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**BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
FUNDING EQUITY WORK GROUP**

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES-APPROVED  
Tuesday, February 27, 2018 6:30 PM**

**LOCATION: Van Nuys City Hall Council Chambers  
[14410 Sylvan Street](#)  
[Van Nuys, CA 91401](#)**

**[\\*Parking located at the Marvin Braude Building](#)**

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The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Work Group on any agenda item before the Work Group takes an action on an item. The amount of time for each agenda item is to be determined by the Chair at each meeting. Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to the item on the agenda. The Chair may rule that the speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to the item under consideration. If multiple speaker cards are submitted on one agenda item, preference will be granted to members of the public who have not spoken previously during the meeting, either during general public comment or on another agenda item.

A member of the public wishing to speak on more than one agenda item at a single meeting shall limit his or her remarks to a total of five (5) minutes per meeting. Comments by members of the public who have submitted multiple speaker cards and want to speak on all items for up to five minutes at one time. Members of the public who choose to speak on multiple agenda items will be given the opportunity to also speak during General Public Comments.

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Work Group's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 15 minutes maximum. No individual speaker will be allowed more than 3 minutes, unless presiding officer of the Work Group decides differently.

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS  
 NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL FUNDING EQUITY WORK GROUP  
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The agenda is posted for public review in Main Street Lobby of City Hall East at 200 North Main Street and at 20th Floor, City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. The Agenda and Report(s) related to an agenda item will be available for review at [www.Empowerla.org](http://www.Empowerla.org). Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department at (213) 978-1551.

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL (213) 978-1551.

1. [6:46] Introduction (5 minutes)
2. Call to Order and Roll call (1 minute)

1	Brian Allen - <b>P</b>	Chair	Region 2
2	Tony Wilkinson - <b>P</b>	Vice Chair	Region 1
3	Terrence Gomes - <b>AB</b>	Secretary	Region 11
4	Melanie Labrecque - <b>P</b>	Minutes Taker	Region 12

5	Krystee Clark - <b>AB</b>	Region 1
6	Garry Fordyce - <b>P</b>	Region 2
7	Harvey Goldberg - <b>P</b>	Region 3
8	Corinne Ho - <b>P</b>	Region 3
9	Carol Rose - <b>AB</b>	Region 4
10	Carlos Ferreya - <b>AB</b>	Region 4
11	Emily Kantrim - <b>P</b>	Region 5
12	Brad Kane - <b>P</b>	Region 5
13	James Hornik - <b>P</b>	Region 6
14	Laura Rudison - <b>AB</b>	Region 6

15	Mark Mauceri - <b>P</b>	Region 7
16	Darcy Harris - <b>AB</b>	Region 7
17	Jamie Tijerina - <b>P</b>	Region 8
18	Lynda Valencia - <b>P</b>	Region 8
19	Everett Banks - <b>AB</b>	Region 9
20	Bridgette Kidd - <b>P</b>	Region 9
21	Wendell Greer - <b>P</b>	Region 10
22	Kathy Guyton - <b>P</b>	Region 10
23	Doug Fitzsimmons - <b>P</b>	Region 11
24	Khixaan Obioma-Sakhu - <b>AB</b>	Region 12

**P = Present**

**AB = Absent**

3. Discussion with Neighborhood Council representatives on any Neighborhood Council Resolution or Community Impact Statement filed with the City Clerk, which relates to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Neighborhood Council Funding Equity Work Group.
  - **(None)**

4. General Public Comment – Comments from the public on non-agenda items with the Working Group's subject matter jurisdiction. This agenda item will last a total of 15 minutes and no individual speaker will be allowed more than three minutes. (15 minutes)

**Public Comment:**

- George Ortega – Concept of equity is difficult. All the money to Neighborhood Councils is \$4 million Dollars. If you take a population of a city times \$1.50 per population number in their area. Money to population is not equitable.
- Heath Kline – Treasurer Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council – They are the 5<sup>th</sup> largest commercial area and employment hub for the valley. We have large developers in the area. Current funding talk is that they are considering breaking up and forming multiple Neighborhood Councils.
- John D – Panorama City Neighborhood Council - John D passed out a proposal for funding. There are 3 different options but stated the middle one makes the most sense and most equitable without hurting anyone drastically. Average increase is \$4,300 and average decrease is about \$3,300. Neighborhood Councils exists for a reason and that is to outreach to stakeholders.
- Glenn Bailey – Northridge East Neighborhood Council President - Thanked Chair and Committee for distributing recommendations. Entire system should be a \$2,000 haircut not a \$10,000 haircut. Offer from Herb Wesson is still n the table for an added \$5,000 to Neighborhood Councils. There is a public commitment to increase funding so the committee needs to keep that in mind.
- Jill Barad – Founder of Valley Alliance for NC's, Sherman Oaks – Have subdivisions getting \$42,000 and Sherman Oaks has one of the largest NC's in the city. Why is Sherman Oaks getting the same money as the smaller NC's? A good look needs to be done at how the money is proportioned.
- Bill – E – Goat – Translators needed and forcing NC's to pay out of their allocated funds unacceptable. This is a violation. All translation services should be paid by DONE. Two hundred Percent increase in pay for translators is recommended. Translators are underpaid and underutilized.

5. Discussion and possible action to approve the Meeting Minutes of 02/15/2018. [[Board-of-Neighborhood-Commissioners-Special-Meeting-Minutes-of-the-NC-Funding-Equity-Wg-02.15.18-DRAFT.pdf](#)]

- Motion Made by Corinne Ho and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Simmons
- Garry Fordyce – Name Correction and all Caps for DONE and EMPOWER LA
- Ayes: 12
- Nays: 0
- Abstention: 4
- Absent: 8

6. Discussion and possible motion to recommend to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to make a request to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to create a Shared Lease Program in 60 days in collaboration with the Department of General Services based on the original intent of CF 16-0298 and data collected by the City Controller to allow Neighborhood Councils to occupy vacant or under-utilized City owned property.

Board of Neighborhood Commissioners should also request the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to investigate the possibility of a partnership with the Los Angeles Unified School District to have a location sharing agreement for Neighborhood Councils to hold meetings at school facilities where no City owned facilities exist in the boundaries of Neighborhood Council.

- Motion: Defer motion to end of working group meeting
- Mover: Tony Wilkinson
- Second: Melanie Labrecque

**Public Comment:**

- Emily Kantrim – Consider part of recommendation that this be part of the package.
- Brad Kane – this goes to the heart of equity. NC's are spending a lot of money for office space. Asking DONE to assist is part of their job and a very core issue.
- Emily Kantrim – Only giving two options is no broad enough. Making a broader package would be better.
- Jamie Tijerina – Important to discuss it now.
  - Action: Brian Allen – Chair - Moved item on agenda to be addressed after agenda Item 8.

7. Discussion and possible motion to recommend to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to send a letter of support for the motion being drafted by Councilmember David Ryu to remove the requirement that Neighborhood Councils pay for language translation out of the Neighborhood Council's budget and that the City creates a fund for citywide translation service for outreach to underrepresented communities.

**Public Comment:**

- Emily Kantrim – If we are asking for translation services, they should be accessible for everyone.
- Doug Fitzsimmons – I have not seen a letter or even a final version of a letter.
- Tony Wilkinson - I can accept the language as it is on the agenda if that's the letter.
- Doug Fitzsimmons – General support is fine but need to be able to weigh in on contents of letter we are approving.
- Tony Wilkinson – Wording is not as was discussed in previous discussions at meetings. It was supposed to be worded for NC's to get Translation Services funded by the city.
- Garry Fordyce – We are over complicating things. ADA and Translation services states on agenda number to call and notify if services are needed. All we are debating is who is paying for it:

- Motion: Motion to accept the support of letter drafted by David Ryu regarding Translation Services
- Mover: Tony Wilkinson
- Second: Emily Kantrim

**Public Comment:**

- Glen Bailey - Northridge East Neighborhood Council President – How can you support a motion for a letter that hasn't been drafted yet?
  
- Motion:: Motioned to Table
- Mover: Brian Allen – Chair
- Second: Melanie Labrecque

**Public Comment:**

- Jamie Tijerina – How did this item ever get on agenda?
- Mike Fong - EMPOWER LA – we got these two items late Friday. We consulted City Attorney's office and Terrance Gomes recommended the two agenda items.
- Corinne Ho – Will we have a letter next meeting?
- Mike Fong - EMPOWER LA –I will have BONC Commissioners draft a letter for the next meeting. I will circle back with the City Council Office.
  
- Ayes: 12
- Nays: 4
- Abstention: 0
- Absent: 8
- Action: Motion Tabled

8. Discussion and possible action to approve recommendations to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners related to translation cost, office lease cost, Neighborhood Purpose Grants, and community stakeholder percentages of the Neighborhood Councils.

Action: Removed from Agenda, Agenda Item #8

9. Continuation of a method for discussion, analysis, and concept review, to potentially be adopted as a tool to be used in designing a final Equity Funding Proposal. [[Update addendum to Initial working proposal for Equity Funding](#)] [[Equity Funding Worksheets and Analysis for Consideration 2-21-18 Rev 2](#)]

**Board Public Comment:**

- Tony Wilkinson – Distributed his proposal for funding for the Funding Working Group to consider.
- Brad Kane – Make recommendation that DONE make Elections the same day as Election Day and foot the bill. Would request that some financial disincentive so that subdivisions don't happen. Neighborhood Councils are better together then separate.
- Emily Kantrim – I support what Brad Kane said. We need to say focused on the list that has been discussed before and provide discussion about it. We have an opportunity to go down a list of what we have identified.

- Brian Allen – It's easy to get off track. We all have personal opinions but its not our charter. We have been charged with finding an equitable way to fund all Neighborhood Councils.
- Harvey Goldberg – Conceptual wise we are trying to get 97 Neighborhood Councils to do Outreach and DONE should be doing Outreach on the Neighborhood Councils Behalf. Reaching out by mail, bulk mail is very expensive. It should be DONES' responsibility to spread money based on square miles. Divide it by population, plus work force. What Equity we are looking for is Translation, Rent and Operations.
- Tony Wilkinson – My Proposal and John D's really aren't that different. I went home and played with the numbers, and tried to work with the numbers so it would make it so everything was equal. I picked a base and then I went from there. My Base was \$32,000 for everyone. With that base only 5 small Neighborhood Councils don't make \$37,000. Variable amount suggest giving \$50,000 back. Distribute based on population. Korea town for example would get \$57,000 and full funding with the Bump they would be up to \$77,000. Any new subdivisions would only get \$16,000. If they break up and more than 2 subdivisions in area then they would lose the grandfathered base of \$32,000.
- Marc Mauceri – Before you create algorithm and affect people's money, talk about Stakeholders. It's all based on Stakeholders. Stakeholders are difficult to calculate. Population is agreeable, Stakeholders are difficult to get an idea and need to be accurate. The definition of Stakeholder is defective. Anybody under the terms that DONE has identified terms for can claim being a Stakeholder. Anyone can make a legitimate claim for being one in any Neighborhood Council area. John D and Tony Wilkinson did a good job. Not clear on how figures came to be. Need to do a deal with LAUSD and decrease spending on office and meeting space. Neighborhood Council spending can't be determined equally. Need to look at Population, years in business, land under stakeholder boundaries, everything else subjective.

**General Public Comment:**

- Joanne – West Hills – I am looking at the figures on your charts for population and the figure of 38,686 people is wrong. Stakeholder size is over 38,800.
- John D – Panorama City Neighborhood Council - Objective base of my analysis is that I submitted is Outreach is essential. Cost more money to talk to more people.
- Ted Mann – Stakeholder for Northwest San Pedro NC – Different ways to objectify the whole procedure based on which Neighborhood Council you speak to. \$32,000-\$37,000 floor seems more equitable funds for the neighborhood councils. Need to use city space for Neighborhood council meetings instead of Neighborhood council funds. Neighborhood Councils need to use Internet based newsletters, social media and websites that are accessible for everyone instead of relying on Neighborhood Council funding for these things. All these items would save money for all Neighborhood Councils.

- Lee Blumfeld – Zoning restriction, ocean view restrictions, pack more people, like in valley should get more money. Some have commercial over residence or vice versa. Limit Amount of NC's in district representation, per city council.
- August Star – Woodland Hills – Warner Center – Is it right for Warner Center to get .50 cents per resident when other Neighborhood Councils get \$4.00 a person. What does it cost to do business for an Neighborhood Council
- Arthur – Treasurer Toluca Lake – Its difficult to make this equitable. Good Idea but big task.
- Bill –E- Goat – Korean Americans are getting ripped off by this city. Herb Wesson the racist stopped it. He divided Korea Town into three districts. Korean Americans saved Los Angeles and they only have one rep on your board. You need to have metrics that are equal. People that pay property tax are not getting their fair shake.

**Board Members Public Comment:**

- Wendell Greer – Profanity from Bill E Goat is out of order. Pointed out to chair.
- Melanie Labrecque – I met with some Stakeholders and Neighborhood Council Board Members in Region 12 and they made some suggestions. The City Of Los Angles should fund all meeting spaces for Neighborhood Councils as well as Translation costs. The Funding Base should be equitable and start at \$32,000-\$37,000 per NC. This was the original funding that the NC's started with. Take either of these amounts and based on population and that to the base to get total funding. Micromanaging every NC on their spending is not the purpose of Neighborhood Councils. It's up to each NC how to spend their money based on Stakeholder/Community need. There is a minimum number of population to have an NC, why not maximum also. There should be no interference of telling NC's how to operate or spend money. You should not penalize NC's for being efficient. Who will pay for Security when needed and also what happens to Elections when you cut some neighborhood councils funding? Region 12 gets ignored for a lot of needs in the area. Reducing funding would have a huge impact.
- Doug Fitzsimmons – Correct population counts are needed. Remove burden for NC's and it's a zero sum game. Are you willing to drop the base to pay for translation and office space? Council's borders stretch two districts and it's hard to limit the amount of Neighborhood Councils.
- Brian Allen – We have met three times now and we understand concerns about larger NC's not getting funded enough. We know population counts are not error free. How do we help The City of Los Angeles and our Communities? We can't' achieve the goal if we set a flat base for everyone.
- Garry Fordyce – 250 years ago we found out the Senate and House divided by population. You can't count Stakeholders. We already named items to have a base created. Population is the only thing that can be used as a base. If we are going to do equity, it has to be fair and accurate.
- Brian Allen – We want to be careful not to set restrictions to NC's and be as fair as we possibly can.

**10.** Discussion and possible motion to recommend to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to make a request for City Council to reinstate Neighborhood Councils' ability to accept donations of cash and / or property, for use in normal Neighborhood Council operations. All, cash funds, would be turned over to the City and recorded as funding available for the Neighborhood Council in its portal. All property donations would be maintained by the Neighborhood Council and used for Outreach only. The City Clerk would maintain records of receipt and use for review.

**Board Members Public Comment:**

- Emily Kantrim – Issues with In Kind donations has been brought up in past. Have seen it go south before would this allow NC's to go back and do this retroactive?
- City Attorneys Offices- Currently NC's can't accept donations. At this time it has to go before City Councils. There was a Sunset Ordinance that allowed NC's to accept donations, but it ended. If you want to change this to accept donations it would be subject to all the Ethics Laws.
- Brian Allen – Right now we are dealing with the concept.
- Tony Wilkinson - We are opening up a can of worms. We have enough problems sealing with funding issues that we and I cannot support this.
- Corinne Ho – I cannot support this concept either

**Public Comment:**

- John D – Panorama City Neighborhood Council – We should not be discussion this at this time.
- Bill –E – Goat – Why can't we "Pay to Play"? Everyone else gets to like Herb Wesson and everyone else on City Council. Teach the kids how business is done.
- Glen Bailey - Northridge East Neighborhood Council President- I was the member of the 2013 review committee and they recommended that the Donation Administration code be readmitted. Ask the Department how many donations were received and how many problems occurred. Suggest linking the original ordinance to read on next agenda. Last time it was under review it was under EMPOWER LA and too much for them maintain. Now that its under City Clerk's office, make sure that they can handle the management of it.

- Action: Motion To Table
- Mover: Brian Allen
- Second: Doug Fitzsimmons
- Ayes: 11
- Nays: 5
- Abstention: 0
- Absent: 8



**11.** Discussion and possible motion to recommend to Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to make a request for City Council to reinstate a Roll Over condition for the Neighborhood Council funding to be monitored by the City Clerk. Final design and options to be determined before any final Neighborhood Council funding recommendation by the Work Group.

**Public Comment:**

- Billy-E-Goat- \$571,745.11 got wasted. Rollover is a good idea.
- Glen Bailey - Northridge East Neighborhood Council President – You should set a maximum rollover of up to \$50,000 a year was what originally was allowed it got to a point where councils had \$150,000 in their roll over amount still... This was ended by the City Council because EMPOWER LA didn't keep proper records of the money and it became a problem. Herb Wesson supported a rollover of \$5,000 to \$10,000 a year. Tracking of Money is now being done by City Clerk's Office they should be able with new system to track this on the portal.

Action: Motion to Adopt the Concept of Rollover Monies for Neighborhood Councils

Mover: Mark Mauceri

Second: Doug Fitzsimmons

Ayes: 16

Nays: 0

Abstention: 0

Absent: 8

**12.** Work Group Business - Comment from Members on subject matters within the Work Group's jurisdiction. (15 minutes)

- a. Comment on Member's own activities/brief announcements.
- b. Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights/ask staff questions for clarification.
- c. Introduce new issues for consideration by the Work Group at its next meeting and to place on the future agenda.

Mike Fong – EMPOWER LA – Any Documents that need to be submitted for next Funding Equity Meeting need to be submitted by March 8, 2018. Council File 03-1260-51 on receiving funds

**13.** [9:10 PM] Adjourn

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL FUNDING EQUITY WORK GROUP  
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**Future Neighborhood Council Funding Equity Work Group Meetings**  
(INFORMATION ONLY) *(Please note: The items listed below are tentative and may be subject to change. You are encouraged to visit the City's website at [www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org) to view Work Group agendas and [subscribe](#) through the City's Early Notification System Subscription page to receive the Work Group's agendas via email.)*

- Wednesday, March 14, 2018 - 6:30 pm City Hall East Controller's Conference Room 351, 200 N Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Tuesday, March 27, 2018 – 6:30 pm Location: Harbor Area TBD
- Wednesday, April 11, 2018 – 6:30 pm Location: North East LA Area TBD

**FINALIZATION OF BOARD ACTION:**

Per City Charter Section 245, the Board's determination shall become final at the expiration of the next five meeting days of the Council during which the City Council has convened in regular session, unless the City Council acts within that timeframe by a two-thirds vote to bring the action before them or to waive review of the action.

**EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES:**

If you challenge these agenda items in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence on these matters delivered to this agency at or prior to the public hearing. California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6 governs the time in which a party may seek judicial review of this determination. Under that provision, a petitioner may seek judicial review of any decision of the City pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.5 only if the petition for Writ of Mandate pursuant to that section is filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which the City's decision became final.

**RECONSIDERATION:**

The Work Group may make a MOTION TO RECONSIDER and alter its action taken on any item listed on this agenda at any time during this meeting, or make a MOTION TO RECONSIDER at its next regular meeting as indicated below:

If the Work Group moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at the *initial* meeting wherein an action was taken, then the underlying item may be reconsidered at that time.

If the Work Group moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at *the next regular meeting* then consideration of the item may *only* occur at this regularly scheduled meeting if the item for consideration has been placed on that meeting's agenda. If the underlying item for reconsideration has not been placed on the agenda for that next regular meeting, then it shall be considered at a subsequent meeting pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS:**

"In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners in advance of their meetings, may be viewed at the office of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, located at City Hall, 20<sup>TH</sup> Floor, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, by clicking on the Department's Web site at <http://www.EmpowerLA.org> or at the Commission meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, contact the Department at (213) 978-1551 or via e-mail: [Commission@EmpowerLA.org](mailto:Commission@EmpowerLA.org).