

JAN 30 2007

MOTION EDUCATION & NEIGHBORHOODS

The Neighborhood Council system of governance was adopted in 1991 "To promote public participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs by creating, nurturing, and supporting a citywide system of grass-roots, independent, and participatory neighborhood councils." Neighborhood Councils empower the people who live, work or own property within the boundaries of established neighborhoods to make decisions affecting their quality of life. Neighborhood Councils currently have annual budgets of \$50,000, to be allocated at the discretion of the Councils.

Citywide, local schools receive limited public funding, and have indicated that they are in need of additional support to offer enrichment programs for their students. For example, local schools are constantly seeking supplementary resources to fund after-school programs, field trips, and school beautification projects. Meaningful collaborations between the Neighborhood Councils and the schools in their local communities would serve the missions of both entities. Further, such a partnership would help unify two stakeholder groups that lie at the very foundation of our City's neighborhoods.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) be instructed to report to the Education and Neighborhoods Committee within 60 days on:

- Examples of how Neighborhood Councils are currently collaborating with schools, including any best practices,
- What technical assistance the Department currently provides to Neighborhood Councils to support them in partnering with the schools in their communities.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department report to the Education and Neighborhoods Committee with recommendations for how the Department could increase this collaboration, including (but not limited to):

- Facilitating meetings between local schools and Neighborhood Councils to discuss shared goals and the means to achieve them;
- Surveying local schools to identify appropriate projects for Neighborhood Council funding;
- Publishing a fact sheet describing strategies for collaboration between Neighborhood Councils and schools.

PRESENTED BY: _____

Jose Huizar
Jose Huizar
Councilmember, District 14

SECONDED BY: _____

[Signature]

07-0285
EGG

JAN 30 2007

EGG