



11/10/2014

Honorable Mayor Garcetti
Honorable Herb Wesson, President of the Los Angeles City Council
Honorable Members of the City Council
Mr. Miguel Santana, C.A.O.
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Main Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Mayor Garcetti:

We are writing to you today as the Chairs of the Budget Advocates.

It has been brought to our attention that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has a serious personnel shortage, due to the inability to hire for positions recently vacated, as well as the inability to fill those positions authorized in this years fiscal budget.

After discussion, we hereby submit our facts and findings to you with our request:

Whereas the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) has been authorized 3 positions in the fiscal 2014/15 budget, and

Whereas DONE has lost 4 staff members and been unable to fill those positions due to manager hiring, and

Whereas DONE has 95 neighborhood councils with more than 1800 elected members to support and service, and

Whereas DONE currently does not have the capability to manage and support the Neighborhood Council system per its mandate under the existing City Charter, and

Whereas DONE currently has more than 1.3 million dollars banked to self fund personnel,

Therefore, the Budget Advocates requests that the CAO, Mayor and the managed hiring committee immediately release 7 "Emergency Appointment" positions to DONE on a forthwith basis to immediately allow DONE to hire and fulfill its mandate under the City Charter in supporting the Neighborhood Council system.

In addition, we hereby request that on Wednesday, Agenda item 24, you dedicate 7 positions in the increase of Exempt Positions, to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. This to be in the new ordinance.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Handal', written in a cursive style.

Jay Handal
Co-Chair



Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terrence Gomes', written in a cursive style.

Terrence Gomes
Co-Chair