

SORO NC Board Applicant Statement

18 July 2013

Dan Berkovitz

Candidate for Organization seat 3

I am a veteran of the United States Marine Corps who has a great work ethic and cares for where he lives and the community. I fell in love with the Pico Robertson area when I moved here and I am so very much in helping out the community and being involved. I'd like to help improve the area and perpetuate our growth into an even more vibrant community.



Motion to support a height variance at 1500 S Beverly Drive

Agenda Item: GB052013-7

Date: 20 May 2013

Proposed By: Land Use

Full Proposal

See attached letter and supporting materials.

Proposed Motion

To send the attached letter supporting the proposed project at 1500 S. Beverly Dr. to the LA City Zoning Administrator.

Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For:

Against:

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: \$
(applies to funding motions only)

Arguments for:

Arguments against:

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Ryan
Secretary

**South Robertson
Neighborhoods Council**

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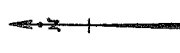
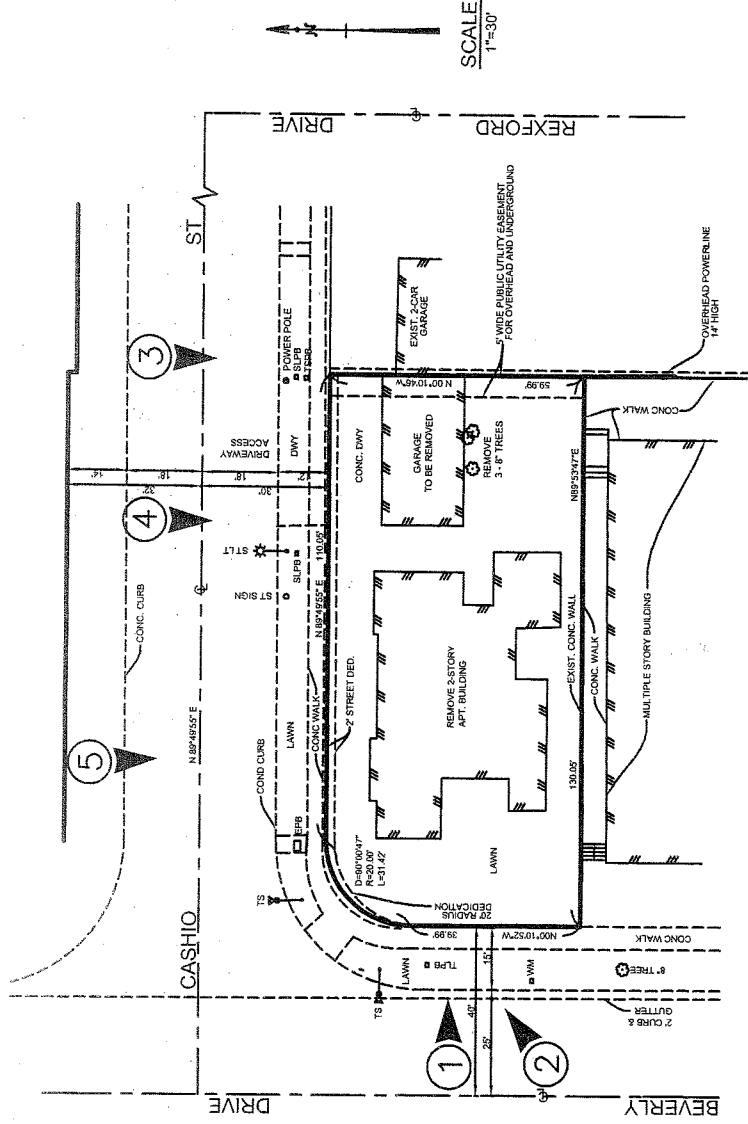




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BEVERLY CASHIO APARTMENTS
1500 S. BEVERLY DRIVE,
LOS ANGELES, CA 90035

INDEX-----PHOTOS



SCALE
1"=30'

LEGEND

(X) PHOTO DIRECTION

DIR 2013-616

CASE SUMMARIES

Note: Information for case summaries is retrieved from the Planning Department's Plan Case Tracking System (PCTS) database.

Case Number: CPC-1986-825-GPC

Required Action(s): GPC-GENERAL PLAN/ZONING CONSISTENCY (AB283)

Project Descriptions(s):

Case Number: TT-61787

Required Action(s): Data Not Available

Project Descriptions(s): A TENTATIVE TRACT MAP TO ALLOW A 6-UNIT RESIDENTIAL CONDOMINIUM PROJECT ON 7,456 SQ.FT. IN THE [Q]R3-1VL-O ZONE.

Case Number: TT-72074

Required Action(s): Data Not Available

Project Descriptions(s): TENTATIVE TRACT MAP FOR AN 8-UNIT CONDOMINIUM (7 UNITS MARKET RATE AND 1 SET ASIDE FOR VERY LOW INCOME) WITH 16 PARKING SPACES. ALSO, DENSITY BONUS FOR 3 ON-MENU INCENTIVES, REDUCED SIDE YARD, INCREASE IN FAR, REDUCED OPEN SPACE, AND OFF-MENU INCENTIVE FOR INCREASED HEIGHT.

Case Number: ENV-2005-8253-ND

Required Action(s): ND-NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Descriptions(s): AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PERMANENT REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING THE MELLO ACT IN THE COASTAL ZONE.

DATA NOT AVAILABLE

CPC-26111

ORD-166311-SA1460

ORD-149411



May 20, 2013

City of Los Angeles Planning Department
Attn: Zoning Administrator
Office of Zoning Administration
City Hall, Room 763
Los Angeles, CA. 90012

Re: Support for # DIR-2013-616-DB
Imanoel Davodpour
1929 S Selby Ave #401 Los Angeles, CA 90025

Dear Zoning Administrator,

At our regularly held meeting on May 20th, the South Robertson Neighborhood Council voted yes___ no___ abstain___ in support of the applicant Imanoel Davodpour request a Bonus Density 8 unit condominium project, with 7 market and one very low income unit and its requested menu incentives, as well as a variance to allow a 10% (4'-6") height increase for the elevator shaft.

In addition, we request that the applicant post Qty. (2) 5'x4' signs on the property during the process and construction with a description of the application and the changes requested. It will also have a 24 hour contact phone number for stakeholders to call if they have questions or concerns. The sign will be on display for the term of the project

In deciding to support this project, the Board considered the history of the site, the impact on the surrounding neighborhood and its low income component. In the Board's view, the information presented by the applicant and his representative provides adequate justification for granting the requested approvals, subject to any additional conditions recommended by the Planning Department and City Council office. The South Robertson Neighborhood Council supports this project that will serve the South Robertson community's stakeholders.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Ryan
Secretary

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Motion to fund up to \$500 for Informational Community Gatherings

Agenda Item: GB071813-4
Date: 7/18/13
Proposed By: Kimber Smith, Marj Safinia, Beth Ryan

Full Proposal

SORO NC serves a wonderfully diverse community of stakeholders largely organized around distinct neighborhoods and neighborhood associations, and both religious and secular community organizations. The Outreach Committee unanimously voted to produce a small series of informal community gatherings to support our ongoing efforts to engage stakeholders, build awareness about SORO NC, and foster an ongoing constructive dialogue that help us to better serve and represent the community.

These informal events will effectively bring the NC to the stakeholders. They will occur in one or more SORO neighborhoods where residents will have the opportunity to ask questions about the Neighborhood Council, its mission, committees and initiatives in a relaxed atmosphere. Residents will also be able to give direct feedback about issues of concern to them. Where possible, the NC will partner with other community organizations to further extend our reach into the community.

The Fiscal Year 2013-2014 budget approved by the board on May 20, 2013 allocated \$800 for "Meet the Board Events" as proposed herein. Funding will be used to purchase refreshments, food, corresponding tools and utensils, as well as to produce materials to market the events.

Proposed Motion

- I. That SORO NC allocate up to \$500 to produce and market one or more informational community gatherings in various SORO neighborhoods.

Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For: 5

Against: 0

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: \$800
(applies to funding motions only)

Arguments for:

The flexibility of in-community meet your board events in various neighborhoods throughout SORO allows opportunity to meet stakeholders who may be more challenging to reach given language or cultural barriers. In any case, it generally broadens organizational awareness across stakeholder groups.

Arguments against:

Funds could be used to support or buffer larger events or initiatives that reach more people.

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Partnering with neighborhood organizations not only broadens our reach, but also serves goal of building strong relationships with all manner of community organizations that serve SORO stakeholders.

Not a tangible sustainable investment such as a park bench that the community can enjoy for years to come.



Motion to support retaining Grayce Liu as General Manager of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Agenda Item: GB071813-5
Date: 18 July 2013
Proposed By: Doug Fitzsimmons

Full Proposal

As the right hand of former DONE General Manager BongHwan Kim, Grayce Liu was extremely effective in both listening to NCs about their needs and in creating and articulating common-sense policies. Although she sometimes differed with SORO NC on policy issues, her thoughtfulness and openness always earned respect.

After the departure of BH Kim late in 2012, as newly-appointed General Manager she did a remarkable job organizing elections for close to 100 Neighborhood Councils under severe budget constraints and political crossfire. While the effort was logistically and fiscally challenging, perhaps the most notable part was her simple determination to make it happen. The easy path was to defer to another year; she chose the difficult path of doing the right thing.

In the months since her original appointment, the positive changes within DONE have been remarkably swift. Her emphasis on streamlining NC operations have led to a renewed commitment to technology and an innovative financial system that, once implemented, will dramatically reduce administrative overhead while limiting fraud exposure.

Mayor Garcetti has asked that all City General Managers reapply for their positions. This motion seeks to add our voice to those calling for her speedy reappointment by the Mayor and approval by the City Council.

Proposed Motion

- I. To authorize a letter to the Mayor and subsequent community impact statement wholeheartedly supporting the reappointment of Grayce Liu as General Manager of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

Considerations

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For: n/a	Against: n/a
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Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>	\$0
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Arguments for:

Grayce has done a fantastic job.

NCs must support her efforts to continue to address DONE's ongoing issues.

Arguments against:

She hasn't always agreed with SORO.

There's a lot still to do to strengthen the NC system.

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Motion for \$800 to fund the purchase of office and printing supplies

Agenda Item: GB071813-6
Date: 18 July 2013
Proposed By: Doug Fitzsimmons

Full Proposal

SORO NC invested in a color laser printer to print Board agendas and supporting documents. The motion seeks \$800 (the amount approved in the FY 2013-14 budget) for toner and paper for the year.

This is intended to cover meeting and incidental printing only. Events and projects requiring significant printing should include additional funds to cover their printing needs. Since the printer's purchase on August 30, 2012, we've used 5000 sheets of paper and had to replace the toner on average every four months (that included printing for elections, however). We last bought toner in late May.

A full set of high-yield toner cartridges runs about \$315-335 + tax on Amazon. A box of paper (5000 sheets) is roughly \$35-45.

Proposed Motion

I. To allocate \$800 for the purchase of printer toner and paper.

Considerations

Committee review: Votes For: n/a Against: n/a
(highly recommended)

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: \$800
(applies to funding motions only)

Arguments for:

Legally, we need to provide agendas and materials for meetings to the public

Alternatives for the public, including projecting motions, are not feasible. It's hard to read through a motion projected on the screen. And what happens if the motion is more than one page?

Sure, Kindles are cool, but a 6" screen is tiny—the motions would be half the size. And some materials are in color. And what happens when one is lost or broken?

Arguments against:

Man, that's a lot of paper

Most of the printing is for the Board. We could get a small black and white Kindle for all 25 members for about \$3000 and email agendas and motions directly to the readers. We'd then only print, say, 10 packets for general review.

Luddite.

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Motion to support Councilmember Huizar's proposed amendment to NC stakeholder definition

Agenda Item: GB071813-7
Date: 18 July 2013
Proposed By: Doug Fitzsimmons

Background

Some years ago, the original definition of who qualified as a stakeholder in the Neighborhood Council system was changed by the City Council at the suggestion of the Neighborhood Council Review Commission (NCRC), a group chartered in 2007 to fine-tune the NC system.

The thinking was that the original "live, work or own property" definition tended to limit NC participation. In their final report, the NCRC said: "...because the neighborhood council democracy model is meant to reach more deeply into the community than traditional outreach models, the goal of diversity must be pursued aggressively." They therefore recommended that it also include "those who declare a stake in the neighborhood and affirm the factual basis for it."

Problems with the very broad "factual basis" definition became quickly apparent. Suddenly, *anyone* could vote in an NC election with as little proof as a receipt from a local coffee shop. Some NCs were taken over by outside groups who, in at least one case, bussed people in to vote for candidates who favored a particular development project.

It's debatable whether the definition change was needed. Before this, most NCs had expanded the basic stakeholder definition on their own, tailoring it to their community: in fact, a study before the definition change showed that 88% of NCs had broader-than-required stakeholder definitions. Our own NC had created special seats for schools and community organizations.

Proposed Changes

Early this year, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners convened three citywide committees to review a number of NC policies, including the definition of stakeholders.

In April, SORO NC supported a draft change to the City's Administrative Code to remove factual basis stakeholders and allow each NC to once again have a hand in defining their own stakeholders. The motion proposed that the City:

- a. Further define "own property" in the Neighborhood Council stakeholder definition as meaning real property;
- b. Remove the requirement that neighborhood councils provide governing board positions for factual basis stakeholders;
- c. Allow each neighborhood council to determine the number, if any, of governing board seats that be allocated to factual basis stakeholders;
- d. Remove the current definition of factual basis stakeholder; and
- e. Allow each neighborhood council to adopt its own definition of factual basis stakeholder.

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After additional input from the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, Councilmember Huizar is proposing an alternative code amendment to the City Council. A copy of that motion is attached.

It would change factual basis to community interest stakeholders, requiring a “substantial and ongoing” participation in the NC. It would also clarify that a seat would not have to be set aside for those stakeholders, as long as the NC had at least one At Large position.

Note that if adopted by the City Council, this would require SORO NC to modify its bylaws. SORO NC may, at that time, change its candidate and voter rules.

Proposed Motion

- I. To support Councilmember Huizar’s full resolution (12-1682-S1) to modify the “Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils” and supporting administrative code changes to remove the existing factual basis stakeholder definition for NCs and substitute one for community interest stakeholders.
- II. To authorize a community impact statement and public testimony to that effect.

Considerations

Committee review: Votes For: n/a Against: n/a
(highly recommended)

Amount previously allocated in Committee’s working budget: \$0
(applies to funding motions only)

Arguments for:

It’s better than what we have.

It’s the result of an open, citywide process.

Arguments against:

It’s pretty much the same thing, although it does mention different kinds of organizations.

It’s not what 2/3 of the NC review committees supported, and no one has defined what “substantial and ongoing” means. This opens the door for more controversy and potential litigation.

JUL 03 2013

MOTION EDUCATION & NEIGHBORHOODS

12-1682-51

In October 2012, CD 14 introduced a motion relative to recent Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council elections where votes were cast from those claiming to be "factual basis stakeholders"; however, these voters had little or no relationship with the Eagle Rock community. This attempted take over of a certified Neighborhood Council constituted an abuse of the neighborhood council electoral process. At that time, CD 14 called for a comprehensive review of the definition and process for qualifying a Neighborhood Council stakeholder as defined in the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) and the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils (Citywide Plan), including a review of the qualifications of a "factual basis stakeholder".

The General Manager, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, has advised that the Board of Neighborhood Empowerment Commissioners (BONC) established three Regional Plan Review Committees which, in part, were charged with a review and modification to the factual basis stakeholder definition. Those reviews have now been concluded.

At its meeting on June 17, 2013, BONC considered the recommendations from the Regional Plan Review Committees regarding modifications to the factual basis stakeholder definition and recommended that the LAAC and the Citywide Plan be amended, as follows:

Remove the current definition of factual basis stakeholder and substitute with a community interest stakeholder defined as a person who affirms a substantial and ongoing participation within the Neighborhood Council boundaries and who may be in a community organization such as, but not limited to, educational, nonprofit and/or religious.

The modifications adopted by BONC provide needed clarity to the existing definition and reduces ambiguity and vagueness. DONE and BONC have undertaken a regional review process where diverse opinions were allowed to be voiced in a transparent, open manner. We should proceed to adopt the BONC recommendations.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to prepare and present an ordinance amending the Los Angeles Administrative Code regarding the membership of neighborhood councils, substantially as follows:

- a. Neighborhood council membership will be open to everyone who lives, works, owns property in the neighborhood and also to those who declare a stake in the neighborhood as a community interest stakeholder and affirms a substantial and ongoing participation within the Neighborhood Council boundaries and who may be in a community organization such as, but not limited to, educational, nonprofit, and/or religious.
- b. Remove the requirement that Neighborhood Councils provide a governing board position reserved for community interest stakeholders provided there is an at large position for which all stakeholders could vote and run for.
- c. Allow each Neighborhood Council to determine the number of governing board seats that will be allocated to community interest stakeholders.
- d. Require that the affirmation of those community interest stakeholders proposed in the Neighborhood Council by-laws be consistent with and equal to those administered for those who live, work or own property.
- e. Define "own property" as meaning real estate property.

I FURTHER MOVE that City Attorney be requested prepare and present the necessary Resolution to modify the "Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils" consistent with the above proposed modifications to Los Angeles Administrative Code.

PRESENTED BY: Jose Huizar
JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY: Mark J. Kern

ORIGINAL

JUL 3 2013



Motion to support the initial recommendations of the NC Plan Review committees

Agenda Item: GB071813-8
Date: 18 July 2013
Proposed By: Doug Fitzsimmons

Full Proposal

As noted in the previous motion, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) convened three committees this year across the City to look at NC policies and procedures. At two recent meetings, the three committees came together to hash out consensus opinions on a variety of topics.

The attached document reflects that work. BONC has invited individuals and NCs to weigh in on each before a recommendation is given to City Council. (Each item will also have to go through the City Council's Education and Neighborhoods committee first, and will have to have a legislative sponsor in order to proceed).

Feedback on any or all of these items may be sent to ncplan@empowerla.org or in writing to the to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, 200 North Spring Street, 20th floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. In the subject line of your email or letter, please indicate which items you are referencing (ie.-1a, 2, etc.).

The final form of the recommendations may change significantly throughout the process, based on feedback and legal input.

Proposed Motion

- I. To support and/or provide feedback on individual items from the NC Plan Review Committee recommendations.

Considerations

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For: n/a	Against: n/a
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Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>	n/a
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Arguments for:

The recommendations were the result of an open, participatory process.

It's healthy to re-examine the foundations of the NC system periodically.

Arguments against:

45+ people is a large group to try to hammer out specific language.

Many of the recommendations are vague.

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NC Plan Review Committees issue recommendations

Last Saturday, the NC Plan Review Committees issued multiple recommendations to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners regarding important policies which govern the Neighborhood Council system. Last night at a special meeting, the Commission discussed the recommendations and decided to postpone voting on them for 60 days to allow Neighborhood Councils and stakeholders the opportunity to weigh in. All Neighborhood Councils are asked to agendaize, discuss and issue official board resolutions expressing their views on the recommendations, and submit them to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. Individuals are also encouraged to weigh in through sending emails or letters.

Please send all correspondence on this issue to NCPlan@empowerla.org or to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, 200 North Spring Street, 20th floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. In the subject line of your email or letter, please indicate which items you are referencing (ie.-1a, 2, etc.)

Thank you in advance for your input and feedback. The recommendations for your consideration are as follows:

1) Neighborhood Council subdivision/boundary adjustment policies

Proposed recommendation that sections of the City's Administrative Code which touch upon Neighborhood Council subdivision/boundary adjustment be amended as follows:

A new Neighborhood Council may be created from within the boundaries of an existing Neighborhood Council by the following process:

- a. The subdividing group shall undertake the process for Neighborhood Council formation as already described for new councils.
- b. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment shall set an election to take up the question within 90 days of verifying all paperwork is complete.
- c. A majority of the votes cast by stakeholders of the entire original Neighborhood Council shall be required to complete the separation and create a new council.
- d. If an area leaves a Neighborhood Council, the original council should simply be required to adjust its boundaries and board structure and not recertify.
- e. If an area moves between two existing Neighborhood Councils, neither should be required to recertify.

2) Grievances and complaints policies and procedures

Proposed recommendation that sections of the City's Administrative Code which touch upon Neighborhood Council grievances and complaints procedures be amended as follows:

- a. The grievance procedure and the complaint process be merged into one system; that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Department) establish a single set of procedures with a regional grievance panel empowered to render a final decision on a grievance without further right of appeal, which shall be based on the grievance policy recommendations already made by the Department as reflected in its report dated November 22, 2011, and contained in Council File Number 11-1018.

3) Rules for governing board selections

Proposed recommendation that:

- a. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment look at establishing rules and guidelines for Board selections so that they are more uniform and more open to the public.

4) Election policies and procedures; term limits

Proposed recommendation that sections of the City's Administrative Code which touch upon Neighborhood Council election policies and procedures be reaffirmed or amended as follows:

- a. Reaffirm support for the authority having been returned to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to conduct Neighborhood Council board elections and to partner with the City Clerk for back office administrative services.
- b. All Neighborhood Councils need to participate in elections or selections at least every two year cycle.
- c. Existing Neighborhood Council boards are encouraged to partner with other Neighborhood Councils and with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment for candidate recruitment and election outreach.
- d. The City of Los Angeles should not require Neighborhood Councils to impose term limits. It should be left to each Neighborhood Council's discretion.
- e. There shall be participatory involvement of Neighborhood Councils in reviewing election policies and procedures prior to Neighborhood Council elections.

5) Brown Act and posting policies

Proposed recommendation that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners reaffirms and/or amends its policies to reflect the following:

- a. Reaffirm support for the Brown Act for Neighborhood Councils and its single accessible 24 hour posting requirement, and reaffirm current board policies regarding electronic mail and website posting, with only one physical posting site as opposed to many. The email requirement shall specify that agendas be sent to “NCSupport” with the intent that the Department will post them to the city’s agenda system.
- b. Neighborhood Councils that do not have a website must post in at least five (5) physical locations.

6) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment General Manager and Board of Neighborhood Commissioners appointments, and Neighborhood Council involvement in the formulation of rules and regulations

Proposed recommendation that sections of the City’s Administrative Code which touch upon the appointment of the Department General Manager and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, and sections which touch upon the formulation of Department rules and regulations be amended to reflect the following:

- a. Neighborhood Councils should have a greater role in the formulation of rules and regulations as promulgated by the Department and shall continue to have an advisory role in the appointment of the Department General Manager and the members of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

7) Duties of the Department in Sec 22.801(j) which currently states that “[The Department shall] with the assistance of the Information Technology Agency, create and maintain an internal and external information and communication network, including a Citywide database of neighborhood organizations and similar information, that would be available for public use;”

Proposed recommendation that Sec 22.801(j) of the Administrative Code be amended as follows:

“with the assistance of the Information Technology Agency, create and maintain an internal and external information and communication network that would be available for public use to:

- a. Provide organized access to all current rules, regulations, and election/selection/voting and any other procedures adopted by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment,
- b. Provide organized access to all historic rules, regulations, and election/selection/voting and any other procedures adopted by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment that are no longer in force,
- c. Provide organized access to all current legal opinions by the City Attorney on matters relating to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners,

Department rules or regulations, and Department procedures for elections/selections/voting and any other matter,

- d. Provide organized access to all historic legal opinions by the City Attorney on matters relating to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, department rules or regulations, and department procedures for elections/selections/voting and any other matter that are no longer in force,
- e. Provide a Citywide database of existing neighborhood organizations and similar information, sortable by areas and individual Neighborhood Councils;"

8) Duties of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Proposed recommendation that sections of the City's Administrative Code which touch upon the duties of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners be amended to reflect the following:

- a. The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners be given more power to enforce its policies.*

9) Duties of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and Board of Neighborhood Commissioners **

Proposed recommendation that sections of the City's Administrative Code which touch upon the duties of the Department and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners be amended to reflect the following:

- a. As part of exhaustive efforts the Department shall be able to recommend to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners that the board of a neighborhood council be removed prior to having to recommend involuntary decertification.

*Note: For Item 8, you are invited to comment on which powers and policies you or your neighborhood council board may or may not support for the Commission to be given.

**Note: Item 9 was not brought before the Commission on June 27, but it will be at a subsequent meeting. In the meantime, you are requested to also weigh in on the issue as it is one of the recommendations from the NC Plan Review Committees.



Motion to approve changes to the LA Neighborhood Council Coalition bylaws

Agenda Item: GB071813-9
Date: 18 July 2013
Proposed By: Terrence Gomes

Full Proposal

The LA Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) is an active umbrella group for the Neighborhood Council system that provides a forum for sharing information between NCs. They consider policy questions, have an active speaker series, and help organize the annual Congress of Neighborhoods event.

Not all NCs have approved the original LANCC charter, although SORO NC has. All NCs are welcome to participate.

LANCC is currently considering changes to its charter, which currently must be approved by a 2/3 vote of participating NCs. The current and proposed bylaws are attached.

Proposed Motion

- I. To approve the proposed changes to the LANCC bylaws.

Considerations

Committee review: <i>(highly recommended)</i>	Votes For: n/a	Against: n/a
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Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: <i>(applies to funding motions only)</i>	n/a
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Arguments for:

The changes will streamline LANCC operations

The current bylaws lead to very loose meetings, which tends to undercut the legitimacy of the decision the body makes

Arguments against:

The changes seem to concentrate decision-making in the hands of a small group of people

The proposed bylaws removes language about not usurping individual NC's right to voice opinions, and, more troublingly, language that the org will not attempt to speak for NCs.

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CHARTER FOR THE LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COALITION (LANCC)

Revised FEBRUARY 2008

• PREAMBLE

The Neighborhood Councils of the City of Los Angeles do hereby create this Charter to provide a more effective voice for the residents of Los Angeles, to create a more effective system of Neighborhood Councils to communicate with each other, and to fulfill our responsibilities under the Los Angeles City Charter.

- Los Angeles Ordinance No 174006 **states that the goals and objectives of the Neighborhood Council system include:**

Promoting and facilitating communication, interaction and collaboration among all neighborhood councils regarding their common and disparate concerns; and

Fostering a sense of community for all people to express ideas and opinions about their neighborhoods and their government.

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Section 3 Board of Delegates

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Article 1. MISSION AND STRUCTURE

Section 1. MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE LANCC

The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC), will:

- (1) Provide opportunities for Neighborhood Councils (NCs) to communicate with each other on issues of common interest, including Citywide issues, regional issues, and local issues with Citywide or regional implications;
- (2) Develop and maintain tools for effective communication among NCs;
- (3) Develop and maintain expertise on City issues;
- (4) Provide assistance to NCs regarding elections, bylaws and grievances;
- (5) Educate NCs about how to effectively bring issues before City government; and
- (6) Educate the public and City government about NCs.
- (7) Establish a structure to report the positions taken by NCs on City issues;

Section 2. CORE PRINCIPLES

1. The LANCC is intended to enhance the ability of Certified NCs to have their voices heard on issues affecting their neighborhoods and the City, and is not intended to usurp or interfere with the role of individual NCs to voice opinions or positions on issues. *This organization cannot and will not attempt to speak for any certified neighborhood council on any issue unless specifically empowered to do so by that neighborhood council's governing board. This organization reserves the right to refer to official positions taken by certified neighborhood council.*2. All Certified NCs will be provided a full and equal opportunity to participate in the Congress of Neighborhood Councils.
2. Each Certified NC may participate in the LANCC to the extent it is willing and able; when an NC chooses to participate, it will be on an equal basis with all other participating NCs.
3. The LANCC will be open, public and inclusionary in its organization and its operations.
4. To the extent feasible, the LANCC will abide by all applicable federal, state, county and city constitutions, laws, ordinances and regulations.

Section 3. OFFICERS & DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

3.1 The following officers will be elected to serve

- a. Chair
- b. Vice Chair
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer

3.2 Seven District Representatives will be chosen to represent the 7 Area Planning Districts.

3.3 Board of Delegates

The Board of Delegates includes all the Officers and District Representatives and one designated delegate from each participating NCs.

Article 2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. Officers

1.1 Chair

1.2 Vice chair

(see Standing rules No. 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 for Chair and Vice Chair duties and responsibilities)

1.3 Secretary

- a. Secretary will be elected by Board of Delegates
- b. Responsible for administrative functions of LANCC
 1. Track all pending motions/issues before LANCC
 2. Keep Master Calendar
 3. Disseminate information/reports to NCs, governmental entities and media
 4. Responsible for communications and outreach as directed by Board of Delegates
 5. Maintain website
 6. Maintain e-mail distribution listsAs an example: The Secretary is responsible for the creation of a Communications Center. That may become the communications network to participants and the source that keeps everyone connected, informed and involved.

1.4 Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer is responsible for the Treasury and providing regular financial reports to the Board of Delegates
- b. The Treasurer will be elected by the Board of Delegates
- c. The Treasurer is Responsible for monitoring agendas, etc. from ENS, discovering important issues, and transmitting reports to NCs, Board of Delegates, and LANCC Committees.

1.5 Funding/Treasury

- a. Possible Sources of Funding
 - 1. City of Los Angeles/DONE
 - 2. Assessments to participating NCs
 - 3. Contributions from third parties
 - 4. Foundations/non-profits

Section 2. District Representatives

- a. The District Representatives, one from each of the seven (7) city planning areas, would be the primary liaison between LANCC and the NC's in their district. However they will have the assistance of as many NC representatives as needed to help them.
- b. Their prime responsibilities for the NC's in their district include:
 - 1. Provide to the NCs the pro and con positions on city wide issues.
 - 2. Follow up to see that the issue is agendaized.
 - 3. Follow up and report to the LANCC, the voting status of the issue along with any other significant input.

Section 3. Board of Delegates

- a. The Board of Delegates is the administrative authority that oversees the actions of this organization, including control of the budget and of expenditures, and, in addition, the planning and administration of the meetings of this organization including those of the Officers & District Representatives, as well as the meetings of the Board of Delegates.
- b. The Board of Delegates has authority over the planning, scheduling, funding, and operation of meetings that are henceforth to be known as the Board of Delegates. The Board of Delegates may at its discretion set rules as to how the Board of Delegates and/or stakeholders voice its opinions on subjects of interest in the city, including the methods by which straw votes of all of those present are tallied.
- c. The only requirement for voting at a LANCC meeting by a delegate is a communication from the President/ Chair of the NC Board, to the LANCC Chair or other officer who may be designated for that purpose, stating the name of the stakeholder that will represent his/her NC.

Article 3. CREATION AND AMENDMENT OF THIS CHARTER

Section 1. The LANCC will be established upon the ratification of this Charter by at least twenty percent (20%) of certified Neighborhood Councils.

Section 2. *(deleted)*

Section 3. By participation at any LANCC meeting said delegate agrees to the responsibilities of this charter.

Section 4. Amendment of this Charter

1. Any Delegate may propose an amendment to this Charter
2. An amendment will be submitted to participating NCs if passed by majority vote at a regular meeting of the Board of Delegates
3. Any amendments to this Charter will not take effect unless and until ratified by 2/3 of NCs that vote, and those votes must be received by the LANCC within 2 months of submission to NCs

LANCC Charter, revised 1-29-08

Charter and By-Laws for the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC)

Charter

The Neighborhood Councils of the City of Los Angeles do hereby create this Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) to provide a more effective voice for the residents of Los Angeles, to create a more effective system of Neighborhood Councils, in order to facilitate communication with each other and City Government, and to fulfill the rights and responsibilities under the Los Angeles City Charter as follows:

Los Angeles Ordinance No 174006 states that the goals and objectives of the Neighborhood Council system include:

Promoting and facilitating communication, interaction and collaboration among all neighborhood councils regarding their common and disparate concerns; and fostering a sense of community for all people to express ideas and opinions about their neighborhoods and their government.

By-Laws

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Article 1. MISSION AND STRUCTURE

Section 1. Mission Statements

The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition may:

- 1) Provide opportunities for Neighborhood Councils (NCs) to communicate with each other on issues of common interest, including citywide issues, regional issues, and local issues with citywide or regional implications.
- 2) Develop and maintain expertise on Los Angeles City issues
- 3) Provide assistance to NCs regarding elections, bylaws and grievances
- 4) Educate NCs about how to effectively bring issues before Los Angeles City Government
- 5) Educate the public and City government about NCs.
- 6) Establish a structure to report the positions taken by NCs on Los Angeles City issues
- 7) Take positions on significant issues and communicate them to the public, NCs, and to the City of Los Angeles

Section 2. Core Principles

- 1) The LANCC is intended to enhance the ability of Certified NCs to have their voices heard on issues affecting their neighborhoods and the City of Los Angeles
- 2) All NCs will be provided a full and equal opportunity to participate in the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition.
- 3) Each NC may participate in the LANCC to the extent it is willing and able; when an NC chooses to participate, it will be on an equal basis with all other participating NCs.
- 4) The LANCC will be open to the public and inclusionary in its organization and its operations.
- 5) The LANCC shall respect all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations.

Section 3. Structure

3.1 Officers

The following officers will be elected by the majority present at the January meeting to serve for a term of one year:

Chair
Vice Chair
Secretary
Treasurer

3.2 Steering Committee

The LANCC Steering Committee shall support the LANCC by advising on the LANCC operations, agendas, and the LANCC mission. The following organizations and groups shall have the right to send a representative to LANCC Steering Committee meetings and have full rights of participation:

City Watch/media
The Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates (NCBA)
Congress of Neighborhoods
DWP-MOU
DWP-Advocacy Committee
Plan Check NC
NC Regional Alliances such as Valley Alliance of NCs, Harbor Alliance of NCs, Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, North East Central Alliance, South LA Area Neighborhood Councils, etc.

The individuals representing the above listed groups shall be kept track of in the Minutes of the LANCC, in keeping with common practices of the NC System.

3.3 The LANCC will run its meeting under the Parliamentary Authority of Roberts Rules of Order

3.4 Meetings shall be held regularly

3.5 The LANCC will organize Committees on an as needed basis

3.6 The LANCC will maintain Standing Rules. The LANCC may create and approve Standing Rules that shall govern the operations of the LANCC. These Rules shall be approved by a simple majority of the NC Representatives present at the LANCC meeting.

Article 2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. Officers

All officers shall assist in setting LANCC agendas and keeping track of City of Los Angeles and Neighborhood Council issues. The LANCC Standing Rules shall further specify the officer duties and responsibilities. The officers shall be members of the Steering Committee

Chair

- a. The LANCC Chair shall be the primary administrative officer, keep order by running fair meetings, and protect the rights of all the NCs and participants

Vice Chair

- b. The LANCC Vice Chair shall preside over meetings in the absence of Chair, or when the Chair steps down for any reason

Secretary

- a. Secretary will be responsible for administrative functions of LANCC;
 1. Track all pending motions/issues before LANCC
 2. Keep Master Calendar
 3. Disseminate information/reports to NCs, governmental entities and media
 4. Responsible for communications and outreach as directed by the Steering Committee
 5. Supervise website
 6. Maintain e-mail distribution lists

Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer is responsible for any LANCC funds and shall providing regular financial reports to the Officers and Steering Committee
- b. If applicable; the Treasurer oversees any 501c3 Nonprofit Organization that the LANCC uses as its fiduciary agent

Section 2. Regional Alliance Representatives

The LANCC recognizes the importance of Regional Alliances and encourages their participation at every level of LANCC

- * Regional Alliances may report on issues significant to their regions, and they may submit motions for LANCC to consider

* Regional Alliances shall designate their representatives to the Steering Committee as they see fit, and inform the LANCC Officers if a formal designation is made

Section 3. Neighborhood Council Representatives

- a. The LANCC, as a Coalition of Neighborhood Council Representatives, is the authority that oversees the actions of this organization.
- b. The NC Representatives have the authority to oversee the planning, the scheduling, the funding, and operations of the LANCC.
- c. The requirement for voting at a LANCC meeting by an NC Representative is a designation for that purpose by the NC
- d. There may be more than one delegate from an NC present at LANCC monthly meetings, but there may be only one vote per delegation from any NC, on a LANCC Motion
- e. Town Hall meetings called by LANCC shall be exempt from this one vote per NC rule.
- f. All NC Representatives shall sign in to the LANCC meetings.

Article 3. AMENDMENT OF THE LANCC BY-LAWS

Section 1. Amendment of the By-Laws

- a. Anyone may propose an amendment to these By-Laws
- b. All amendments shall be submitted in writing at a LANCC meeting, where a vote by a simple majority of those present, will move the proposed amendment to the next LANCC regularly scheduled monthly meeting, to be placed on that agenda.
- c. At the following regular meeting, a two-thirds vote of LANCC NC Reps present and voting will be required to pass any amendments to these By-Laws.

(Date of adoption)

LANCC By-Laws Draft D 5/2/2013



Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

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Motion to support the suspension and re-evaluation of DWP's FIT-100 program

Agenda Item: GB071813-10

Date: 18 July 2013

Proposed By: Terrence Gomes

Full Proposal

At a recent meeting of the LA Neighborhood Council Coalition, Department of Water and Power Ratepayer Advocate Dr. Fred Pickel. He discussed the Feed-In Tariff Set Price (FIT-100). His PowerPoint presentation is attached.

From the LANCC minutes:

Dr. Pickel accepts the FIT-50 program but not the FIT-100. As explained in the power point, ratepayers are not getting a fair or reasonable program from DWP on the FIT-100 program. The price that DWP is proposing to pay for solar power under the Feed-in-Tariff is over market by about \$250 million over the next 20 years. For the first 20 megawatts of the 100 megawatt program, DWP is proposing to pay 17 cents per kilowatt hour. This amount declines by 1 cent for the next 20 megawatts to 16 cents. Then 15, 14 and 13. But when these prices are compared to current market prices, we are paying \$250 million over market. Dr. Pickel recommends suspension of the FIT-100 program until it can be re-evaluated.

Proposed Motion

- I. To support the Rate Payer Advocate Dr. Fred Pickel's request that the FIT-100 Program be suspended and support the subsequent reevaluation of the FIT-100 Program as suggested by the Office of Public Accountability.

Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For: n/a

Against: n/a

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget: n/a
(applies to funding motions only)

Arguments for:

The motion was passed unanimously by LANCC

Arguments against:

The NC hasn't been briefed on the issue.



**Ratepayer Advocate
Update for the Los
Angeles
Neighborhood
Council Coalition
(LANCC)**

Frederick H. Pickel, Ph.D
Office of Public
Accountability /
Ratepayer Advocate,
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July 6, 2013

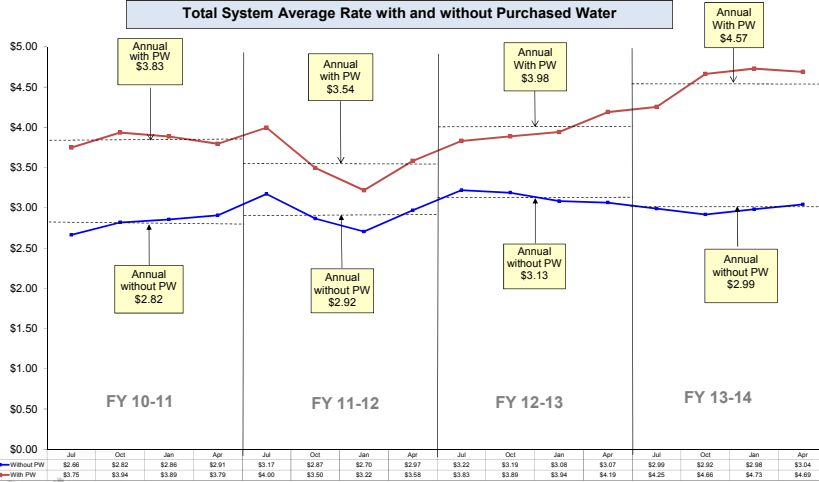


Summary

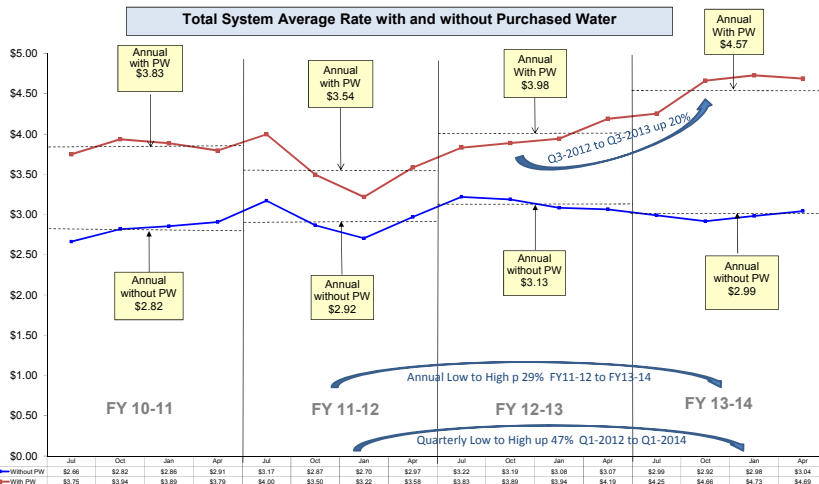
- Office
 - Ordinance effective May 10
 - Staffing: newly hired Deputy Director, Ms. Camden Collins
 - Outreach and office location
- DWP Related Issues
 - Rate cases and adjustments
 - Quarterly water rates adjustment and impact of purchased water
 - Net Metering, FiT50, and FiT100



Water Rate Adjustments: Impact of Increased Purchased Water



Water Rate Adjustments: Key Percentage Changes



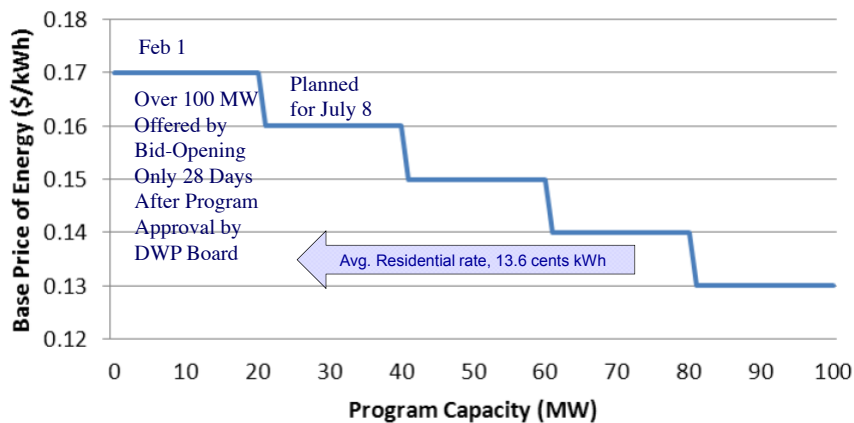
LADWP Solar Incentive and Feed-In-Tariff Programs

- ❑ Solar Incentive Program / Net Metering
 - For residential solar users, which are DWP customers, which off sets 13.6 cents/ kiloWatt-hour (kWh) average residential rate
- ❑ Feed-In-Tariff programs :For power generated for direct sale to LADWP, 30 to 3,000 kilo-Watts (kW, or 0.03 to 3 mega-Watts or MW) in size
 - It is a “vendor” program, not a program for customers.
- ❑ FiT 50 program is for small 30kW-3MW in-basin projects linked to large projects on the 200 MW Beacon site (not including 50MW area at Beacon set-aside for utility)
 - Pricing governed by auction, for portions 50MW in-basin linked to 200 MW Beacon projects
- ❑ FiT 100 program is for 30kW – 3MW in basin projects with set pricing, no bidding
 - First allocation of 20 MW at 17 cents/kWh was overbid by over a factor of 5x in one week even though bids were due 20 days after DWP Board action
 - This is the problem program.



Where are we? Program Pricing by 20 MW Block Allocation

FiT Program Price Reduction



Why Reconsider the Feed-In Tariff Set Price (“FiT100”) Program?

- ❑ State requires a FIT program, but it does not require pricing above renewable market prices (more than “avoided cost” of renewables).
- ❑ Proposed DWP FIT100 program prices are far above market prices, placing an incremental \$231-302 million burden (DWP Staff \$168 million) on ratepayers over a 20 year period.
 - The same carbon reduction can be accomplished via large scale solar projects.
 - It is subsidy from the average LADWP ratepayer to commercial, industrial, and energy project development interests.
 - ✓ Ratepayers shouldn’t be asked to make such large economic development investments.
 - ✓ It has additional negative, macro-economic job impacts in the City of Los Angeles.
 - It lacks competitive bidding for almost \$550 million in energy over 20 years.
- ❑ Based on changed circumstances, the Office of Public Accountability / Ratepayer Advocate recommends review of the FiT100 program before beginning the next 20MW allocation:
 - Direct Impact: The prices of other solar renewables now are below 9 cents/kWh for small projects and below 7 cents/kWh for larger projects. The revised CPUC program sets an indexed starting price of \$8.923/kWh, with limited adjustments for location.
 - Cumulative Impact: Ratepayers have taken on almost \$1 billion in increased burdens approved by this Board since January, not including the FiT100 program: the Navajo & IPP coal elimination, and the unanticipated short-term purchased water increase.

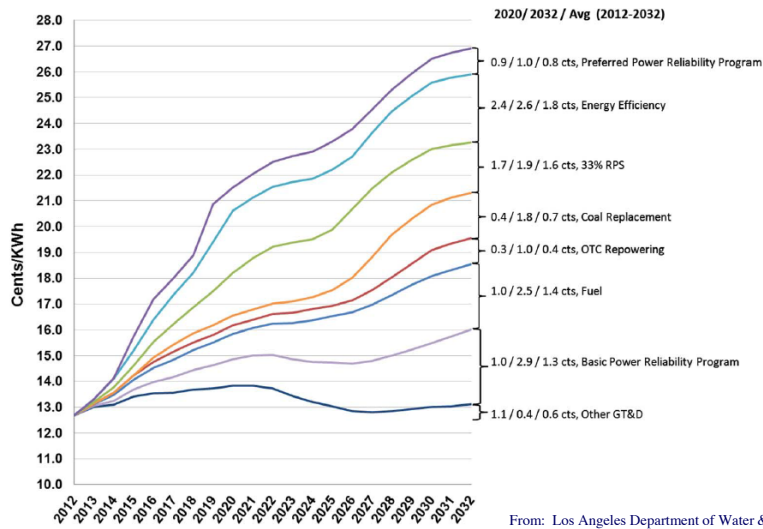


FiT 100 Impact on Customers

- ❑ Comparable solar / renewable pricing
 - Large solar project bids appear to be under 8 cents/kWh delivered to major transmission
 - CPUC reports renewable auction mechanism 1.0-20 MW renewable bids under 9 cents/kWh for 2012
 - CPUC has revamped their under 1.0 MW Feed-In-Tariff program for SCE, PG&E, SDG&E to start at 8.9 cents/kWh
 - Last week, City of Palo Alto announced a 80 MW purchase from 3 projects at 6.9 cents/kWh, including one based in Los Angeles County
- ❑ Customer cost impact of first 20 MW allocation at 17 cents/kWh over 20 years versus other renewable programs at 7-9 cents/kWh: \$61-75 million
- ❑ Total excess customer cost for continuation of all 100 MW of the five 20MW allocations (17 cents, 16 cents, 15 cents, 14 cents, and 13 cents) versus other renewables
 - Other renewables at 7 cents/kWh: \$302 million (\$15 million per year)
 - Other renewables at 9 cents/kWh: \$231 million (\$8 million per year)
- ❑ Incremental carbon impact reduction from FiT versus other solar renewables: Zero additional carbon benefits
- ❑ Comparison:
 - Customer cost of accelerating IPP shutdown by one year: about \$250 million
 - You could buy more than twice as much solar power in the larger (“Palo Alto”) deals
 - You could not spend the extra funds, and reduce rate increases



Accumulating Rate Impacts: LADWP Integrated Resource Plan



From: Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, "2012 Power Integrated Resource Plan", December 2012

Figure ES-8. Total retail electric rate composite by fiscal year, based on the 2012-13 budget forecast (Case 5).



Re-Assessment Alternatives

- In January, in the DWP Board review on the FiT100, the OPA recommended that the FiT program be assessed in 6 months.
 - In particular, the OPA noted that if the FiT100 program is moving to full subscription, an extension at lower pricing may be warranted.
 - CPUC program offers alternative approach without ratepayer burden.
 - Cumulative impacts on LADWP ratepayers have ballooned over last 6 months.
- Alternatives:
 - 1. Continue as originally scoped, without review.
 - 2. Halt program, both next allocation cycle and first cycle contract executions, until review is complete.
 - 3. **Study, and continue program with limitations until study is complete:**
 - ✓ Continue processing and contract of candidates accepted in first allocation, but don't refill dropouts from queue.
 - ✓ Open second allocation only for small scale projects (30 kW to 150 kW) on July 8
 - ✓ OPA to conclude study with cooperation of DWP by September 30.
- The DWP Board declined to change the FiT100 program on June 19.

