RESOLUTION

Be it resolved that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners creates the following policy:

Limitations on Boundary Adjustment Petitions that seek to reduce a Neighborhood Council's Geographic Boundaries.

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WHEREAS, Article VI, section 2 of the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils ("Plan"), allows a Neighborhood Council to petition the Commission to adjust its boundaries and the reasons for boundary adjustment "may include, but are not limited to:

    (i)   Including an uncertified adjacent community;

    (ii)   Reconfiguring based on population decrease or increase; or,

    (iii)   Increasing or reducing a Certified Neighborhood Council's size to increase effectiveness and efficiency;"

WHEREAS, a Neighborhood Council that seeks to reduce its certified boundaries, if granted, would result in a geographic area of stakeholders that would no longer be included within a Neighborhood Council ("unrepresented stakeholders");

WHEREAS the Plan and Charter express the goal of inclusion of the City's stakeholders in a neighborhood councils and seek to avoid unrepresented stakeholders;

WHEREAS previous policies of this Commission have similarly expressed a desire to avoid creating geographic areas in the City that are not contained in the boundaries of a Neighborhood Council, specifically, those discussions and efforts by the Commission in 2004 to address the inclusion of "orphaned" or unincorporated areas into the boundaries of a Neighborhood Council where an "orphaned" or unincorporated area is a geographic area that is completely surrounded by certified Neighborhood Councils but not included in any of those Neighborhood Councils;

WHEREAS any increase or effectiveness in the operations of a Neighborhood Council attributed to a reduction in its geographic area is mitigated if the stakeholders are placed in a situation where they are geographically unrepresented by any Neighborhood Council because those unrepresented stakeholders face the administrative delay and uncertainty of attempting to again be included within the boundaries of a Neighborhood Council; and

WHEREAS Section 902 (b) Article IX of the new Charter provides that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners "shall be responsible for policy setting and policy oversight, including the approval of contracts and leases and the promulgation of rules and regulations but not be responsible for day-to-day management."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners establishes the following policy regarding the limitations on a boundary adjustment petitions that seek to reduce a Neighborhood Council's geographic boundaries.
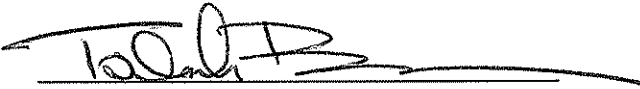
Resolution:
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POLICY NUMBER:

> **2008-01**

At the hearing on a Neighborhood Council's boundary adjustment petition where the petition seeks to reduce the Neighborhood Council's geographic boundaries, it shall be the policy of the Commission to deny the petition unless an adjacent Neighborhood Council has also submitted a joint boundary adjustment petition that will expand its boundaries and incorporate the area from the Neighborhood Council that is reducing its boundaries.

In the situation where one Neighborhood Council has filed a boundary adjustment petition seeking to reduce its boundaries it shall be the policy of the Commission to find that the petition should not be granted because it does not increase the effectiveness or efficiency of the Neighborhood Council. There is not an increase in effectiveness or efficiency because, if the petition were to be granted, the stakeholders in the area proposed for reduction would become geographically unrepresented by any Neighborhood Council, which is contrary to the goals and policies of the neighborhood council system, and the stakeholders would be burdened with the administrative delay and uncertainty of attempting to again be included within the boundaries of a Neighborhood Council.

Moved by: _____

Member, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Seconded by: _____

Member, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Witnessed by: _____

Bianca Vite, Commission Executive Assistant

VOTES:

Ayes: _____5_____

Nays: _____∅_____   DATE: _APR. 21, 2008_