



westsidecouncils.com

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Brentwood Community Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa
Pacific Palisades Community Council
North Westwood Neighborhood Council

Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

Mayor Eric Garcetti
Councilman Mike Bonin
Councilman Paul Koretz
Deputy City Attorney Steve Houchin
General Manager, Dept of Neighborhood Empowerment, Raquel Beltran

February 3rd, 2021

Dear City Officials,

Over time, it has been made clear that the City Attorney has a standing interpretation of the Charter of the City of Los Angeles that says that the Mayor has the sole power to engage and supervise intergovernmental relations. In doing so, they limit Neighborhood Councils from any ability to have official communication with County, State or other entities on positions adopted.

This position raises a host of legal issues for both NCs but also other City officials. It also severely limits the advocacy of Neighborhood Councils, as many issues we confront on an ongoing basis are regional and need to be brought to the attention of the County, State or Federal governments.

Therefore, the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils has passed, by a majority of voting councils in our Alliance, the following motion:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils insists that Neighborhood Councils are not prohibited from communicating with non-City of Los Angeles government representatives and/or staff not with entities other than those within the City, regarding issues impacting their neighborhoods; and that Neighborhood Councils are free to discuss any issues of local concern.

WRAC appreciates consideration of whatever action needs to be taken to reconsider this judgement.

This language has been approved by the following Councils: Del Rey NC (sponsor Council); Bel Air-Beverly Crest NC; Pacific Palisades CC; NC of Westchester/Playa del Rey; Palms NC; Westwood NC; Brentwood NC; Mar Vista CC; North Westwood NC; and the Westside NC.

No member Councils have opposed this measure or submitted a minority letter to accompany this position.

Please contact me with any questions regarding the above motion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Wersinger', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matt Wersinger
Chair
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
c 310.721.2980