



The NCBA is authorized to act under the Los Angeles City Charter (the "Charter") Section 909 which provides that "each Neighborhood Council may present to the Mayor and Council an annual list of priorities for the City budget." The Neighborhood Councils have given their proxy to the NCBA (via the NCBA Budget Representatives and Budget Advocates) to speak on their behalf to the electorate of the City of Los Angeles. This proxy will not limit or inhibit the individual Neighborhood Councils from expressing their individual thoughts or comments or opinions on various budgetary concerns that fall within the activities authorized under the Charter.

## Join Us

Budget Advocates have a real say in City government. Many of our recommendations over the years have been implemented, in whole or in part, benefiting our stakeholders. Budget Advocates learn about government and about how the City Departments work. *Budget Advocates must be Budget Representatives but do not have to be Council members.*

Knowledge is power and working as a Budget Advocate gives you an amazing opportunity to broaden horizons and develop skills. Only elected Budget Advocates can vote on issues, but we welcome everyone to work with us on short term projects or throughout the year.

[www.NCBALA.com](http://www.NCBALA.com)



## Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates



**Budget Advocates explore, research, study, seek input, prepare and present the concerns and interests of our communities as they relate to revenue collection and the allocation of City funds, the City budget and the efficiency of our City government, its finances and financial obligations.**

**We present these findings and recommendations to the Mayor, City Council, Neighborhood Councils, and stakeholders. We welcome your collaboration.**

## How are Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates selected?

Each of the City's twelve Regions selects three of their Neighborhood Councils' Budget Representatives to represent their interests at a City-wide level, and to pursue greater clarity on the City's budget and services. Budget Advocates are nominated from and elected by the Budget Representatives from their region at Budget Day on odd-numbered years.



## How long is a Budget Advocate's term?

Budget Advocates serve from their election on the Budget Day of odd-numbered years for a period of approximately two years. Some people serve multiple terms, others drop off and replacements are elected online by the Region's Budget Representatives.

## What do Budget Advocates do?

- Investigate City Departments and their budgets by helping coordinate, interview, draft and edit reports.
- Take the initiative on other projects relating to the City's budget and the services the City is supposed to provide to Los Angeles stakeholders.
- Review and comment on motions intended to improve the quality of life for all Angelenos.
- Work on and present the annual Budget Advocate White Paper to the Mayor.
- Attend Neighborhood Council meetings in their Region to report on Budget Advocate activities.
- Liaise with their Region's Budget Representatives and become the voice for those Neighborhood Councils' issues and concerns.
- Attend Budget Advocate meetings twice a month.
- Help make the next year's Budget Day a success.



## Do I have to have any special skills or experience?

Not specifically. What you need is an interest in what we do and a passion to improve the City. Everyone's experience of living and working in Los Angeles is a valid base to help improve our quality of life. You will learn from other Budget Advocates and from researching the projects you take on.

If you have a talent in creating podcasts, or a proficiency in other areas ranging from data analysis to an interest in children's issues, you can add that to some or all of our projects throughout the year.

But all we really want is that you care and commit.

