

**DIRECTOR'S MOTION 13.5:** CIS — Charter Reform Commission Final Report — [\(Council File No. 26-0489\)](#)

**DIRECTOR:** Andrew Marton

**TITLE:**

Community Impact Statement — Charter Reform Commission Final Report — Neighborhood Council Elections ([Council File No. 26-0489](#))

**PURPOSE:**

To recommend that the Mar Vista Community Council file a Community Impact Statement urging amendment of the proposed Charter reform package to require regular Neighborhood Council elections and to protect funding for the administration of those elections.

**BACKGROUND:**

[Council File No. 26-0489](#) contains the Final Report of the Los Angeles Charter Reform Commission. The report proposes several Charter changes affecting Neighborhood Councils, including expanded advisory language, a separate queue for Community Impact Statements, and expansion of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. It also states that broader reform concerning “Neighborhood voices” should be addressed by a future Charter Reform Commission. The report does not, however, include a Charter requirement that Neighborhood Council elections be conducted on a regular cycle, nor does it establish protected Charter-level funding for the administration of those elections.

That omission matters. The current budget cycle demonstrates that Neighborhood Council election funding remains dependent on annual budget choices. The Mayor’s proposed FY 2026–2027 budget includes approximately \$862,000 for the Office of the City Clerk to administer the 2027 Neighborhood Council elections by vote-by-mail and approximately \$128,000 for election outreach. But that funding is proposed, not required by the Charter.

By contrast, the same Charter reform package includes express fiscal protections for other City functions, including a proposed 2% budget allocation for infrastructure and an increase in the Charter-required Recreation and Parks funding floor to 0.065% of assessed value. The report shows that where the Commission chose to provide Charter-level fiscal protection, it knew how to do so. It did not extend that protection to Neighborhood Council elections.

**MOTION:**

The Mar Vista Community Council urges the Los Angeles City Council, the Charter Reform Commission, and Councilmember Traci Park to amend the proposed Charter reform package to provide that Neighborhood Council elections shall be conducted on a regular cycle at least every two years, and that funding for the administration of those elections shall be established as a Charter obligation rather than left to annual budget discretion.

The Mar Vista Community Council further urges that the Charter expressly protect the continuity of Neighborhood Council elections in the same manner that the proposed reform package expressly protects other core City functions through Charter-level fiscal commitments.

The Mar Vista Community Council submits this Community Impact Statement under [Council File No. 26-0489](#).

**THIS MOTION IS FURTHER DIRECTED TO:**

Council Member Traci Park & KatyYaroslavsky  
Los Angeles City Council (carbon copy)  
Charter Reform Commission (carbon copy)  
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (EmpowerLA) (carbon copy)

**ACTION/VOTE COUNT:**

Motion Made By: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote Count: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain \_\_\_\_\_