



CITY OF
LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BOARD AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023, AT 7:30PM

In conformity with the September 16, 2021, enactment of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) and due to concerns over Covid-19, the meeting will be conducted entirely with a call-in option or internet-based service option. All are invited to attend and participate.

To attend online via Zoom Webinar, click or paste the following link into your browser:
<http://zoom.us/j/97175160378>

To call in by phone, dial **(669) 900-6833**, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: **971 7516 0378**.

This meeting is open to the public. Comments on matters not on the agenda will be heard during the Public Comment period. Those who wish to speak on an agenda item will be heard when the item is considered.

AB 361 Updates:

Public comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting; only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

1. Call to Order and Introduction

Co-Chairs: Joanne Yvanek-Garb and Clarice Chavira

Members: Aida Abkarians / Faye Barta / Clarice Chavira /
Saif Mogri / Mark Neudorff / Steve Randall /
Mryl Schreiber / Joan Trent /
Brad Vanderhoof – Secretary / Joanne Yvanek-Garb

2. Establish a Quorum

3. Comments from the Co-Chairs

4. Public Comment

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Discussion and Possible Action on Senate Bill SB 411 (Open meetings: teleconferences: bodies with appointed membership), as introduced by Senator Portantino, including written letter (draft attached).
- B.** Discussion and Possible Action on City Council File #20-0990 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training / Anti-Bias Training / Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Members.

Public input at Neighborhood Council meetings: When prompted by the presiding officer, members of the public may address the committee on any agenda item before the committee takes an action on the item by punching in *9 (if calling in by phone) or by clicking on the “raise hand” button (if participating online through Zoom) and waiting to be recognized. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of said committee.

Notice to Paid Representatives - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, city law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics@lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

Public Posting of Agendas: WHNC agendas are posted for public review at [Shadow Ranch Park, 22633 Vanowen St., West Hills, CA 91307](#) or at our website, www.westhillsnc.org. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to the City of Los Angeles Early Notification System at www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index

The Americans With Disabilities Act: 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. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting via email NCsupport@lacity.org or calling (213) 978-1551. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711.

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 in advance of a meeting may be viewed at the meeting where such writing was considered or by contacting the WHNC’s executive director via email at michelle.ritchie@westhillsnc.org Requests can be made for a copy of a record related to an item on the agenda.

Reconsideration and Grievance Process: For information on the WHNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the WHNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website, www.westhillsnc.org

Servicios De Traducción: Si require servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes delevanto. Por favor contacte Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org

[GRC/West Hills Neighborhood Council Letterhead]

March __, 2023

Mayor Karen Bass via email to TBD

City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto via email to cityatty.help@lacity.org

Eunisses Hernandez (CD-1) via email to councilmember.hernandez@lacity.org

Paul Krekorian (CD-2) via email to councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org

Bob Blumenfield (CD-3) via email to councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org

Nithya Raman (CD-4) via email to councilmember.raman@lacity.org

Katy Yaroslavsky (CD-5) via email to councilmember.yaroslavsky@lacity.org

Monica Rodriguez (CD-7) via email to councilmember.rodriguez@lacity.org

Marqueece Harris-Dawson (CD-8) via email to TBD

Curren D. Price, Jr. (CD-9) via email to TBD

Heather Hutt (CD-10) via email to TBD

Traci Park (CD-11) via email to TBD

John Lee (CD-12) via email to councilmember.lee@lacity.org

Hugo Soto-Martinez (CD-13) via email to TBD

Kevin De León (CD-14) via email to TBD

Tim McOsker (CD-15) via email to councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The West Hills Neighborhood Council supports the acceptance of Senate Bill 411 (SB411), introduced by Senator Portantino, modifying the Ralph M. Brown Act to grant the flexibility to Neighborhood Councils in the City of Los Angeles to conduct meetings in person and/or via teleconferencing, similar to the emergency provisions, indefinitely and without regard to a state of emergency, at the discretion of the Neighborhood Councils or its board members.

We also request that the City Council sponsor a council file supporting SB411.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Charlene Rothstein

President, West Hills Neighborhood Council

Introduced by Senator Portantino
(Coauthor: Senator Menjivar)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Luz Rivas)

February 09, 2023

An act to add Section 54953.4 to the Government Code, relating to local government, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 411, as introduced, Portantino. Open meetings: teleconferences: bodies with appointed membership.

Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction. The act provides an exemption to the jurisdictional requirement for health authorities, as defined.

Existing law, until January 1, 2024, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternate teleconferencing provisions during a proclaimed state of emergency or in other situations related to public health that exempt a legislative body from the general requirements (emergency provisions) and impose different requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed. The emergency provisions specify that they do not require a legislative body to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment.

Existing law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing in certain circumstances related to the particular member if at least a quorum of its members participate from a singular physical location that is open to the public and situated within the agency's jurisdiction and other requirements are met, including restrictions on remote participation by a member of the legislative body.

This bill would authorize a legislative body to use alternate teleconferencing provisions similar to the emergency provisions indefinitely and without regard to a state of emergency. The bill would alternatively define "legislative body" for this purpose to mean a board, commission, or advisory body of a local agency, the membership of which board, commission, or advisory body is appointed and which board, commission, or advisory body is otherwise subject to the act.

Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

The California Constitution requires local agencies, for the purpose of ensuring public access to the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies, to comply with a statutory enactment that amends or enacts laws relating to public records or open meetings and contains findings demonstrating that the enactment furthers the constitutional requirements relating to this purpose.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Digest Key

Vote: 2/3 Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

Bill Text

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 54953.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.4. (a) (1) A legislative body included in subdivision (c) may use teleconferencing without complying with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953 if the legislative body complies with paragraph (2) of this section.

(2) A legislative body that holds a meeting pursuant to this subdivision shall do all of the following:

(A) In each instance in which notice of the time of the teleconferenced meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment. The agenda shall identify and include an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option.

(B) In the event of a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the local agency's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the legislative body of a neighborhood council from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

(C) The legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and must provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comment in real time.

(D) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the legislative body, that requires

registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(E) (i) A legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(ii) A legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(iii) A legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

(3) This subdivision shall not be construed to require the legislative body to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment.

(b) The legislative body shall comply with all other requirements of Section 54953.

(c) As used in this section, “legislative body” means a board, commission, or advisory body of a local agency, the membership of which board, commission, or advisory body is appointed and which board, commission, or advisory body is otherwise subject to this chapter. As used in this subdivision, “advisory body” includes, but is not limited to, a neighborhood council that is an advisory body with the purpose to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs that is established pursuant to the charter of a city with a population of more than 3,000,000 people that is subject to this chapter.

SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that Section 1 of this act, which adds Section 54953.4 to the Government Code, imposes a limitation on the public’s right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, audio and video teleconference were widely used to conduct public meetings in lieu of physical location meetings, and those public meetings have been productive, increased public participation by all members of the public regardless of their location and ability to travel to physical meeting locations, increased the pool of people who are able to serve on these bodies, and protected the health and safety of civil servants and the public. Extending the operation of teleconference as conducted during the COVID-19 public health emergency for bodies of local agencies with appointed membership will continue these benefits.

SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that Section 1 of this act, which adds Section 54953.4 to the Government Code, furthers, within the meaning of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the purposes of that constitutional section as it relates to the right of public access to the meetings of local public bodies or the writings of local public officials and local agencies. Pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the Legislature makes the following findings:

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, audio and video teleconference were widely used to conduct public meetings in lieu of physical location meetings, and those public meetings have been productive, increased public participation by all members of the public regardless of their location and ability to travel to physical meeting locations, increased the pool of people who are able to serve on these bodies, and protected the health and safety of civil servants and the public. Extending the operation of teleconference as conducted during the

COVID-19 public health emergency for bodies of local agencies with appointed membership will continue these benefits.

SEC. 4. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

Virtual meetings have allowed much easier access to appointed bodies of local agencies with far more members of the public participating in each meeting. This has created greater equity in the process and fostered the health of our democracy. In-person meetings may jeopardize the health and safety of vulnerable citizens due to ongoing risks of COVID-19 and other illnesses.

ARTS, PARKS, AND RIVER
Health, Education
and Neighborhoods

MOTION

Under the Los Angeles City Charter, the City's governance structure includes a system of neighborhood councils "to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs." Under the Charter, "neighborhood councils shall include representatives of the many diverse interests in communities." To achieve those goals, it is essential that every Angeleno be welcomed and accepted when they participate in their neighborhood council.

The City Council recently instructed the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to "report on a plan to implement mandatory Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training and anti-bias training for all members of Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils." (CF #20-0990)

That training should include issues relating to gender identity and gender expression. While this is implicit in the prior Council action, it should be made explicit. Some neighborhood council leaders and board members fail to treat transgender people or those who identify as non-binary with dignity and respect. In some cases, that is out of malice and bigotry. In other cases, it is because they have not faced the situation before and do not know what the appropriate response is. This is particularly important when a neighborhood council board member or involved stakeholder transitions, or changes their name or preferred pronouns; and other board members need to accommodate that.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment ^{to} include issues gender identity and gender expression in their report in response to Council File #20-0990; and

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to develop a plan and protocol to proactively provide training on issues relating to gender identity and gender expression to individual neighborhood councils when a board member or actively-involved stakeholder has transitioned or made known that they have changed their name or preferred pronouns.



PRESENTED BY _____
BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:  _____
MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:  _____

JAN 19 2021 

**BOARD OF
NEIGHBORHOOD
COMMISSIONERS**

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI

MAYOR

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS
EMPOWER LA
Department of
NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

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RAQUEL BELTRÁN
GENERAL MANAGER

March 8, 2022

Honorable John Lee, Chairperson

Honorable Members of the Arts, Parks, Health,
Education, and Neighborhoods Committee
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SUBJECT: NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

BACKGROUND: On August 11, 2020, the City Council approved [CF 20-0990](#) (Bonin/Koretz) instructing the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Department/EmpowerLA), in consultation and collaboration with the Civil +Human Rights and Equity Department (CHRED) to report back to City Council with a plan to implement mandatory diversity equity and inclusion training and anti-bias training for all members of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils. The motion was [amended on September 17, 2021](#) by the Health, Education, Neighborhoods and Parks Committee to include implementation of the Mayor's Executive Order No. 27 regarding racial equity in city government plans at the Neighborhood Council level, in consultation with the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, the Commission on Civil Rights, and any relevant departments and commission. The motion was [amended on January 19, 2021](#) (Blumenfield/O'Farrell) to include gender expressions and gender in our response.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's and CHRED's report and instruct the Departments to continue the implementation of mandatory diversity equity and inclusion training and anti-bias, gender expression and gender identity training for all members of Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils as described in this report.
2. Request the Office of the City Attorney, in consultation with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and any other relevant department, to prepare and present an Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require neighborhood council board and committee members to complete the training on implicit bias developed for City employees in compliance with the Mayor's Executive Directive No. 27.
3. Request the Office of the City Attorney, in consultation with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and any other relevant department, to prepare and present an Ordinance authorizing the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to promulgate all procedures, rules and regulations, as well as issue any directives or moratorium necessary for the resolution of any challenges to current and future required trainings for neighborhood councils.
4. Request the Office of the City Attorney, in consultation with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and any other relevant department, to prepare and present an Ordinance authorizing the Department to amend neighborhood council bylaws to ensure that the bylaws comply with this instruction, the Los Angeles Administrative code, or the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils.
5. Request the Office of the City Attorney, in consultation with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and any other relevant department, to prepare and present an Ordinance authorizing the Department to amend Neighborhood Council bylaws and to affix Neighborhood Council's bylaws amendments as necessary to promulgate any training procedures, rules or regulations promulgated by the Department.
6. The training rules and regulations shall take precedence over any inconsistent language in the Neighborhood Council's bylaws.
7. Request the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Office of the City Clerk to provide a report describing the training currently provided to the Neighborhood Council System, and recommending what training, if any, that should also be made mandatory by Ordinance.

SUMMARY:

The Department took action to assess options for developing and implementing the requested mandatory trainings without additional resources. The City of Los Angeles Personnel Department concurrently researched and interviewed nationally acclaimed organizations and institutes with proven track records and expertise to provide programming adequate to implement Executive Directive #27 for City Departments, employees, and volunteers.

On January 21, 2021, Mayor Eric Garcetti announced the creation of the Anti-bias Learning for Employees (ABLE) initiative - a mandatory implicit bias training program for all City employees. Led by the Personnel Department, the ABLE training adapted the Kirwan Institute modules to deliver City of Los Angeles-specific content.

The ABLE training is now available on the City's Cornerstone training platform. Since neighborhood council mandatory trainings are also provided on the Cornerstone platform, the Department made the ALBE training accessible to neighborhood council leaders through their Cornerstone accounts assigned and funded by EmpowerLA.

The Department piloted self-regulation of the ABLE training. Once available on Cornerstone, neighborhood council boards were required to complete the training and report on action taken to ensure 100% completion of the training by March 1, 2022.

As of January 30, 2022, over 50% of NC leaders have completed the ABLE I training. EmpowerLA believes that without a clear directive from the City Council requiring the training and authorizing the Department to promulgate enforcement rules, it will be unlikely to achieve 100% compliance with all board members.

As it relates to gender expression and gender identity training, the Department partnered with the CHRED to retain the services of the University of Southern California's Center on Race and Equity to implement the gender / gender identity implicit bias training. Founded by Professor Shaun R. Harper, the Center's strength resides in its interdisciplinary network of experts on race and racism, people of color, immigration, and other essential equity dimensions.

The anticipated program with USC would provide for (1) implicit bias gender & gender identity training to NCs. The training will be provided in a format that is compatible with the City's current training portal, Cornerstone. This format will allow access while also providing the ability to track participation of NCs in this training. Additionally, the program would provide for (1) training session to EmpowerLA staff and selected neighborhood council leaders on implicit bias mitigation. Our target date for releasing this training is late June 2022.

Our report details our concerted effort to advance the City Council's intent as described in CF 20-0990. **However, it is clear that achieving full compliance with City Council training or other City Council action or directives requires providing the Department with authority to carry out City Council courses of action.**

FISCAL IMPACT:

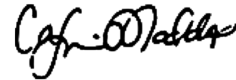
No fiscal impact with this report. Thank you for your review of this report.

The Department of Empowerment and the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department appreciates the opportunity to present this report. We are available to answer any questions at your convenience.

Respectfully,



Raquel Beltran,
General Manager
Department of Neighborhood Empowerment



Capri Maddox,
General Manager
Civil, Human Rights,
and Equity Department

Council File #20-0990
Amendment to Motion 05/11/2022

MOTION

I MOVE that in the matter of the ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to implementing mandatory diversity, equity, inclusion, anti-bias, and gender expressions and gender training for all members of Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils, Item 5 on today's Council agenda (C.F. 20-0990) BE AMENDED to add the following to 2 a.

2. REQUEST the City Attorney, in consultation with the DONE and any other relevant department, to:

a. Prepare and present an Ordinance LAAC to require Neighborhood Council board and committee members to complete the training on implicit bias developed for City employees in compliance with the Mayor's Executive Directive No. 27. and require mandatory gender expression and gender identity training for all board and committee members of Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils.

PRESENTED BY: 
BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

ORIGINAL

SECONDED BY: 


MAY 11 2022

NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE REPORT and ORDINANCE FIRST CONSIDERATION relative to amending Section 22.801(h) of Article 1, Chapter 28, Division 22 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) to authorize the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to enforce all neighborhood council training requirements and adding LAAC Section 22.821 to require anti-bias, gender expression, and gender identity training for neighborhood councils.

Recommendation for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

PRESENT and ADOPT the accompanying ORDINANCE, dated February 28, 2023, amending Section 22.801(h) of Article 1, Chapter 28, Division 22 of the LAAC to authorize DONE to enforce all neighborhood council training requirements and adding LAAC Section 22.821 to require anti-bias, gender expression, and gender identity training for Neighborhood Councils.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the City attorney. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On March 1, 2023, your Committee considered a report from the City Attorney and a draft Ordinance dated February 28, 2023, to amending Section 22.801(h) of Article 1, Chapter 28, Division 22 of the LAAC to authorize the DONE to enforce all neighborhood council training requirements and adding LAAC Section 22.821 to require anti-bias, gender expression, and gender identity training for neighborhood councils. The report and draft Ordinance, attached to the Council file, contain additional details on this issue.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended that Council adopt the draft Ordinance, as reflected above. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
HERNANDEZ:	YES
LEE:	YES
HUTT:	ABSENT



Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney
Hydee Feldstein Soto

REPORT NO. R 23 - 0078
FEB 28 2023

REPORT RE:

REVISED DRAFT ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 22.801(h) OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 28, DIVISION 22 OF THE LOS ANGELES ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (LAAC) TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT TO ENFORCE ALL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AND ADDING LAAC SECTION 22.821 TO REQUIRE ANTI-BIAS, GENDER EXPRESSION, AND GENDER IDENTITY TRAINING FOR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

The Honorable City Council
of the City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Honorable Members:

Pursuant to your request, this Office has prepared and now transmits for your consideration the enclosed revised draft ordinance, which adds the signature block of City Attorney, Hydee Feldstein Soto. The revised draft is approved as to form and legality and is consistent with the Los Angeles Administrative Code and it is in conformity with the City Council instructions.



Council Rule 38 Referral

A copy of the revised draft ordinance was sent, pursuant to Council Rule 38, to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment with a request that all comments, if any, be presented directly to the City Council when this matter is considered.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Assistant City Attorney Elise Ruden at (213) 978-8130. A member of this Office will be available when you consider this matter to answer questions you may have.

Sincerely,

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By



VALERIE L. FLORES
Chief Assistant City Attorney

VF:ER:ac
Transmittal

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Section 22.801(h) of Article 1, Chapter 28, Division 22 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) to authorize the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to enforce all neighborhood council training requirements and adding LAAC Section 22.821 to require anti-bias, gender expression, and gender identity training for neighborhood councils.

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles is one of the most diverse cities in the world and has an obligation to strive to create a society of equity and inclusion;

WHEREAS, the Mayor issued Executive Directive No. 27 in June of 2020, to support ongoing efforts to ensure diversity, equal opportunity, fairness, and transparency in City government and in doing so, directed the City Personnel Department to develop and maintain mandatory implicit bias training on an annual basis for all City employees;

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles City Charter requires that neighborhood councils include representatives of the many diverse interests in their communities;

WHEREAS, diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-bias training for all neighborhood council board and committee members would ensure that all levels of our municipal government are inclusive of, and representative of, our diverse population; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the Charter's goals for meaningful participation in neighborhood councils, all neighborhood council board and committee members are required to participate in mandatory anti-bias and gender expression and identity training to ensure that neighborhood councils are responsive to, and inclusive of, the City's diverse population.

NOW, THEREFORE,

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Section 22.801(h) of Article 1, Chapter 28, Division 22 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code is amended to read as follows:

(h) arrange training for department staff and neighborhood councils' officers, board and committee members, such as training in leadership, cultural awareness, dispute mediation, civics, communications, equipment utilization, and any other training necessary to achieve the goals set forth in Section 22.809; and implement and administer all mandatory training for neighborhood council boards and committees. To implement and administer training, the Department shall have the authority to:

(1) Promulgate rules and regulations, establish policies and procedures, and issue directives and moratoria necessary to implement all training requirements, enforce compliance, and resolve challenges raised by neighborhood council board members and committee members regarding any required training.

(2) Amend neighborhood council bylaws to reflect all mandatory training requirements and modify any language in the bylaws inconsistent with the Department's rules, regulations, policies, procedures, directives, or moratoria.

Sec. 2. Section 22.821 is added to Article 3, Chapter 28, Division 22 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code to read as follows:

Sec. 22.821. Neighborhood Council Mandatory Training Requirements.


(a) **Anti-Bias Training.** Individuals who volunteer on a neighborhood council board or committee, whether elected or selected, shall complete the implicit bias training developed for City employees in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Department.

(b) **Gender Expression and Gender Identity Training.** Individuals who volunteer on a neighborhood council board or committee, whether elected or selected, shall complete training developed by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment relative to gender expression and gender identity in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Department.

Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Approved as to Form and Legality

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By 
ELISE RUDEN
Assistant City Attorney

Date 2/28/23

File No. _____

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The Clerk of the City of Los Angeles hereby certifies that the foregoing ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

Ordinance Passed _____

Approved _____