

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(15) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 01/10/2017

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 01/25/2017

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 15-1022-S2

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: We support suspending further implementation of the online voting system for future elections until the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment completes a report on the 2016 online voting experience. We also strongly support, that if online voting is used in the 2018 Board elections that Neighborhood Councils be given the option of voting either online or with paper ballots due to the experiences we had with online voting problems in our 2016 Board election.

Pamela Thornton – Chairperson  
Tim Richardson - Vice Chairperson  
Rosalie Preston - Recording Secretary  
Hannah Woods – Corres. Secretary  
Joan Jacobs - Treasurer  
Mark Lupfer - District 1 Rep.  
Clyde Noguchi - District 2 Rep.  
Reynaldo Paduani - District 3 Rep.  
Betty Hawkins - District 4 Representative



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Llewyn Fowlkes - District 5 Rep.  
Marvin Bell - District 6 Rep.  
Janet Mitchell - District 7 Rep.  
Larry J. Morrison - District 8 Rep.  
Deborah Lee – Community Org. Rep.  
Richard Lee - Youth Representative  
Theo Fowles - Outreach Representative  
Eva Cooper-Pace - At-Large Rep.

January 23, 2017

Council President Herb Wesson  
City Hall  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Council File 15-1022-S2 (Online voting and improved experience for Neighborhood Councils)

Dear President Wesson:

At our January 10, 2017, Board meeting, we voted 15-0-0 to support Council File 15-1022-S2 which would suspend further implementation of the online voting system for future elections until the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment completes a report on the 2016 online voting experience.

We were one of the Neighborhood Councils which chose to try out online voting for our Board election in 2016 and experienced many issues with the system, including the online voter registration which was cumbersome and slow and which discouraged many from signing up to vote via this method. Voters voting in-person on election day were sometimes placed in the wrong internal Districts due to insufficient training on the part of polling staff, so there needs to be better training of election staff. Most importantly, there needs to be paper verification of the voter's selection generated for both online voting and voting at the polling site in order to have confidence in the reported total number of voters and announced winning candidates. We also strongly support giving Neighborhood Councils the option of voting either online or with paper ballots.

On the positive side, we found that the pop up polling offered in three locations before our official election date was useful in attracting more online registrations. This is something that should be offered in an advertised location every week during the online registration period to encourage greater participation.

Sincerely,

Hannah Woods, Corresponding Secretary  
Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council

cc: Councilmember Joe Buscaino – Council District 15  
John Jones III, Field Deputy – Council District 15  
Aksel Palacios, Field Deputy - Council District 15

Grayce Liu, General Manager – Department of Neighborhood Empowerment  
Octaviano Rios, Neighborhood Council Advocate - Department of Neighborhood Empowerment  
Stephen Box, Director of Outreach and Communications - Department of Neighborhood  
Empowerment