



John Darnell <john.darnell@lacity.org>

Please Stop the Discussion of Funding Equity

Laurie Jacobs <pedrolaurie@yahoo.com>

Sat, Aug 29, 2020 at 10:10 AM

To: "erica.cruz@lacity.org" <erica.cruz@lacity.org>, John Darnell <john.darnell@lacity.org>

Cc: Ray Regalado <rreg55@hotmail.com>, Ray Regalado <rregalado@wdacs.lacounty.gov>

This email message was sent on August 28th but came back stating Erricka was out of the office so to resend to Erica Cruz. I am also copying John Darnell. I request this message be included in the BONC meeting packet for Item 11 on Equitable Funding.

Thank you!

Good Day Board of Neighborhood Commissioners,

I am writing to you today in regards to item 11 on your BONC agenda for this Monday's meeting which reads as follows:

Discussion and possible action on creating an equitable NC funding model. (15 minutes):
a. Discussion on potential guiding principles for Commission action, including the following (10 minutes):
i. Equitable and efficient allocation of NC funds during an era of fiscal austerity;
ii. Guaranteed "Base" funding for all NCs;
iii. Variable amount ("Plus") funding by factoring in verifiable Resident Stakeholder population; and iv. Variable amount based on community needs including, but not limited to, life expectancy, housing habitability, crowding, and cost burden, homeownership, access to health care, educational attainment, poverty levels, employment levels, income levels, supermarket access, tree canopy, park access, air and water quality, etc.

I have spoken under Public Comment on the issue of "equitable funding" at your recent BONC meetings but am frustrated that my questions are not being addressed in relation to this issue so I ask again now.

1. What are the established reasons that funding is provided to neighborhood councils?

DONE needs to clarify this to all NCs. I was taught at the Civic University presented by DONE that funding was provided for 2 reasons:

- To cover administration and venue costs of running NC board and committee meetings
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I was told by Thomas Soong that the funding is not provided to be handing out money like Santa Claus. Somehow NPG and like donations have become a major focus of NC spending. I was advised this is not the purpose of the funding so why do NCs now think differently?

If the funding intention has changed from what I was taught at Civic University training, then I would like to see an updated explanation of funding intentions from DONE to be issued to all NCs. If it has not changed, then I would like to see correct information sent to all NCS and included with training.

I will add that during a pandemic, administration costs are most likely significantly reduced, so perhaps donations to organizations helping stakeholder with specific pandemic issues may be the exception to the rule.

2. Why is BONC bringing up this equity funding again when it was so widely divisive the first time it was brought up a year or so ago?

If clarification in item 1 above confirms that funding is for administration and outreach only, why is funding equity necessary?

Other concerns to review with this proposal:

- **This will create bad will by a large number of NCs, is this really a good path?**
- The suggested funding variables to consider are very extreme and all over the place.
- Who will gather this data and create the algorithms?
- Who will decide which data is pertinent to consider?
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John Darnell <john.darnell@lacity.org>

FW: Please Stop the Discussion of Funding Equity

Leonard Shaffer <commissionerlenshaffer@gmail.com>
 To: John Darnell <john.darnell@lacity.org>

Fri, Aug 28, 2020 at 10:48 AM

John, as this was sent to all commissioners, it should become part of the record of our meeting on Tuesday and should be available to the public on the website

ljs

Commissioner Leonard Shaffer
 Board of Neighborhood Commissioners
 Leonard.Shaffer@lacity.org

From: Laurie Jacobs <pedrolaurie@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2020 10:21 AM
To: commission@empowerla.org
Cc: Ray Regalado <rreg55@hotmail.com>; Ray Regalado <rregalado@wdacs.lacounty.gov>; Thomas Soong <thomas.soong@lacity.org>; Doug Epperhart <epperhart@cox.net>
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- Who will decide which data is pertinent to consider?
- How often will it be reviewed? Will NC budgets need to be changed yearly?
- Is the City Clerk going to be responsible for managing a much more complicated budget system?
- The fact that DONE allowed some NCs to be extremely large or small should not be a factor. All NCs should fit the same description of geographic size and/or population.
- NCs have much on their plates so this issue just muddies the waters with unnecessary and unwarranted actions
- All NCs will receive a base, so how much is really part of the review of equity funding and how much of a difference will it really make in the end?
- Most likely next year the NC funding amount will be reduced so then what?

Please provide a comprehensive definition of NC funding intentions before proceeding with any discussion of equity.

This is tax payer money so we must be very conscious of funding intentions and actions.

Thank you for your consideration,

Laurie Jacobs

NWSP Neighborhood Council

Board Vice President

Youth and Outreach Chair

9/1/2020

City of Los Angeles Mail - FW: Please Stop the Discussion of Funding Equity

Budget Representative

<http://www.nwsanpedro.org>

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*NWSP Neighborhood Council
Board Vice President
Youth and Outreach Chair
Budget Representative
<http://www.nwsanpedro.org>*



John Darnell <john.darnell@lacity.org>

FW: Please Stop the Discussion of Funding Equity

Mike Fong <mike.fong@lacity.org>

Mon, Aug 31, 2020 at 3:24 PM

To: Jackie Kim <jackie.kim@lacity.org>, Jose Galdamez <jose.galdamez@lacity.org>, Lorenzo Briceno <lorenzo.briceno@lacity.org>, John Darnell <john.darnell@lacity.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Laurie Jacobs <pedrolaurie@yahoo.com>

Date: Fri, Aug 28, 2020 at 10:20 AM

Subject: Please Stop the Discussion of Funding Equity

To: commission@empowerla.org <commission@empowerla.org>

Cc: Ray Regalado <rreg55@hotmail.com>, Ray Regalado <rregalado@wdacs.lacounty.gov>, Thomas Soong <thomas.soong@lacity.org>, Doug Epperhart <epperhart@cox.net>

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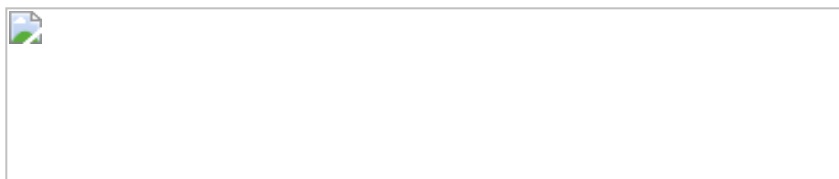
*NWSP Neighborhood Council
Board Vice President
Youth and Outreach Chair
Budget Representative*
<http://www.nwsanpedro.org>

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Mike Fong
Director of Policy and Government Relations

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment / Empower LA
200 North Spring Street, Suite 2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 978-1551
mike.fong@lacity.org
Web | www.EmpowerLA.org



Empower Yourself. Empower Your Community. Empower LA.





John Darnell <john.darnell@lacity.org>

FW: Please Stop the Discussion of Funding Equity

Leonard Shaffer <commissionerlenshaffer@gmail.com>
 To: John Darnell <john.darnell@lacity.org>

Tue, Sep 1, 2020 at 2:06 PM

Did I send this to for posting? It's on our agenda

Ljs

Leonard Shaffer
 Board of Neighborhood Commissioners
Leonard.Shaffer@lacity.org

Begin forwarded message:

From: Laurie Jacobs <pedrolaurie@yahoo.com>
Date: August 28, 2020 at 10:20:48 AM PDT
To: "commission@empowerla.org" <Commission@empowerla.org>
Cc: Ray Regalado <rreg55@hotmail.com>, Ray Regalado <rregalado@wdacs.lacounty.gov>, Thomas Soong <thomas.soong@lacity.org>, Doug Epperhart <epperhart@cox.net>
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Richard Larsen** <rwlarsen.lhnc@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Aug 31, 2020 at 11:58 PM

Subject: Fwd: Public Comment for 200901 BONC meeting

To: <erica.cruz@lacity.org>, Elise Ruden <Elise.Ruden@lacity.org>

You must remove the false email address in your notification and reissue it.

It is really unfortunate that DONE and the BONC don't take their responsibilities seriously enough to have a valid email address. Your mission to communicate is seriously compromised when the response team is on avoid leave.

Oh, sorry, I meant paid leave.

Please note, you must resend this notification in order to have any legal standing, the email supplied is nonfunctional. Let's assume you didn't want that. I'm not asking for excuses because there aren't any.

My response is below, in the email sent to a false destination, along with everyone else who'd like to preserve their legal argument for later consideration.

You are obligated to provide an actual responder by law. You cannot expect everyone to know their lawful act was short circuited by incompetence.

Richard Larsen

Begin forwarded message:

From: Richard Larsen <rwlarsen.lhnc@gmail.com>

Date: August 31, 2020 at 3:28:29 PM PDT

To: "Commission@empowerla.org" <Commission@Empowerla.org>

Subject: **Public Comment for 200901 BONC meeting**

At all the Eastside Town Halls held by BONC, I raised the issue that if BONC and DONE are proposing Censure and Removal Articles aimed at elected board members, then the same should be done to City Employees that are DONE NEAs, DONE or BONC officials.

While this may be obfuscated by saying that it is a Civil Service issue, and while a process is already in place for NEA chastisement, it should be made part of the official portal that will be created by DONE and BONC. This process is obscured thru layers of circular arguments and reveals a lack of due process.

Furthermore complaints are ignored and not responded to.

While it appears this NC Censure procedure is mostly for the ease of DONE employees, it was not evident as a citywide problem. It is known that some NC's did have bullies, and some reported abusive behavior, but all these NC's had Censure or No Confidence rules in place to deal with that problem.

This Censure process is unfair and unlawful per the City Attorney in 2005. For whatever reason, DONE has chosen to exercise unlawful modifications to make their job easier. This should be condemned in any democracy.

And for this I object and ask again that provisions be codified in any DONE or BONC website to allow easy and effective removal of NEA's and other related officials who abuse the system with Code of Conduct violations and other malfeasance.



Richard W Larsen
Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council