



North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement

Oppose Council File: [24-0867](#)

Neighborhood Council Bylaws / Youth Participation / Diversity Increase / Leadership Growth

August 21, 2024

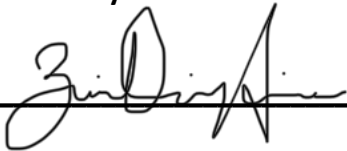
The North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council strongly opposes the proposed changes in Council File CF-24-0867. Our points are as follows:

- On the second page of the “The Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils,” it states that “Certified Neighborhood Councils shall be as independent, self-governing, and self-directed as possible.” Moving to tell the Neighborhood Councils how to distribute their board members is for us to decide, and as your motion states, each of our 99 Neighborhood Councils are vastly different and tailored to our communities.
- Although our Neighborhood Council recognizes the need of developing youth participation and increased diversity and leadership growth, we also acknowledge that our council, as well as councils like ours, often have trouble filling our existing youth seat, due to the sheer amount of committed time it takes to be a member of the council.
- Additionally, it is unclear what your definition of “youth” means. All 15 of our Council Seats are eligible for anyone aged 18+, and this adjustment was required by DONE in the first place - we previously had more seats available to 16+ but were told we had to adjust the ages.
 - On January 14, 2021, we were told by our NEA that we must adjust our Community Interest eligibility from 16 years to 18 years “The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Department) has also amended NHNENC's bylaws to implement the Community Interest Stakeholder Ordinance & Uniform Age Ordinance. These changes are necessary for the City's effective administration of upcoming Neighborhood Council elections.”
- Imposing term limits on these seats discounts the breadth of knowledge that our sitting council members have. While our NC recognizes that having the same people running the NCs time and again could pose an issue, our NC recently reduced its numbers due to lack of community involvement; therefore, imposing term limits would negatively impact our community, as we would continue to have issues with having a full board and reaching quorum.

There is work to be done to make the neighborhood councils work better - paying these elected officials; promoting the NC system as part of the civics programs at the high schools in the LAUSD system; make joining councils easier by working with the NCs to promote hybrid and virtual meetings; giving NCs a better budget that would support more outreach; rework the rules about holding events to actually foster community engagement - the list goes on.

Term limits and arbitrarily assuming the youth will automatically mean better functioning, more diverse councils is not the way forward. While we agree with the sentiment of the motion that we want more youth involvement, increased diversity, and more leadership growth, we strongly oppose this council file.

Thank you,
North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council

X  _____

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Date of Board Vote: ___8/21/24_____

Board Vote Count: Aye ___8___ Nay ___0___ Abstain ___1___ Recused ___

Motion Status: Passed ___X___ Failed ___ Other _____