

Attachment "E"

BABCNC

Supplemental CIS for Charter Reform Commission

The Bel Air–Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council (BABCNC) represents the nearly 30,000 residents of hillside communities in the Santa Monica Mountains. Our area is defined by narrow, winding roads, significant wildfire risk, and a landscape of extraordinary ecological and biological diversity. These conditions demand a city government that is transparent, competent, and structured to deliver services equitably and efficiently.

This supplemental Community Impact Statement expands on our initial position and addresses both structural reform priorities and the process by which this Commission engages with the public.

Transparency and Participation

To meaningfully engage Angelenos and build trust, the Charter Reform process must be open, accessible, and well-documented.

We recommend the creation of a centralized, publicly accessible online archive on the Charter Reform website that includes:

- Full recordings, presentations, agendas, and minutes from all Commission meetings; A repository for all Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statements (CISs) related to Charter Reform (since those are, rightly, not included in “public comment”);
- A summary of pending proposals with associated Charter sections and reform rationale.

We also urge the Commission to include links to the online channels where material is also stored, especially the YouTube channel.

Structural Reforms We Support

We support the establishment of the following positions and entities, as identified in the Government Structure Staff Report dated August 20, 2025:

1. Office of the Legislative Counsel

To provide independent, professional legal drafting services for the City Council, ensuring that ordinances are timely, accurate, and reflect legislative intent.

2. Chief Operating Officer (COO)

To centralize executive functions and bring clarity to operational responsibility across departments.

3. Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

To provide coordination and administrative oversight, supporting the implementation of both Mayoral and Council priorities.

4. Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

To provide professional, consolidated financial management—ensuring fiscal discipline and transparency across City operations.

5. Public Advocate

We strongly support the creation of a citywide elected Public Advocate with the following core functions:

- Represent residents independently of City Hall power structures;
- Investigate complaints and systemic failures in service delivery;
- Introduce legislation and attend Council/Committee meetings;
- Possess subpoena power and a protected, independent budget to conduct oversight without interference.

This office would serve as a long-needed watchdog for the people of Los Angeles.

6. Permanent Charter Reform Commission

To ensure structural reform is not reactive, we support the creation of a standing Charter Reform Commission that reconvenes at regular intervals to evaluate the City's governance systems.

Conclusion

The reforms outlined above will help ensure the city is representative, functional, and responsive to all communities, including hillside neighborhoods like ours. These proposals are not just technical—they are urgently needed to restore public trust.