



**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

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
6.		Favor	Alex Dobbs	
			Alex Dobbs	
			David Vela	As a resident , former Board of Supervisors staff and Trustee for the Los Angeles Community College District I endorse the Los Angeles County Governance Reform initiative
			First District	
			Hector Ramirez	
			Jingran Xu	<p>Good morning. My name is Jingran Xu and I am with Chinatown Service Center, a nonprofit health & human services agency serving the LA County since 1971.</p> <p>I support Items 6 and 7 to expand the Board of Supervisors and elect a County Executive.</p> <p>LA County is the nation's largest with nearly 10 million residents. As our county's population grows and diversifies, we must innovate and re-evaluate how we can best meet residents' changing needs to ensure we deliver the support to them as inclusively and transparently as possible.</p> <p>This is very critical for LA County residents who have historically been under-represented and left out of these conversations, and who deserve equal representation, to be confident in our commitment to deliver it.</p> <p>As of the 2020 Census count, there are over 4.8 million Latinos and 1.5 million AAPI residents in LA County, these 2 groups make up over 60% of the County's total population.</p> <p>We need to make sure their diverse voices are not only given a wider platform but also amplified so they are given the representation they deserve in the decision making to ensure we direct resources that positively impact all of the county's residents.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
			John Gooden	
			June Pan	



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6.		Favor	Ronald Gonzales-Lawrence	On behalf of the Darren Knowles (Superintendent of Pomona Unified School District), he is in support of Item 6, Resolution Calling and Giving Notice of a Special Election. PUSD serves the cities of Pomona and Diamond Bar. Both on the very eastern boundary of Los Angeles County. We have been served well by Supervisor Solis and thank her for all she has done for us. However, having a smaller supervisor districts will allow our community to have a louder voice and hopefully allow for greater access to more resources. I urge an aye vote on this item.
		Oppose	Andrew Harms	
		Other	Franki A Jacobs	<p>The Special Election to increase the Board of Supervisors from 5 Supervisors to 9 is important to bring forward transparency for all questions to be answered. Since 1988, we have served in LA County Community Advocacy & yet the systemic Govt Agency Oversights are the focus for diversity.</p> <p>1. Is an increase of 4 more Board of Supervisors for Election going to increase the new COMMITTEE FOR IDENTIFIED SYSTEMIC OVERSIGHTS to be a focus for a NEW elected Supervisor?</p> <p>2. Are the elected new Board of Supervisors going to be "vetted" for their Dept of Justice background check? If there were errors on their DOJ Record, how would they want to address it? Now would they set up a COMMITTEE to address it for the thousands in Diversity with a paper trail of Abuse of Power Under Color of Law or is the increase of Supervisors going to ignore it?</p> <p>3. JUSTICE FUND: Middle Class LA County Residents have been permanently damaged by Systemic Felony Violent Crimes/Thefts ignored, by LASD/LAPD oversights of their Marsy Rights. Will adding new elected 4 Supervisors be adding more large tax payer Salaried JOBS for younger generations or will it open up LEADERSHIP that is willing to review Systemic Oversights & New Committees?</p>
		Item Total	11	
7.	6	Favor	Alex Dobbs	



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The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
7.	6	Favor	Connie Chung Joe	AJSOCAL expresses its support of Item #7, the County Charter Amendment. Although we continue to feel some reservations about the process, which felt rushed and did not allow for sufficient community engagement, we ultimately feel that the benefits of the charter reform proposal outweigh those concerns. Specifically, we are in full support of expanding the number of board seats. Although we wish there was more contemporary data to support 9 being the optimal number of seats, we acknowledge that in general, increasing the number of seats is a positive outcome. Simply put, more seats at the table mean for more representation by leaders from underrepresented or entirely unrepresented communities. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (APIs), who make up 16% of the County population, do not have a representative on the Board and under the current configuration of 5 board seats, will most likely continue to be unrepresented for many years to come. 9 seats would expand the table to finally give APIs a chance to create a district where we could elect someone from our own community, as well as potentially adding more seats for the Latinx community, which is also underrepresented on the Board. 9 seats gives opportunity to have more leaders of color on the Board to better reflect the diversity of the County. We express our support for this Charter Amendment with caution, as there are still many unknowns in this process, including the full scope of the role of the county elected executive, the extent of the power that could be stripped away from the Supervisors, and the financial costs. We appreciate that the plan has built in a review process every 10 years to allow for course corrections and to address unintended consequences. Should this motion move forward and the matter go to the voters on the November ballot, we call upon the Board to employ a far more inclusive, engaged, and open process moving forward that would allow for more opportunities for community input and reform.
			Crystal D Muma Rivers	It is a joke that there are only 5 people on the LA board of Supervisors representing a city this large. Transparency is the ONLY way to rebuild trust with all of the DOCUMENTED corruption within our city and I fully support any and all ethics committees.
			David Vela	As a resident , former Board of Supervisors staff and Trustee for the Los Angeles Community College District I endorse the Los Angeles County Reform initiative.
			Denise Menchaca	
			Doris Lemieux	The governance reform proposals by the Board are commendable.
			First District	
			Hector Ramirez	Can you please include in the charter the need to ensure that all county services and programs are accessible to people with disabilities in accordance with county, state, and federal accessibility rules.
			helen eigenberg	



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7.	6	Favor	Jingran Xu	<p>Good morning. My name is Jingran Xu and I am with Chinatown Service Center, a nonprofit health & human services agency serving the LA County since 1971.</p> <p>I support Items 6 and 7 to expand the Board of Supervisors and elect a County Executive.</p> <p>LA County is the nation's largest with nearly 10 million residents. As our county's population grows and diversifies, we must innovate and re-evaluate how we can best meet residents' changing needs to ensure we deliver the support to them as inclusively and transparently as possible.</p> <p>This is very critical for LA County residents who have historically been under-represented and left out of these conversations, and who deserve equal representation, to be confident in our commitment to deliver it.</p> <p>As of the 2020 Census count, there are over 4.8 million Latinos and 1.5 million AAPI residents in LA County, these 2 groups make up over 60% of the County's total population.</p> <p>We need to make sure their diverse voices are not only given a wider platform but also amplified so they are given the representation they deserve in the decision making to ensure we direct resources that positively impact all of the county's residents.</p> <p>Thank you</p>



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7.	6	Favor	Joel Fajardo	<p>Dear Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:</p> <p>My name is Joel Fajardo, and I am a Councilmember with the City of San Fernando.</p> <p>I am writing to support Agenda Item 7 regarding the proposed Charter Amendment to expand the Board of Supervisors from five to nine members.</p> <p>First, I want to thank Supervisor Lindsay Horvath and Supervisor Janice Hahn for their dedicated efforts to improve transparency and representation within our county government. Their leadership in this area is greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Our current system, which has been in place since 1912, was designed for a much smaller population. Today, each supervisor represents around two million people, making it challenging to address the diverse needs of our county effectively.</p> <p>Expanding the Board will improve representation by including more voices and perspectives in decision-making. This change will help ensure that all areas of Los Angeles County, including the San Fernando Valley and the City of San Fernando, are better represented.</p> <p>While I strongly support this reform, I urge the Board to ensure that this expansion is cost-neutral for taxpayers and to address any concerns raised by the labor community. It is important that we move forward in a way that balances the benefits of improved representation with fiscal responsibility and stakeholder considerations.</p> <p>Please note that this letter is from me as an individual, not the City or City Council as a whole. Thank you for considering this important reform.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Joel Fajardo Councilmember City of San Fernando</p>
			June Pan	
			Kurt A Cabrera-Miller	
			Maria Solorio	
			Mariko Kahn	
			Nicole Mohr	See letter attached.



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7.	6	Favor	PENNY SYLVESTER	Los Angeles County Supervisors cannot be effective representatives for all their constituents when they have to cover so many areas of Los Angeles County. We are in desperate need of adding more Supervisors to make government more efficient. Additionally, we need an elected County Executive who will be accountable to our communities.
			Ronald Gonzales-Lawrence	On behalf of the Darren Knowles (Superintendent of Pomona Unified School District), he is in support of Item 7, County Code, Charter Amendment. PUSD serves the cities of Pomona and Diamond Bar. Both on the very eastern boundary of Los Angeles County. We have been served well by Supervisor Solis and thank her for all she has done for us. However, having a smaller supervisor districts will allow our community to have a louder voice and hopefully allow for greater access to more resources. I urge an aye vote on this item.
			Ronald Gonzales-Lawrence	On behalf of the Darren Knowles (Superintendent of Pomona Unified School District), he is in support of Item 6, Resolution Calling and Giving Notice of a Special Election. PUSD serves the cities of Pomona and Diamond Bar. Both on the very eastern boundary of Los Angeles County. We have been served well by Supervisor Solis and thank her for all she has done for us. However, having a smaller supervisor districts will allow our community to have a louder voice and hopefully allow for greater access to more resources. I urge an aye vote on this item.



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7.	6	Favor	Teodora E Reyes	<p>My name is Teodora Reyes, and I'm commenting in my capacity as the Communications Director with the San Fernando Valley Young Democrats and a lifelong resident in the North East San Fernando Valley.</p> <p>As a united front, the San Fernando Valley Young Democrats strongly support the LA County Board of Supervisors Governance Reform proposal. This historic reform aims to create a long-overdue equitable & representative County government including the first major change since 1912, before women had the right to vote.</p> <p>Historically, our communities have suffered the consequences of under and inequitable representation in Los Angeles County governance. Efforts by Chair Lindsey P. Horvath & Supervisor Janice Hahn to reform this structure are long overdue.</p> <p>I especially support this reform for an expansion of our Board Supervisors, have a elected County Executive and to implement ethics reforms for enhanced accountability and better representation of underserved regions including the San Fernando Valley.</p> <p>As Young Democrats, we believe in the fullest possible participation of Young Democratic voters. Having a LA County reform gives voters the opportunity to remove barriers and create equitable outcomes, build the path for diverse young democratic candidates to run for office, and addresses the desperate need for representation within the San Fernando Valley and LA County.</p> <p>I urge all Board Supervisors to vote aye on Motion Item 7. Thank you!</p>
			Yadi -	Support charter amendment and more transparency.
			Oppose	Andrew Harms
		Community Leaders Opposing Charter Amendment	<p>July 30, 2024</p> <p>To: The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles Lindsey P. Horvath, Board Chair, Supervisor Third District Hilda L. Solis, Supervisor First District Holly J. Mitchell, Supervisor Second District Janice Hahn, Supervisor Fourth District Kathryn Barger, Supervisor Fifth District</p> <p>Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012</p>	



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Cc: Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer of Los Angeles County
Dawyn R. Harrison, County Counsel, Los Angeles County

Subject: Letter of Opposition for Charter Amendment - LA County
Governance Reform

Dear Honorable Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,

We write to express our deep concern and unfortunate opposition to the current motion for a charter amendment for LA County Governance Reform being proposed for the November 2024 ballot. We respectfully request your NAY vote when the matter returns for your final approval on the ground that the proposed charter amendment for LA County governance reform as written today and the process that was taken to bring it about are fundamentally flawed in several areas, not backed by empirical evidence and lack true community engagement and inclusivity.

In recent years, LA County has made progress in several ways by having decision-makers collaborate closely with community leaders, organizations, and advocates, all of whom believe that solutions lie within the community and emphasize racial equity, inclusivity, and solidarity. The creation of the Office of Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) under the direction of the LA County CEO, the Equity in County Contracting initiative, the establishment of the Department of Youth Development, and the Justice, Care, and Opportunities Department all demonstrate the achievements possible when the community is given the opportunity to provide in-depth analysis and feedback through values-centered community engagement processes before the findings from those processes are codified into actions. Additionally, the implementation of Measure J -- now known as the Care First Community Investment that is allocating nearly \$300 million annually towards community investments and alternatives to incarceration -- has an advisory committee composed of leaders from both LA County departments and the community that collaboratively decide the best ways to steward the resources for positive impact. These initiatives illustrate that governance rooted in the values of multi-racial democracy, solidarity, and inclusivity can effectively address systemic inequities and enhance community well-being. Engaging the community and ensuring their voices are heard is crucial to the success of such reforms, leading to more effective and sustainable outcomes.

The LA County Governance Reform package appears to be driven by polling data rather than the values and needs of our communities, unlike previous efforts. When asked about the decision to expand to nine seats, the response that it "polled well" and references to the board of supervisors' commentary from the 1970s highlight the disconnect between this proposal and the actual needs and desires of current Los Angeles County residents. The rushed and secretive manner in which this proposal was created and advanced, coupled with the lack of openness to amendments at the last Board of Supervisors



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meeting, does not reflect the good governance practices we expect from our leaders. If this charter amendment makes it to the ballot, the public is being strong-armed into voting on a package that does not truly represent them, their wants or their needs.

The expansion of the number of supervisor districts, increased transparency, and a less political budgeting process are certainly appealing. However, if these rhetorical advances are built on empty promises and whimsical estimates not backed by empirical evidence or based on a promise that our communities will be rewarded later in exchange for our support today, the potential damages to our communities is too great a risk to bear. The current motion for a charter amendment does not align with the values of multi-racial democracy, solidarity, and inclusive governance. If it did, it would have involved meaningful participation from the people most affected by these decisions from the beginning. Therefore, we are forced to say no and oppose these efforts and request something new, something better, something we can say we co-created.

True representation requires actively including our voices and perspectives in the decision-making process. Polling a select few does not equate to an inclusive, equity-driven, community-centered approach to governance reform. More work is needed to ensure that any reform package truly reflects the aspirations and needs of LA County's diverse communities.

We offer our support to a plan a process that allows exploration, answers questions upfront, measures the impact of expansion equitably across all communities, and works directly to repair ongoing harms to Black, Native, Indigenous, Pacific Islander, Asian, Latine, LGBTQIA+, Differently Abled, and other members of the global majority in LA County. This approach ensures we do not repeat the mistakes of the past and that all Angelenos in every walk of life can benefit from a just and equitable governance system. We demand a complete halt of the efforts for this charter amendment. We fully agree that LA County needs governance reform, but this proposed charter amendment and the process that was taken to bring it about are fundamentally flawed and lack true community inclusivity. We can, and must, do better—together.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Derek Steele
Executive Director
Social Justice Learning Institute

Veronica Lewis
Executive Director
HOPICS



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Charisse Bremond Weaver
President and CEO
Brotherhood Crusade

Leslie Cooper Johnson
Chief Culture Officer
Community Coalition

Janet Denise Kelly
Executive Director
Sanctuary of Hope

Pete White
Executive Director
LA Community Action Network

Mary M. Lee
Community Resident and Advocate

Karen Mack
Founder and Executive Director
LA Commons

Christian Green
Policy and Advocacy Director
Sanctuary of Hope

Kim Watson
Executive Director
Project Joy

Candice Mays
Project Director
Mapping Black California

Akuyoe Graham
CEO/Founder
Spirit Awakening Foundation

James Woodson
Executive Director
California Black Power Network

Ron Collins II
Special Assistant to the Co-Executive Director of Organizing and Programs
Los Angeles Black Worker Center

Stanley Thermidor
Policy & Advocacy Strategist



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	<p>A New Way of Life Reentry Project</p> <p>Maraky Alemseged Los Angeles Organizer Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI)</p> <p>Yvette Crayon Program Director Green Thumb A. V. G.R.I.P.</p> <p>Reba Stevens Community Advocate & Community Member</p> <p>Onyemma Obiekea Policy Director Black Women for Wellness</p> <p>Jacob Adams Founder, Executive Director STEM to the Future</p> <p>Maisha Beasley, EdD Executive Director Project Sankofa</p> <p>Jennifer Trichelle-Marie Williams LA County Commissioner</p> <p>Shimica Gaskins Community Resident and Advocate</p> <p>Dr. David C. Turner III Faculty Director Million Dollar Hoods Project</p> <p>Jayme Kusyk Community Advocate & Community Member</p> <p>Thomas Bunn Founder Creative Director Against The Grain Media</p>
Ron Collins	<p>My name is Ron Collins and I'm with the LA Black Worker Center. I'm here today to speak in opposition of the current motion for a charter amendment of LA County Governance Reform. To be clear, we do support a possible expansion of the Board, but not without the due diligence of a true community engagement process and adequate study. In the past few years Black workers all over LA county have seen exactly what can happen when there is not enough transparency and accountability in government, particularly when</p>



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			<p>it comes to the issue of redistricting and we need our county government to do better. Transparent democracy isn't just about letting people know what's going on in government, but also allowing folks an honest opportunity to participate in political decisions that impact us.</p> <p>At the LA Black Worker Center we envision a world where Black workers thrive in an equitable economy, and that can only be done when our communities are fully included in decisions that deeply impact us. We stand with the CA Black Power Network, SJLI, BWW, LA CAN, other Black led organizations and our allies, demanding a complete halt of all efforts for this charter amendment. Instead we urge the board to work with organizations like ours to craft a sincere community engagement process that will allow the voices of community members to be heard as we engage in the historic process of changing our county government.</p>
		Thomas Bunn	<p>The LA County Governance Reform package appears to be driven by polling data rather than the values and needs of our communities, unlike previous efforts. When asked about the decision to expand to nine seats, the response that it "polled well" and references to the board of supervisors' commentary from the 1970s highlight the disconnect between this proposal and the actual needs and desires of current Los Angeles County residents. The rushed and secretive manner in which this proposal was created and advanced, coupled with the lack of openness to amendments at the last Board of Supervisors meeting, does not reflect the good governance practices we expect from our leaders. If this charter amendment makes it to the ballot, the public is being strong-armed into voting on a package that does not truly represent them, their wants or their needs. In this regard, I strongly vote in opposition.</p>
	Other	Franki A Jacobs	<p>The Charter Amendment - Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, former CA Senator, did not implement 4 new Board of Supervisor electoral opportunities. How would this proposed elected action of additional new growths impact the communication transparency, or the growth of COMMITTEES FOR OVERSIGHT REMEDIAL ACTIONS - JUSTICE FUNDS OR OVERSIGHT REMEDIAL ACTIONS?</p> <p>COMMITTEES: Would 4 New Board of Supervisors increase or decrease their communications with the community 501.c3s/Coalitions and Advocates and implement more growth of Action & Remedy Committees that will protect the constitutional protections and equity of all ages & diversity?</p> <p>We have not yet had clarity of whether this Tax Payer funded action is to build more silenced ignored Systemic Oversight Remedies or to INCREASE true trust building & new REMEDIES to all?</p> <p>We all WILL support the Election of 4 NEW Board of Supervisors if they are only there to BUILD more COMMITTEES to take ACTIONS that will Govern the REMEDIES & RESTORATIONS of systemic wrongs identified and assessed by licensed professionals that have permanently harmed those damaged in their careers, community leadership, and their families and futures without OVERSIGHT JUSTICE.</p>

			<p>The Power of the People are the voices to support ~ not the People with Power</p> <p>In the words of MLK: What did Martin Luther King say about silence? "We will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."</p> <p>WE NEED PROOF - OF NEW COMMITTEES TO RESTORE JUSTICE - REMEDIES FROM OVERSIGHT TO DIVERSITY!</p> <p>We need to not silence or ignore & build Committees by Supervisors who care to restore JUSTICE.</p>
			Quan Rob
			Quan Rob Support if Amended
		Item Total	33
Grand Total			44

To: Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
From: California Clean Money Campaign & Unrig LA
Date: July 29th, 2024
Re: County Charter Amendments - Item #7

Amendments to Ensure an Independent Ethics Commission

We appreciate the Board of Supervisors advancing a comprehensive set of charter amendments. Ethics reforms are an essential pillar of this package, but as currently presented the draft language fails to detail any of the necessary elements of an *independent* ethics commission. We understand that the board has a closing window to make changes, but believe the following amendments would address these concerns:

1. Commit to returning to the ballot in 2026 to codify independent ethics reforms in the charter.

As currently drafted, the Board of Supervisors would retain complete power to determine the power and structure of the ethics commission. Even if strong reforms are implemented by ordinance, the Board of Supervisors could at any point curtail the commission's power without seeking voter approval. This leaves the commission dependent upon the discretion of the elected officials it oversees. We ask that the authors of the motion commit to ensuring that after passage and implementation, reforms will be later codified in the charter in 2026.

2. Amend Section 11.70, and 11.18/11.20 if necessary, to clarify that the Ethics Compliance Officer will be appointed by a majority of the ethics commission.

The draft language in section 11.70 does not indicate a process for the selection of a department head. Language in draft sections 11.18 and 11.20, which will be operative in 2028, appears to give the county executive, an elected official, the power to appoint and remove the department head. A recently approved motion from Supervisors Horvath and Barger suggests that the Ethics Compliance Officer should be appointed by the commission, ensuring no elected official would have the sole discretion to hire or fire the department head. We agree, and ask that that be included in the language.

3. Add Section 11.68(c) establishing that commissioners can only be removed for cause.

Commissioners should only be removed for cause. In the City of Los Angeles this is defined as a vote of "the council for substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in office, inability to discharge the powers and duties of office or violation of this article, after written notice of the grounds on which removal is sought and an opportunity for a reply."¹

4. Add Section 11.68(d) establishing the commission's subpoena power.

The commission's investigation and enforcement powers will be of little use if it does not have clear subpoena power established in the charter. The City of Los Angeles' ethics commission

¹ LA City Charter Sec 700(e):
<https://ethics.lacity.gov/wp-content/uploads/Laws-Administration-Duties-and-Powers.pdf>

has the power to “subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance and testimony, administer oaths and affirmations, take evidence and require by subpoena the production of any books, papers, records or other items material to the performance of the commission’s duties or exercise of its powers.”²

5. Add Section 11.68(e) prohibiting commissioners, and the Ethics Compliance Officer, from donating to or working on LA County campaigns.

The City of Los Angeles’ ethics commission includes this prohibition. It also has a number of additional qualification requirements (and is seeking to expand that list at this November’s ballot), but we believe it is essential that neither the commissioners or the department head be allowed to “participate in or contribute to a [County] election campaign.”³

Thank you for your leadership on this crucial issue. These amendments would provide minimal charter requirements needed for an independent ethics commission. A promise of a followup ballot measure in 2026 to fully flesh out the ethics commission in the charter would help provide voters confidence that Los Angeles County will have a truly independent ethics commission.

² LA City Charter Section 706(a)3:
<https://ethics.lacity.gov/wp-content/uploads/Laws-Administration-Duties-and-Powers.pdf>

³ LA City Charter Section 700(d)1:
<https://ethics.lacity.gov/wp-content/uploads/Laws-Administration-Duties-and-Powers.pdf>



United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles

www.un4la.com

UN4LA Board

Casey Maddren, President
Annie Gagen, Vice-President
Cherilyn Smith, Treasurer
David Ewing
Jack Humphreville
Kim Lamorie
Dick Platkin
Gina Thornburg

January 29, 2024

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: County Code, Charter Amendment
Establish an Independent LA County Ethics Commission
Item 7, BOS Agenda, July 30, 2024

Members of the Board of Supervisors,

United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles (UN4LA) is a community group formed to foster better planning and better government within the County of Los Angeles, and all cities and unincorporated areas contained within the County's borders. Among UN4LA's areas of focus are planning, ethics, and the environment, but UN4LA's larger purpose is to speak to any issue which relates to the health and well-being of the citizens of Los Angeles County.

We are writing to voice our strong support for the creation of an Independent Ethics Commission. UN4LA believes this is an important step toward demonstrating the integrity of LA County government, and we hope the Supervisors will vote unanimously to put this proposal on the November ballot.

While we wholeheartedly endorse the creation of an Ethics Commission, we feel there

are requirements that must be met in order to make the Commission not only independent but effective. We believe the Supervisors are on the right track in proposing

- That the Commission members be subject matter experts appointed by neutral appointing authorities (e.g., the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, government ethics experts, or campaign finance experts);
- That the Commission should have oversight authority over ethical conduct by County officials, financial disclosures, conflicts of interest, post-government employment, government contracts, lobbying, land use developer conflicts, and campaign finance laws;
- That an Office of Ethics Compliance be created to support the work of the Commission and guide ethical compliance throughout the County.

The following are also crucial powers and authorities for the Commission to accomplish its work:

- Dedicated funding based on a percentage of the County budget to ensure that it's work is not hobbled by lack of funding;
- Unilateral authority to hire and maintain its own staff at an adequate level;
- Authority to retain outside counsel;
- Power to issue subpoenas;
- Authority to refer criminal matters to the County District Attorney for prosecution, or to other offices where appropriate, such as the State Attorney General or Federal law enforcement;
- Authority to put measures directly on the ballot;
- Authority to impose meaningful fines when it determines that a law has been violated.

Another important matter to consider is the independence of the Commission. The law should state that, once appointed for a set term, members of the Commission can only be removed for cause by the neutral body that made the appointment. This will ensure that Commissioners are not subject to political pressure.

While concerns have been raised regarding the cost of such a commission, our recent history bears witness that the cost to the community of not having an effective and independent Ethics Commission is far more serious.

Again, we strongly support this proposal and we hope that the Supervisors will act swiftly to place this measure on the November ballot. The creation of an Independent Ethics Commission is an important and long overdue step in ensuring the integrity of our County government.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Casey Maddren, President
United Neighborhoods for Los Angeles

**Support for Board Expansion Ballot Initiative,
Items 6 and 7 on Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda**

On July 23, 2024, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance calling for a special election to be held on November 5, 2024, to vote on an amendment to the County Charter that would by 2026, establish an independent Los Angeles County Ethics Commission; by 2028, establish the office of an elected County Executive; expand the membership of the Board of Supervisors from five to nine following the 2030 redistricting process; and establish a Governance Reform Task Force and Charter Review Commission.

Los Angeles County is the nation's largest county with 4,084 square miles and nearly 10 million residents. As Los Angeles County's population grows and diversifies, we must innovate and re-evaluate how we can best meet residents' changing needs to ensure we deliver the support they need as inclusively, transparently, and equitably as possible. This is especially critical for residents in communities who have historically been left out of elected office and who deserve equal representation. As of the 2020 Census count, there are over 4.8 million Latinos and 1.5 million Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles County, which combined make up over 60 percent of the County's total population of 10 million residents. We need to make sure their diverse voices are amplified so that all of our communities have a say in how Los Angeles County is governed and how resources are directed. We, the undersigned support expansion of the Board of Supervisors and support Items 6 and 7 which will be heard at the July 30, 2024, meeting of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. We thank you for your time and service.

Name	Signature	Zip Code	EMAIL	Phone Number
ANDRES		91744		
Cynthia Lopez		91744	lopezlynnr8@gmail.com	626 267-0985
Frank Cardiel	FRANK CARDIEL	91745	FRANK CARDIEL	626 223-6791
Kelly Jimenez		91745	KellyJimenez.com	626 715-3385
Violet Hernandez		91745	VIOLETHernandez26@yahoo.com	626 703-9545
James Phelps		91745	JamesPhelps20@TWC	626 688-4510
Jinette Martinez		91745	jinette.mart@gmail.com	626 510-4027
Denise Johnson		91745	vertibid@hotmail.com	210 707-8203
Janesa Salkow		91745	janesaebw@yahoo.com	626 277-1203
Winnie Wu		91789	winniegrupta@yahoo.com	909-598-3065
Ofelia Robledo		91745	ofeliarobledo@yahoo.com	626 679-1606
Sally De La Peza		91745	sallydelapeza@gmail.com	626-833-5330
STEVEN HILL		91745	927 9th St.	N/A
ELSA LOPEZ		91792	seba91792@gmail.com	(626) 222-2231
Jane Hang Joe		91745	janehang1023@gmail.com	626-428-0729
OSCAR FRANCO		91744		626 257-1518
Taime Campos		91745		213 809 3852
Licetia Jimenez		91748		
Ray Cahala	REYNALDO CAHALA	91748	greenmayo22@msx.cba	626-347-8085
Fanny Lopez		91748		6
SUN Herbert		91745	herbat888@gmail.com	

Name	Signature	Zip Code	EMAIL	Phone Number
Delicia J. Harris	<i>Delicia J Harris</i>	91706	ideefree@yahoo.com	626-338-1570
Barbara Huffman	<i>Barbara L. Huff</i>	90603	mollysmoniz@gmail	(562) 631-4490
Fran Trusillo	<i>Fran Trillo</i>	91744	Tru73msu.com	626/333-0793
Dianna Merchant	<i>Dianna Merchant</i>	91745	diannamerchant12@gmail.com	626-824-8385
Max Medina	<i>Max Medina</i>	91748	maxamedia1994@gmail.com	(626) 476-0016
Michael Hamilton	<i>Michael Hamilton</i>	91745	mhamilton141@aol.com	562-447-0747
Marlene Tucker	<i>Marlene Tucker</i>	91745	SMTucker5@ymail.com	626-222-4208
MARY BOLLMAN	<i>Mary Bollman</i>	90703	MBRX243W@aol.com	626-761-7698
Laurie Cowles	<i>Laurie Cowles</i>	90712	LasdLaurieCowles@aol.com	562-818-4606
Charli Bankhardt	<i>Charli Bankhardt</i>	90803	vegaskuf@aol.com	562-413-6038
BRUCE DIXON	<i>Bruce Dixon</i>	90638	Bruce Dixon	310-209-467
Prism Cepallos	<i>Prism Cepallos</i>	91748		
Charles Fletcher	<i>Charles Fletcher</i>	91766	cf1etc@aol.com	562-633-1171
Annabelle Miramonte	<i>Annabelle Miramonte</i>	91745	belle12mira@gmail.com	626-757-6873
Christina Medez	<i>Christina Medez</i>	91792		626-665-4614
Margarita Griego	<i>Margarita Griego</i>	91792		626-485-6867
SALVADOR MENDOZA	<i>Salvador Mendoza</i>	91792		626-330-5342
Irene Reyes	<i>Irene Reyes</i>	91745	15723 La Subida De H. H. Cuy Apt	
Margaret Gonzalez	<i>Margaret Gonzalez</i>	91745	1438 Portanova	626-336-0808
Frank Gonzalez	<i>Frank Gonzalez</i>	"	"	"
PAK LAM	<i>Pak Lam</i>	91748	17827 CRIMSON CREST RD WILSON HTS, CA.	626-454-9255
Angelina V	<i>Angelina V</i>	91748		818/454-6569
BRISBY	<i>Brisby</i>	91748		818/484-6160
Eileen Lee	<i>Eileen Lee</i>	91748	EH	6
Jane Li	<i>Jane Li</i>	91745		626-818-827
DOUBLYN	<i>Doublyn</i>			
PACIFIC COAST FRANCISCO	<i>Pacific Coast Francisco</i>	91744	PIXEFRANCISCO@ICLOUD.COM	626-336-0025
AIDA WERAPASUK	<i>Aida Werapasuk</i>	91790		
PASCAL FERRANDEZ	<i>Pascal Ferrandez</i>	91744		
CARMELITA GERASIMO	<i>Carmelita Gerasio</i>	91792		
Edmunda Panahan	<i>Edmunda Panahan</i>	91791		
Juanito Comayon	<i>Juanito Comayon</i>	91789		
Sung Lee	<i>Sung Lee</i>	91789		
DOMINIQUE TSICH	<i>Dominique Tsich</i>	91803		

Name	Signature	Zip Code	EMAIL	Phone Number
Teresa Rodriguez	<i>Teresa Rodriguez</i>	90606	auntieknight	323 721-7878
KATHERINE Kuo	<i>Katherine Kuo</i>	91803		
po -li	<i>po Kar Li</i>	91741		

Hacienda Heights

Support for Board Expansion Ballot Initiative,
Items 6 and 7 on Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda

On July 23, 2024, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance calling for a special election to be held on November 5, 2024, to vote on an amendment to the County Charter that would by 2026, establish an independent Los Angeles County Ethics Commission; by 2028, establish the office of an elected County Executive; expand the membership of the Board of Supervisors from five to nine following the 2030 redistricting process; and establish a Governance Reform Task Force and Charter Review Commission.

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Name	Signature	Zip Code	EMAIL	Phone Number
Juanita Garcia		91702	trifenitagarcia920@gmail.com	(951) 312-1174
Ennie Villaluz		91746		(248) 240-7739
Hot Cannon		91746		626-833-9729
Chris Yne		91744	ringy1506@gmail.com	(323) 303-7491
Mary K. Sutton		91601		(626) 330-1135
Beverly Williams		91724	bigbev2429@gmail.com	
ALLEN STINSON		91744	Green Bear 1335	.com 818-470-9717
FELICIA BAGNER		91304	revatuservice@gmail.com	
NEEMAN MAGER		91745	NEEMANMAGER@GMAIL.COM	626-826-3911

Murph Chapel
Event

Support for Board Expansion Ballot Initiative,
Items 6 and 7 on Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda

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Name	Signature	Zip Code	EMAIL	Phone Number
Susan Melton	<i>Susan Melton</i>	91384	S & M Cleaning Service @ gmail.com	909-246-1960
Jade Thiel-Maiz	<i>Jade Thiel-Maiz</i>	91766	jthielmaiz05@gmail.com	909-929-4078
Thelma Arcilla	<i>Thelma Arcilla</i>	91702	—	6542 626-540
MARIA Cisneros	<i>MARIA Cisneros</i>	91702	—	—
Amelia	<i>Amelia</i>	91702	—	—
Edith Pacheco	<i>Edith Pacheco</i>	91702	—	626 3434698
Salvador Bazulto Nuño	<i>Salvador Bazulto Nuño</i>	91702	—	626-598-0136
Michaela Mora	<i>Michaela Mora</i>	91702	—	—
Gloria TOVAR	<i>Gloria To</i>	91744	—	626 536-8608
Naemi Rivera	<i>Naemi Rivera</i>	91744	—	626 810-0035
ANGEL RIVERA	<i>Angel Rivera</i>	91744	—	626 586 9592
DAVID Zucker	<i>David Zucker</i>	91601	davidnydje@outlook.com	310-2-6125
Isaac Flores	<i>Isaac Flores</i>	91767	ISAAC.FLORES05@gmail.com	626-216-5548
Walter Thiel-Maiz	<i>Walter Thiel-Maiz</i>	91766	wtm022@gmail.com	909-568-3428

valleydale
Park

**Support for Board Expansion Ballot Initiative,
Items 6 and 7 on Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda**

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Name	Signature	Zip Code	EMAIL	Phone Number
Saimi Alvarez		91706	Saimi_LVRZ@yahoo.com	(626) 260 2537
Anton Quiroga		91706	antonquiroms83@gmail.com	
Sindy Bolaños		91706	SindyQuinonez237@gmail.com	
Eric		91706		
Alfonso Gomez		91706		
Sandy Velasco		91706		(909) 2333218
Adriana Carrillo		91746		
Clavola Padilla		91746		
Weili Qin		91706		
Shijie Peng		91706		
Ireneza Niblas		91706	iliwilirezmita@gmail.com	
Yadira Landin		91706		(562) 8339415
Pablo Morales		91706		

**Morgan
Park**

**Support for Board Expansion Ballot Initiative,
Items 6 and 7 on Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda**

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Name	Signature	Zip Code	EMAIL	Phone Number
Gloria Palaerios	<i>Gloria Palaerios</i>	91748	glopala@verizon.net	626 964-1931
Shirley Rose	<i>Shirley Rose</i>	91748		626 964-2162
Barbara Pomidorri	<i>Barbara Pomidorri</i>	91745		626 333-3750
Elena Sanborn	<i>Elena Sanborn</i>	91748		626 888-2119
MARY STOWE-MESCITER	<i>Mary Stowe-Mescher</i>	91748	MSTOWEM@GMAIL.COM	626 827-4474
MARIO AGUAS	<i>Mario Aguas</i>	91740	maruaguas@aol.com	909 9612402
Shobha Ved	<i>Shobha Ved</i>	91746	shobhaved@juno.com	626-991-7725

Pathfinder
Park

**Apoyo para la iniciativa de votación para la ampliación de la junta directiva,
Artículo 6 y 7 del orden del día de la reunión de la Junta de Supervisores**

El 23 de julio de 2024, la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Los Ángeles aprobó una ordenanza que convocó a una elección especial que se llevara a cabo el 5 de noviembre de 2024, para votar sobre una enmienda a los Estatutos del Condado que, para 2026, establecería una Comisión de Ética independiente del Condado de Los Ángeles; para 2028, establecer el cargo de un Ejecutivo del Condado electo; ampliar el número de miembros de la Junta de Supervisores de cinco a nueve después del proceso de redistribución de distritos de 2030; y establecer un Grupo de Trabajo sobre Reforma de la Gobernanza y una Comisión de Revisión de Estatutos.

El condado de Los Ángeles es el condado más grande del país con 4,084 millas cuadradas y casi 10 millones de residentes. A medida que la población del condado de Los Ángeles crece y se diversifica, debemos innovar y reevaluar cómo podemos satisfacer mejor las necesidades cambiantes de los residentes para garantizar que brindamos el apoyo que necesitan de la manera más inclusiva, transparente y equitativa posible. Esto es especialmente crítico para los residentes de comunidades que históricamente han sido excluidas de cargos electos y que merecen una representación equitativa. Según el censo de 2020, hay más de 4.8 millones de latinos y 1.5 millones de asiáticos americanos e isleños del Pacífico en el condado de Los Ángeles, que en conjunto representan más del 60 por ciento de la población total del condado de 10 millones de residentes. Necesitamos asegurarnos de que sus diversas voces sean amplificadas para que todas nuestras comunidades tengan voz y voto sobre cómo se gobierna el condado de Los Ángeles y cómo se dirigen los recursos. Nosotros, los abajo firmantes, apoyamos la expansión de la Junta de Supervisores y apoyamos los Artículos 6 y 7 que se discutirán en la reunión del 30 de julio de 2024 en la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Los Ángeles. Le agradecemos su tiempo y servicio.

Nombre	Firma	Código Postal	Correo Electrónico	Número de teléfono
MARY BARRIERE				702-3307185
MARY BARRIERE		91746	MARYBARRIERE10@GMAIL.COM	
Maria Miranda		91746	N/A	(626) 201-2526
Mary de la Cruz		91790		
Blaiz Bobadilla		91746		
Josefina Bobadilla		91746		
MARIA CASAS		91746	N/A	(626) 483-7621
Eliazar Casas		91746	N/A	(626) 483-7621
Teresa Navarro		91744	NA	(626) 806-1331
Juana Lopez		91790	NA	(626) 934-9242
Regina Jimenez			NA	(626) 295-0957
Rafael Macias		91706	NA	(626) 820-8314
Maria Siloa		91746	NA	626-6183034
Maria G. J.		91796	NA	618-3039
Eliaman Jimenez		91746	NA	562-201-0180
Isaac Jimenez		91746	NA	626-6266046
Maria Hernandez		91790		626-435-7719
Nestaly Sanchez		91744	N/A	626-322-4485
Juan Zepeda		91744	N/A	626-404-9174
Miguel Garcia		91770	N/A	(626) 409-1345
Ines Ladino		91744	N/A	(626) 498-3260

Nombre	Firma	Codigo Postal	Correo Electronico	Número de teléfono
Jose Jimenez	x JAG	91746	N/A	626 295-3713
Jose Jimenez	[Signature]	91746	N/A	626 455-8722
Hortencia Jara	[Signature]	91746	N/A	626 435-5626
Enriquez Villa	x [Signature]	91746	N/A	

