



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

**Correspondence Received**

| Agenda #   | Relate To | Position | Name                 | Comments  |
|--|-----------|----------|----------------------|---|
| The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item: |           |          |                      |   |
| 73-E.  |           | Favor    | ARI G ARAMBULA       | Unincorporated East Los Angeles is full of culture, familia and history. It deserves full support for public safety, infrastructure, commerce and housing. Residents deserve to feel safe and secure as we send our kids to school, shop or go to work. While we should always look for ways to invest in and improve the quality of life for residents of East LA, it has been researched, voted and determined -- cityhood is not the way to go. I therefore support the motion to Oppose Assembly Bill 2986.   |
|  |           |          | Blanca Olimon        | I Blanca Olimon, am writing in OPPOSITION to Assembly Bill (AB) 2986. East LA residents do not want to break away from LA County and become an incorporated city. Each year, costs increase for law enforcement, fire services, road maintenance, street lighting, graffiti removal and garbage collection. As a city, East LA would be responsible for paying those increases. Right now, if the taxes collected in East LA are not enough, LA County helps to make up the difference to keep the same level of service. Many of us are still recovering financially from the COVID-19 pandemic and the cost of food, gas, and rent are too high. Becoming a city could mean paying more property taxes which affects everyone who lives, works, and plays in East LA. We need the additional support provided by LA County. It is for these reasons that I OPPOSE AB 2986 and ask the board to support 73 -E. |
|  |           |          | Brenda Martinez      |   |
|  |           |          | Candice Roosjen      | I am writing in Support of Supervisor Solis' motion to OPPOSE Assembly Bill (AB) 2986. East LA residents do not want to break away from LA County and become an incorporated city. Each year, costs increase for law enforcement, fire services, road maintenance, street lighting, graffiti removal and garbage collection. As a city, East LA would be responsible for paying those increases. Right now, if the taxes collected in East LA are not enough, LA County helps to make up the difference to keep the same level of service. Becoming a city could mean paying more property taxes which would have an effect on East LA owners, renters, and consumers. We need the additional support provided by LA County. For those reasons, I support this motion to oppose AB 2986.  |
|  |           |          | Daisy C              |   |
|  |           |          | Francisco Villalobos |   |
|  |           |          | Frank Villalobos     |   |
|  |           |          | Frank Villalobos     |   |



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| 73-E.  |           | <b>Favor</b> | Jesus G Cabrera           | As a resident of ELA, I oppose Assembly Bill 2986 and do not think becoming a city is feasible at this time. Right now, if the taxes collected in East LA are not enough, LA County helps to make up the difference to keep the same level of service. The cost of food, gas, and rent are too high. Becoming a city could mean paying more property taxes which affects everyone who lives, works, and plays in East LA. We need the additional support provided by LA County. It is for these reasons that I OPPOSE AB 2986 and ask you Support agenda item 73-E.  |
|  |           |              | Joel Garcia               |  |
|  |           |              | Maria de Lourdes Caracoza | I was born and raised in ELA and currently work and serve ELA. My family and I are homeowners they live in ELA including my father of 92 years old. We are in favor of the opposition of AB 2986. As a new city I am concerned that the supportive services to seniors and individuals with disabilities would be lost. Many residents live on a fixed income and during the pandemic our community received much needed assistance from the county and is still recovering. Most importantly the increase of property taxes and other fees to support a new city would affect our residents negatively. Because ELA lacks the revenue that other cities have our safety would be negatively affected as well, there is no guarantee that a new city can cover our Sheriff services. |
|  |           |              | Michael de la Torre       | support of Opposing 2986   |



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| 73-E.    |           | <b>Favor</b> | Paul Novak | <p>My name is Paul Novak, and I serve as the Executive Officer of the Local Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles, better know as "LA LAFCO" or "LAFCO."</p> <p>I am here today representing the LAFCO Commissioners who, on April 10, 2024, voted unanimously to oppose AB 2986, for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cost: We estimate total costs of more than \$750,000 for staff, legal counsel, an outside financial consultant, notice, and public outreach.</li> <li>2. Funding: Because AB 2986 provides no funding, this would result in a 35% increase in the annual assessments on the County of Los Angeles, the eighty-eight (88) cities in Los Angeles County, and the fifty-one (51) independent special districts in Los Angeles County.</li> <li>3. Diversion of resources: The effort would divert staff and legal resources from addressing an existing backlog of applications, as well as on-going work preparing municipal service reviews for 72 cities and 65 special districts.</li> <li>4. Outcome: This would be the fourth time a proposal to incorporate East Los Angeles has been filed with LAFCO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two were defeated by the voters, in 1961 and 1975;</li> <li>• one did not garner the required number of petition signatures, in 1963; and</li> <li>• one was denied by LAFCO, in 2012.</li> </ul> <p>The 2012 proposal documented that a new city of East Los Angeles would not be economically viable, as the new city would face a shortfall of \$19 million in its first year.</p> <p>Our fiscal analysis showed annual deficits for the first ten years of cityhood. There is no evidence available now to demonstrate that a future cityhood effort would yield a different outcome.</p> </li> <li>5. Stakeholder interest: Since the denial of incorporation for East Los Angeles in 2012, no East Los Angeles stakeholder has contacted LAFCO about a potential city incorporation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Because Assemblywoman Carrillo did not communicate with LAFCO prior to introducing AB 2986, I am struggling to understand how the proposed formation of a Special District for unincorporated East Los Angeles would work.</li> <li>• Under state law, an applicant proposes what type of district will be formed, what services the district will provide, and how the district will be funded.</li> <li>• LAFCO then analyzes whether that district is, or is not, economically viable.</li> <li>• AB 2986 puts LAFCO in the uncomfortable position of "proposing" the formation of a special district, making us both the applicant and the approving authority.</li> <li>• LAFCO staff meets with prospective applicants, and we are happy to do so for East Los Angeles.</li> <li>• But the approach envisioned by AB 2986 is both awkward and illogical.</li> <li>• I would like to reiterate that no stakeholder in East Los Angeles has communicated with LAFCO about cityhood or Special District formation since 2012.</li> </ul> <p>For these reasons, LAFCO opposes AB 2986, and I encourage your honorable Board to do the same.</p> </li> </ol> |



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| The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item: |           |               |                           |   |
| 73-E.  |           | <b>Favor</b>  | Ricardo Mendoza           | The effort for cityhood will cost residents and the community more as they receive less services.   |
|  |           |               | Robert Meneses            | My name is Robert Meneses and I am the President of the Los Angeles County Hispanic Managers Association. I want to thank Supervisor Hilda Solis and Supervisor Kathryn Barger for bringing Item 73E before your board.<br><br>I oppose AB2986. East L.A. does not have a sufficient tax base to pay for service providers including Sheriff and Fire. As such, AB2986 is not good for L.A. County and is not in the best interest of E.L.A. residents. I support Supv. Hilda Solis and Supv. Kathryn Barger's motion to oppose AB2986.   |
|  |           |               | Tony Reyes                |   |
|  |           | <b>Oppose</b> | Brenda Mothers of East LA | Mothers of East LA, are opposing Assembly Bill AB2986 by Assembly member Juan Carrillo. East LA residents do not wish to break away from LA County and become an incorporated city. East Los Angeles has been recognized as a vibrant community with cultural significance. However it doesn't have the capacity to take on the cost increase and independently run services such as; Fire Services, Police Services, Sanitation, Graffiti removal, etc. East LA residents would have to foot the bill. Currently, when the taxes collected in East LA are not enough, LA County helps to make up the difference to keep the same level of services. Families are still recovering financially from Covid 19 so becoming a city will have families pay more taxes to cover the city service. That is why we oppose to AB 2986. Thank you for your consideration |
|  |           |               | Carlos M Montes           | As a long time resident of the Eastside and former property owner, now retired I oppose cityhood for ELA since we do not have the tax base to support good quality public services. City of Commerce took away the big box stores with high sales tax revenue. Also LA County owns large parcels of property in ELA with no tax or sales revenue  |
|  |           |               | Christina Romero          | I support AB 2986 and the creation of a current study. I oppose Hilda Solis Opposing a current study to assess the viability of incorporation of East Los Angeles based on a decades old study or information. I find it irresponsible of her office and other county offices opposing this bill to not explore the viability of cityhood. East Los Angeles deserves better.  |
|  |           |               | Eddie Torres              | The motion lacks transparency and who will select the 11 members of the committee?  |



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| 73-E.  |           | <b>Oppose</b> | Eric Hubbard     | "I, Eric Hubbard and on behalf of Jovenes, Inc., am writing in OPPOSITION to Assembly Bill (AB) 2986. As an organization serving the community, we do not support East LA to break away from LA County and become an incorporated city. Each year, costs increase for law enforcement, fire services, road maintenance, street lighting, graffiti removal and garbage collection. As a city, East LA would be responsible for paying those increases. Right now, if the taxes collected in East LA are not enough, LA County helps to make up the difference to keep the same level of service. The Community needs the additional support provided by LA County. It is for these reasons that I OPPOSE AB 2986."   |
|  |           |               | Frank Villalobos | My name is Frank Villalobos, President of The East Los Angeles Youth Center. I am writing in opposition to Assembly Bill (AB) 2986. We have been in the community for a very long time. Our community needs to fund more services like the one we provide, however, after COVID 19 the grants have become more difficult to obtain. We have lost so much in grants. If East LA becomes incorporated is our belief that grants would become even more difficult to obtain. We will need more additional support. We strongly oppose AB 2986  |
|  |           |               | Laura Barrera    | I am a lifelong resident of ELA. I have worked with elected officials and with municipalities in LA County for over 25 years. I have personally seen the benefits of having direct representation by a city council and city manager. I am opposed to Supervisor Solis's motion to oppose Ab 2986. The bill would begin a crucial conversation for ELA unincorporated to have self-determination and local control about what happens in our 120,000 residents. We deserve to have a fair assessment that will give us the groundwork to begin to build a community plan that represents our interests, not those of politicians that stand to benefit from allowing developments on our business corridors that don't benefit our local community. I support AB 2986, and look forward to our BOS do what is right and support it as well. |



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| 73-E.  |           | <b>Oppose</b> | Lily Hernandez | <p>I'm in opposition of AB 2986. As a resident of East Los Angeles, who was born and raised in East Los Angeles, I do not see benefits to myself, my neighbors or my community. I believe this will have a negative impact at a time when costs are rising, and the future is not secure.</p> <p>Due to the low-income population, raising prices of food, gas, rent, utilities, and taxes, it would greatly impact residents of East Los Angeles in negative monetary ways. The cost of living outweighs the minimum wage increase in certain markets, nor does it minimize recent layoffs and job insecurities many are facing. Back in the early 2010's, when cityhood was first proposed, the solution was to increase taxes to decrease the deficit that would incur should East Los Angeles become a city. At that time, this would have been too much of a burden for the citizens who owned property, as well as rented, and it is even more so now. East Los Angeles lacks businesses that would steam in jobs, taxes and money. The businesses we do have are not enough to take this cost, nor are the citizens of East Los Angeles pockets. Now with added increases of Sheriff and Fire Department, as well as the recent rise in cost of garbage disposal and community maintenance, people shouldn't have to debate between feeding and caring for their family or paying added taxes before those who do not live here decided to make East Los Angeles a city without consideration of those it was hurt.</p> <p>Instead of thinking of ways to overburden residents with dead-end solutions, why not think of ways to bring money and jobs into East Los Angeles, instead of taking away from empty pockets. We need to stop thinking of band-aid, flash attention getting solutions and real beneficial solutions that will not leave a debt for future generations to pay and current generation to regret.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> |



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| Agenda #   | Relate To | Position      | Name               | Comments  |
| 73-E.  |           | <b>Oppose</b> | Martha S Hernandez | <p>I'm in opposition of AB 2986. As a resident of East Los Angeles, who owns property in East Los Angeles, I do not see benefits to myself, my neighbors or my community. I believe this will have a negative impact at a time when costs are rising, and the future is not secure.</p> <p>Due to the low-income population, raising prices of food, gas, rent, utilities, and taxes, it would greatly impact residents of East Los Angeles in negative monetary ways. The cost of living outweighs the minimum wage increase in certain markets, nor does it minimize recent layoffs and job insecurities many are facing. Back in the early 2010's, when cityhood was first proposed, the solution was to increase taxes to decrease the deficit that would incur should East Los Angeles become a city. At that time, this would have been too much of a burden for the citizens who owned property, as well as rented, and it is even more so now. East Los Angeles lacks businesses that would steam in jobs, taxes and money. The businesses we do have are not enough to take this cost, nor are the citizens of East Los Angeles pockets. Now with added increases of Sheriff and Fire Department, as well as the recent rise in cost of garbage disposal and community maintenance, people shouldn't have to debate between feeding and caring for their family or paying added taxes before those who do not live here decided to make East Los Angeles a city without consideration of those it was hurt.</p> <p>Instead of thinking of ways to overburden residents with dead-end solutions, why not think of ways to bring money and jobs into East Los Angeles, instead of taking away from empty pockets. We need to stop thinking of band-aid, flash attention getting solutions and real beneficial solutions that will not leave a debt for future generations to pay and current generation to regret.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> |

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| Agenda #           | Relate To | Position          | Name   | Comments  |
| 73-E.              |           | <b>Oppose</b>     | Sandie Parra   | <p>I oppose moving forward to item 73E. The first district's email blast just arrived today. Also, allowing LA LAFCO to select the 11 members will resolve more of the same issues, with only certain nonprofit groups and progressive community leaders sitting on the committee, silencing the voices of ELA residents and businesses.</p> <p>The Board needs to support members such as East Los Angeles Community Leaders, such as, Kristie Hernandez, Maravilla CAC, Tony De Marco, President of Whittier Merchants, a member of the East Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Eddie Torres, East Los Angeles Coalition, and other members voted in by residents and businesses not selected by county offices because the committee will lack inclusivity. This is extremely rushed and the motion lacks clarity.</p> |
|                    |           |                   | Tony DeMarco   | We oppose this Board opposing AB 2986 which will only establish the East Los Angeles Task Force for the purposes of identifying and evaluating the potential impacts of incorporation of, or the establishment of special districts within, East Los Angeles. Why would this board not want to have this feasibility study done?  |
|                    |           |                   | Tony DeMarco   |   |
|                    |           | <b>Item Total</b> | <b>29</b>  |   |
| <b>Grand Total</b> |           |                   | <b>29</b>  |   |





**Whittier Boulevard Merchants Association**

Tel: (323) 268-4120 / Fax: (323) 268-1626  
4818 Whittier Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90022

Date: April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024

Los Angeles County  
Board of Supervisors

Dear Los Angeles Supervisors,

As President of the Whittier Blvd Merchants Association of East Los Angeles on historic Whittier Blvd I am writing in OPPOSITION to Agenda Item 73E, opposing Assembly Bill 2986 (W. Carrillo).

California State Bill AB 2986 establishes a dedicated task force under the Local Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles (LALAFCO) to explore the implications and feasibility of incorporating East Los Angeles as a city or establishing a special district.

I have owned a small business on Whittier Blvd for over 26 years and have seen the lack of economic development, lack of County funded services and overall lack of a voice on local decisions made by people not living in East Los Angeles. All this bill establishes is a seat at the table to discuss local elected governance. This bill would start the process of getting the 125,000 residents' voices heard. Please support AB2986 (Carrillo) and oppose Agenda Item 73C.

Respectfully,

*Tony DeMarco* \_\_\_\_\_

Tony DeMarco  
President, WBMA



April 22, 2024

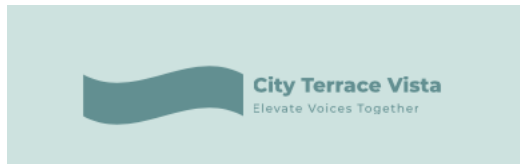
California Assembly Committee on Local Government  
1020 N. Street, Room 157  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
**Via Portal**

**Re: Support of AB 2986 (W. Carrillo).**

As a resident and an advocate in the East Los Angeles community, I support creating a local council that includes residents and small businesses, which reside in the community, to deal with fiscal and lack of accountability of county departments. AB 2986 aims to address the displacement of elderly Latinos and low-income families that are trying to hold on to their homes, businesses, and quality of life. Despite my appreciation for innovative ideas and business practices, I oppose the measures implemented by county officials and outside groups. The impact of numerous new ordinances on low-income homeowners and struggling small business owners is impacting their ability to keep businesses open and food on the table.

Currently, county offices, contracts third parties, and outside groups that do not reside in our community are the sole decision-makers in shaping East Los Angeles. This lack of local representation has left the voices of East Los Angeles residents and businesses unheard. Establishing a local council would, in my opinion, give community members a platform to actively participate in the decision-making process, thereby properly representing the needs and concerns of residents and small business owners.

On Tuesdays, I, along with other community members, attend the Los Angeles County Board meetings to speak on multiple new ordinances and the lack of services. However, the county offices, community organizations, other cities, and county government, who do not reside in the community, outnumbered us in deciding on the new citations and regulations that impact East Los Angeles. The newly established county offices, influenced by non-resident community groups, have drafted ordinances that establish administrative due process, disregard state and federal laws, and mislead the marginalized community members into believing that administrative due process is their sole option. This is particularly concerning because the Latino community fails to uphold these policies; they place liens on their home or business property. If the oppressed community chooses to fight in civil court or criminal court, they look forward to hefty legal costs. These new ordinances coming out of county offices have fines of \$1,000–\$2,000 a day. All I can say is that this is the new version of “Eminent Domain.” If ever a local city council is needed, it is **“now.”**



Currently, Los Angeles County is promoting this for nonprofit groups. Which will salience our voices and input by offering grants of \$500k–\$2 million for abandoned buildings and land for nonprofits. These funds can go to house the homeless and create an RV camp site.

The LA County Department of Economic Opportunity has launched the Commercial Acquisition Fund (CAF) to provide \$10 million in grants to qualifying non-profit organizations to support the acquisition of vacant or abandoned land and buildings in designated communities that were most negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. [Apply today!](#)

The CAF, funded by American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), will be awarded as recoverable grants, ranging from \$500,000 to \$2,000,000. Acquisitions and funding must occur before December 1, 2024. Please see below for details of optional online webinar and in-person training options to learn more about the LA County CAF Program.

Furthermore, the creation of a local council in East Los Angeles provides deeply invested community members with a platform to make informed decisions that directly impact our lives and those of others. A local council can more effectively address the unique histories of the unincorporated areas of East Los Angeles, as well as the community's needs and challenges, through collaboration and representation. This can lead to better decision-making and the implementation of policies and programs that serve the best interests of the community as a whole, not just one side of a community group and organization. It's important to involve diverse voices and perspectives to ensure a comprehensive approach to community development.

Finally, I want to thank Assemblywoman Wendy Carrillo. Ms. Carrillo is the only government official who has met with the East Los Angeles community through the years. Residents and advocates in Los Angeles County have repeatedly requested a meeting with Supervisor Solis, but to no avail. Additionally, our email to District 1 do not receive an answer.

I'm asking the committee to please support AB 2986. The displacement of Latino families and the loss of small business owners will continue if this assembly bill does not pass.



Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping loops and lines.

Sandie Parra,  
City Terrace Vista =, Small Business & Homeowner in East Los Angeles  
Advisor for East Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce & East Los Angeles Coalition

*"I, Christina Romero, Los Angeles Lowrider Alliance, am writing in SUPPORT of Assembly Bill (AB) 2986. East Los Angeles residents want A CURRENT STUDY to understand current viability to break away from LA County and become an incorporated city.*

*Hilda Solis claims East Los Angeles, as its own city, would not be able to support city services such as law enforcement, fire services, road maintenance, street lighting, graffiti removal and garbage collection. Many of us are still recovering financially from the COVID-19 pandemic and the cost of food, gas, and rent are too high. Local elected offices such as Hilda Solis, have not invested in the East Los Angeles Community to mitigate and remedy these issues for families and businesses. Becoming a city may allow East Los Angeles to be potentially viable by attracting major commerce and investments to uplift and sustain the newly formed City of East Los Angeles.*

*At the very least, the community deserves a current study to decide its own fate. Not one public official or other county offices should stand in the way of progress and unrealized potential for political reasons. Los Angeles County should support East Los Angeles if the community chooses cityhood.*

*Because East Los Angeles is not incorporated it is in a perpetual state of being under-served and marginalized. We deserve better.*

*It is for these reasons that I SUPPORT AB 2986 Carrillo .*