

MOTION RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Los Angeles' Neighborhood Council system was established in 1999 as a means to forge greater connections between Los Angeles' communities and City Hall.

Over time, as the system has grown and evolved, the City has implemented various changes to its administrative code in an effort to further community participation in local decision making. This includes Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 22.819, which requires that City boards and commissions allow Neighborhood Council representatives to share their council's formal position on an agenda item and, at the discretion of the Chair, more comment time than allotted to members of the general public.

While the Neighborhood Council system has enhanced participation in local government, there are examples of entities which predate the neighborhood council system and, although sharing the same purpose, are not granted similar privileges as those found under LAAC 22.819. Examples of these non-charter entities include the Brentwood Community Council, founded in 1998, and the Pacific Palisades Community Council, founded in 1973. Representing more than 70,000 stakeholders, these two community councils serve as the official representative bodies of these neighborhoods, fostering participation in local government, reviewing community issues and acting in an advisory capacity to the local council office.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to explore the feasibility of granting community councils the same privileges as those afforded to neighborhood councils under Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 22.819. This report should include an overview of legal and charter considerations, in addition to Brown Act compliance.

PRESENTED BY: 
TRACI PARK
Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

