



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council
Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee

January 29, 2026 Regular Meeting
Meeting MINUTES Approved by the Committee on February 12, 2026

I. WELCOMING REMARKS

A. Call to Order

A duly noticed meeting of the Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council ("GWNC") was held virtually over Zoom (Webinar ID No. 852 7699 4679) on January 29, 2026. Committee chairperson, Conrad Starr, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

B. Welcome

Mr. Starr welcomed the assembled group.

C. Roll Call

Mr. Starr called the roll. All four committee members were present (Mr. Starr, Mark Alpers, John Gresham, and Erika Stuart). [The GWNC Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee quorum (the minimum number of Committee Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) was 51% of 4 Committee Seats, or three, so the Committee was able to take such votes.]

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no general public comment.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. Review and Adoption of January 8, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes

Mr. Alpers moved that the Committee adopt the January 8, 2026 minutes as presented. Ms. Stuart seconded. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

B. Review and Adoption of January 15, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Stuart moved that the Committee adopt the January 15, 2026 minutes as presented. Mr. Gresham seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 3 yeases (Gresham, Starr, Stuart), 0 noes, and one abstention (Alpers).

C. Committee Membership - Seeking to Join, Departing

There were no nominations, motions, or votes.

1. Ethics Training Link: <https://localethics.fppc.ca.gov/> for non-Board members

IV. PRESENTATIONS

There were none.

V. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Gresham reported that on January 17, 2026, the Charter Reform Commission (CRC) Ad Hoc Committee had rendered recommendations on Government Structure and on Infrastructure which were voted upon by the CRC at the January 21st meeting. Commissioner Schlageter had resigned and taken a job as Chief of Staff for the City Council President Harris-Dawson.

The CRC Ad Hoc Committee had recommended that 16-year-olds be allowed to vote in municipal and LAUSD elections but not to serve on commissions; and that non-citizens be able to vote in municipal and LAUSD elections. They supported increasing the City Council to 23 members. They had requested more information on ranked choice and proportional ranked choice voting and were referring the matter to the CRC without any recommendations. They supported dividing the City Attorney into two roles: an elected prosecutor and an appointed civil attorney. CRC staff were tasked with determining minimum qualifications for each position. They supported most of Controller Mejia's recommendations including an annual appropriation with a fixed percentage of the General Fund, minimum qualifications (which CRC staff were asked to draft), performance audits, the ability for the Controller to hire outside counsel, and the enshrinement in the Charter of the Controller's role to audit fraud, waste, and abuse. They referred the matter of the creation of a Chief Financial Officer to the full CRC.

Furthermore, the CRC Ad Hoc Committee recommended that City Council continue to meet 3 days a week and that candidates for office have an extra week to gather the signatures required – with no change to the requisite number of 500 signatures. They disposed of the idea of a public advocate. They recommended extending the threshold to appoint members of boards and commissions to 60 days (from 30). They recommended disallowing the practice of requiring that new Los Angeles City Commissioners submit undated letters of resignation at the start of their duties.

The CRC Ad Hoc Committee failed to move forward the recommendation that the City be required to have a five-year capital infrastructure plan, while they recommended that 3 percent of the General Fund be set aside to be used only in declared emergencies.

Gresham encouraged the GWNC Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee to review the Charter Reform Item Tracker at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hqP215xHFD8eAXya3v9ohUpS9nVU6WaB/view>.

Mr. Gresham said there was nothing related to government structure that the GWNC would want to submit a CIS on. Mr. Alpers opined that even on items that had general agreement among the GWNC committee — that the Charter Committee was not likely to be receptive.

Mr. Alpers reported that Mr. Gresham had compiled a list of planning and land use issues that the CRC was addressing which he presented to the GWNC Land Use Committee at its January 2026 meeting for information only.

Ms. Stuart said that GWNC Board Member Dave Cavalier could provide a 15-minute tutorial in using AI for meeting summaries.

VI. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mr. Starr reported that he had attended in person the January 21, 2026 meeting of the CRC in Van Nuys, where he presented on the GWNC's Community Impact Statements (CIS) regarding Planning and regarding the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition's (LANCC) recommendations.

He noted that the CRC approved a motion requiring Commissioners to disclose *ex parte* communications, while a motion requiring the same of CRC staff did not succeed.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

VIII. VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENTS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

See

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QeIX0Hsogm0Al0d76RXyHcaPN7Yb2rZnqOqcebEaqwg/edit?gid=0#gid=0>

A. Charter Reform Commission Meetings

Mr. Gresham said he would attend at least part of the January 31st CRC Ad Hoc Committee meeting.

B. GWNC Board Meetings

Mr. Gresham agreed to provide a similar recapitulation of recent developments to the board as he provided here.

IX. COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

- A. **Proposed Motion:** Recommendation that the GWNC file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to the Charter Commission and to City Council and Committees (Council File No's. _____) [POSITION TO BE TAKEN/LETTER TO BE REFERENCED] and that the GWNC appoint [NAME(S)] to present GWNC CIS and/or its Position to the Los Angeles City Charter Reform Commission at a meeting of said Commission, as directed by GWNC President and/or GWNC Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee Chair.

There was further discussion of the Fuentes-Schlageter motion (which may have been renamed the Fuentes-Andrades motion following the resignation of Mr. Schlageter). Mr. Gresham said that when it came before the CRC Government Structure Committee on January 14th, it had been transferred as written to the CRC Ad Hoc Committee, which had not yet taken it up.

Mr. Alpers moved and Mr. Gresham seconded as follows:

To adopt the language below as a recommended CIS for the GWNC to file in opposition to the CRC Fuentes/Schlageter motion regarding DONE for constituent services requests.

- **Reassert our support of LANCC's position regarding DONE.**
- **DONE has an opaque process for service requests, and their performance metrics are similarly opaque to Neighborhood Councils, who are their "customers" that interact with them most frequently and directly. (NOTE about usage of "the Department")**
- **Currently stakeholders are invited to provide 311 case numbers to council offices when there is no good response and CO's expedite them, and often report back on long-standing issues to our NCs during board meetings at which time NCs can ask follow up questions. As individuals (stakeholders), we are responsible for deciding whether to take matters up with the Council Offices or to rely on the 3-1-1 system as it stands.**
- **Decentralization lessens the importance of every request that comes in - there is a more limited ability to discern between important requests and less important requests. What is called depoliticization runs counter to the relationships the City Council members have with their communities.**
- **NCs have developed relationships with Council Offices and understand the need to be realistic about their challenges and limitations — just increasing the bandwidth of complaints is not always the way to get results.**
- **When a Council Person says to a department do something, positive results are more likely.**

- The 311 system took a long time to be as good as it is today.

Following a brief discussion, the motion passed by a unanimous, roll-call vote.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. GWNC Charter Reform Ad Hoc Committee Regular Meeting Schedule

This was postponed without objection.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m. without objection.

Respectfully submitted by Conrad Starr. The GWNC Charter Reform Committee Minutes are located at <https://greaterwilshire.org/ad-hoc-committee-agendas-minutes/>.