

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

February 11 , 2026

Agenda Item # 10

Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) Charter Reform Recommendations

To: The Los Angeles Charter Reform Commission
From: Neighborhood Council Leaders

On January 21, 2026, the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) presented a set of Charter Reform recommendations to the Charter Reform Commission. You can find the full list of recommendations [here](#) and the recommended Charter changes [here](#). The list of reforms below are highlights from our recommendations.

In an [April 26, 2023 article by LAist Civics and Democracy reporter Frank Stoltze](#), Mayor Bass “promised to evaluate the city’s neighborhood council system.” The article adds, “Bass said she wants to ‘really improve the system...’” This is our opportunity to make sure we deliver on her promise.

We, the undersigned, support these reforms. We are counting on the Commission to respond by making these vitally needed changes to the Charter.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL REFORMS

- Neighborhood Council right to speak
 - Neighborhood Councils shall have the right to speak, in person and telephonically, before all public meetings of the City, be in a separate queue from public comment, and shall be given five minutes to speak
 - NCs shall have the right to speak whenever an item appears on an agenda, even in cases where that item has already been heard by a committee
 - Neighborhood Councils, regardless of the City’s position, may deliver to any governmental agency a statement passed in a Brown Act public meeting at which there is quorum. The City may create and require language to indicate the NC is speaking for itself and not the City.
 - Neighborhood Councils shall monitor the delivery of City services in their respective areas and the City at-large. City services shall include all departments defined in the Charter and created by ordinance, joint power commissions, and offices of elected officials.

- City Departments, Commissions, and Offices that issue permits, approvals, or regulatory decisions following a public hearing (including but not limited to the City Planning Department, Department of Cannabis Regulation, and any successor or related offices) and ministerial construction projects that bypass City Planning and go directly to the Department of Building and Safety shall give NCs a minimum of 30 calendar days to weigh in.
 - The Department of City Planning shall ensure that all documents related to a case before the Department, including ministerial projects that bypass the Department of City Planning and go directly to the Department of Building and Safety are made public and posted to the online case file.
- During budget challenges, the percentage of Neighborhood Councils budget reductions shall not be greater than that of the office of the Mayor. When the Mayor's office budget is restored after the budget challenge, the Neighborhood Councils budgets are similarly restored.
- The City Attorney shall give advice or opinion in writing when requested by a Neighborhood Council President or Chair
- Increased the number of commissioners from seven to nine with the two additional commissioners being at-large and appointed by Neighborhood Councils
 - At the same time as departments, Neighborhood Councils shall submit their budget request for the following year. The two at-large BONC commissioners shall be a single point-of-contact and shall organize the requests into a single request for the Mayor's consideration.

CITY-WIDE REFORMS

- The Ethics Commission shall have the ability to send items directly to the ballot when the City Council does not advance a recommendation or heavily amends a recommendation
- Five-year capital infrastructure plan that is updated bi-annually.
- Transparent and Ethical Council Votes. City Council members shall
 - Actively vote yes, no, or abstain on each motion on the agenda
 - Be visible to the public for the vote to count
 - File a Form 51 when recusing from a vote
 - Only be permitted to vote at City Council and Committee meetings if their required training is current.
- Update to codify mandatory telephonic public comment. Working people cannot go downtown to get on a queue where they hope to get one minute to speak.

We thank the Commissioners for taking the time to hear our January 21 presentation and for giving thoughtful consideration to our recommendations.

PLEASE DO NOT EDIT THE PRECEDING LETTER OTHER THAN TO ADD YOUR SIGNATURE (NAME) AT THE BOTTOM

*Neighborhood Council designations are for identification purposes only.

1. Kay Hartman, Palms Neighborhood Council
2. Jamie York, Reseda Neighborhood Council

3. Matthew Tallmer, Mid City West Neighborhood Council
4. Lydia Grant, Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
5. Daniel A. Perez, Central Hollywood & Pico Union Neighborhood Councils
6. Chris Ahuja
7. Lionel Mares, Foothills Trails District Neighborhood Council
8. Amos Marvel, Reseda Neighborhood Council
9. Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger, Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council
10. Kelly Cole, Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council
11. Charles Miller, Palms Neighborhood Council Green Committee
12. Colin Jaehnke, Palms Neighborhood Council
13. Andres Perkins, Reseda Neighborhood Council
14. Carol L. Newman
15. Christopher Gonzalez Wienberg
16. Jamie Tully, Palms Neighborhood Council Planning and Land Use Committee
17. Helen Tocco, Palms Neighborhood Council
18. Elvis Diaz, Watts Neighborhood Council
19. Maebe A. Girl, Silver Lake Neighborhood Council
20. James Askew, NoHo Neighborhood Council
21. Brandi D'Amore, Hollywood United Neighborhood Council
22. Mihran Kalaydjian, Winnetka Neighborhood Council
23. Ibrahim Mimou, Silver Lake Neighborhood Council
24. Max Hawkins
25. Heinrich Keifer, Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council Stakeholder
26. Kristen Chiarello, Palms Neighborhood Council
27. Jon Rawlings, Tarzana Neighborhood Council
28. Heath Kline, Woodland Hills - Warner Center Neighborhood Council
29. Joseph Mollaie, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
30. Norma O. Chávez, Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
31. Rosalío García, Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
32. Daniel Bagumyan, Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
33. Alison Regan, Past president, Palms Neighborhood Council
34. Adrian Fernandez, Vice President, Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council
35. Melanie Labrecque, Treasurer, Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
36. Pam Bingham, Van Nuys Neighborhood Council
37. Adan Martinez, Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council
38. William Burt, Treasurer, Winnetka Neighborhood Council
39. Roy Nwaisser, President, Encino Neighborhood Council
40. Linda Gravani, President, Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council