

MOTION


Community Impact Statements (CIS) have long been a powerful tool for our for Neighborhood Councils to play an integral advisory role in City government. Community Impact Statements are designed to publicly express a Neighborhood Council's support, opposition, and suggestions about any item pending before the City Council, its committees, or City Commissions.

Boardmembers of Neighborhood Councils throughout the City have discovered that many of the Community Impact Statements filed via the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's CIS Portal had not been transmitted to the correct destination or at times had not been not transmitted at all. While the CIS filings for City Council and Committees have been working as normal, a number of City Commissions did not have functional or updated email addresses on the CIS Portal, leading to a disconnection in the portal service.

Neighborhood Councils spend hours coming together to discuss their neighborhoods' best interests and vote on taking official positions on how items before City governmental bodies will impact their respective communities. As such, we must ensure that any errors or disruptions in getting Community Impact Statements to the appropriate channels be addressed.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the City Council instruct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to report back in 45 days on the status of the Community Impact Statement Portal, including the issues that led to numerous Community Impact Statements not being transmitted, the length of time the errors were present in the system, the list of the City Commissions that were impacted by not having the correct email configurations on the portal, the number of Community Impact Statements that were not transmitted as intended by the Neighborhood Councils, and the steps that have been taken to remedy the issue and prevent this from happening again in the future.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, with the assistance of the Information Technology Agency, to report back in 45 days on the necessary technological upgrades needed to the Community Impact Statement Portal to ensure that the submission of Community Impact Statements are as seamless and streamlined as possible and that technical issues of this sort will not arise in the future.

PRESENTED BY: 
NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL


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