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ZINE MOTION GRANTS FLEXIBILITY TO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

(Los Angeles) – Councilman Zine’s motion to establish the Neighborhood Purposes Grant Program for the Neighborhood Councils passed unanimously on Friday, affording the Neighborhood Councils more financial flexibility as well as increased their ability to effect positive change.

The motion calls for a broad review of methods to give the Neighborhood Councils more financial flexibility in spending their money. One of the main components proposed in the motion allows Neighborhood Councils to award grants to nonprofits and public schools. The grants can be issued in amounts of up to \$5000 just with the approval given by the Neighborhood Councils. As the award amounts increase, reviews will be conducted by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC).

“The purpose of this motion is to effectuate a transition for the Neighborhood Councils from mere advisory boards to the more proactive role of grantors,” said Councilman Dennis Zine, former Vice Chair of the elected Charter Commission. “Neighborhood Councils are an integral part of the City family, and can now use their funds to effect significant and positive changes within their communities.”

The motion directs the City Attorney to draft the ordinance which will then be returned to the City Council for final approval.

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