can pay to skirt government rules, regulations, and processes in order to benefit from the same power of influence as Neighborhood Councils.

The Community Impact Statement is the only tool Neighborhood Councils truly have to formally participate and influence government decision-making. Allowing any group of individuals the same access without the same rules, transparency, regulations, and ethics-compliance renders this tool inert and significantly dilutes its legitimacy. It also vastly weakens any reason for a formal certification process for Neighborhood Councils in the first place.

This motion, if approved, would give these Community Councils the same privileges as Neighborhood Councils without requiring them to shoulder the same responsibilities. If this motion is approved, there is no benefit to being a Certified Neighborhood Council. The end result could very well be for all certified Neighborhood Councils to decertify and

also have the privileges without the responsibilities and it would mark the end of the Neighborhood Council system as we know it.