

Communication from Public

Name: Sunland Tujunga Resident

Date Submitted: 05/03/2021 04:29 PM

Council File No: 21-0407

Comments for Public Posting: After I made my comment I saw a comment on Facebook about the voter turnout in our neighboring NC, Foothill Trails. They had a total of 19 voters. I then decided to look at the vote totals in the other NC's in Region 1 that voted on the same day as us that supposedly do not "suppress" votes with a documentation requirement (I guess that is why our councilwoman singled Sunland Tujunga out) : Arleta: 57, Foothill Trails: 19, Mission Hills 17, North Hills: 140, Pacoima: 176, Panorama City 76, and voter suppressing Sunland Tujunga NC at 632, yes that says six hundred thirty two. Of course this is just adding up the votes as best I could, the City Clerk probably has the exact data, but it does show our NC ran true to form with a high turn out, not an unusually low one for the area but lower for us because of the vote by mail only. I disagree with the commenter who said our outreach was poor in ST, our elections committee and the various slates worked tirelessly to try and get people to register but were hampered by a complex procedure that required people to copy and send personal information. Hopefully we won't have another pandemic, so this problem will solve itself. I agree with the other commenters who are concerned that no documentation as to stakeholder status could lead to widespread fraud and takeover of NCs by people who don't qualify to vote there. The amazingly low turnout in some other areas show this would be really easy to do. I also agree with their observation that requiring people to scan and send ID was a big detriment to voter turn out. Many absolutely refused to do this and wondered why it was harder to vote in an NC election than it was to vote for U.S. President. Why the City did not let people check a box and say "I'm registered to vote, check the voter rolls to verify my information" is beyond me. That would qualify a lot of voters. If the City really wants more participation they should let people vote in person for the rest of the NC elections that are fortunate enough to be voting when the pandemic is much better. The scanning and sending of ID to get a ballot was the real problem, not requiring some paper (driver's license, California ID, utility bill, rent agreement, paycheck stub or something else that proves you qualify) that a poll worker just looks at before giving you a ballot is not that big a deal when weighed against the risk of voter fraud. Sunland Tujunga did this in 2019, and all sides agreed the election process

was fine even those who didn't like the election results.

Communication from Public

Name: Liliana Sanchez

Date Submitted: 05/03/2021 10:28 PM

Council File No: 21-0407

Comments for Public Posting: Thank you CM Monica Rodriguez for presenting this motion.?? I am a resident of Sunland-Tujunga and the outgoing President of our STNC 2019-2021. ??Neighborhood Council elections are a perfect opportunity for every stakeholder that lives, works or owns real property within the boundaries of the neighborhood council to participate in the elections process. The city of Los Angeles allows stakeholders who are 16 plus years of age and even non citizens to vote in NC elections. The current language in our STNC Bylaws (Article X Elections: Section 3) is left to one's personal interpretation and creates an obstacle requiring non citizen voters the need to verify their stakeholder's status by requiring one to provide "acceptable documentation." In a community of close to 60,000 residents only 2-3% of residents participate in NC elections. Sunland-Tujunga's Latino population is approximately 33% and is way underrepresented in our NC system. I am the first Latina to ever serve as President on the STNC in their 18 years of existence. Our BIPOC stakeholders need to be provided with better outreach and remove any obstacles so they too can participate. I dream of the day that our STNC board reflects the broad population that makes Sunland-Tujunga the great community that it is. ??I welcome an analysis on the bylaws of all 99 NCs throughout the city of Los Angeles. I welcome standardized election rules if it means making elections an easier process to better outreach to the disenfranchised stakeholders in our community. ?I would welcome a voter roster from the City Clerks office similar to the ones we use during general elections of all existing ST stakeholders. ?Respectfully, Liliana Sanchez ST Resident