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**MAYOR HAHN ANNOUNCES THREE ADDITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS
CERTIFIED #33 Historic Highland Park, #34 Westside, and #35 Greater Griffith Park**

LOS ANGELES - As part of Mayor Jim Hahn's commitment to make city government more accessible to the public, today he announced that historic Highland Park (#33), the Westside (#34), and Greater Griffith Park (#35) neighborhood councils have completed the certification process.

"I am so glad that these three neighborhood councils have taken the necessary steps to complete the certification process so that their voices can be heard in city government," said Mayor Hahn. "The addition of these neighborhood councils shows the growing enthusiasm and community involvement that I have advocated for all Los Angeles residents."

The neighborhood council certifications took place in each respective community. Historic Highland Park neighborhood council held their meeting in the cafeteria at Franklin High School, while the Westside neighborhood council met at Daniel Webster Middle School, and Greater Griffith Park neighborhood council met at Our Mother of Good Counsel Church in Los Feliz. Angelenos from each community turned out to share their concerns in front of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners and observers.

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) General Manager Greg Nelson has tracked the progress of each neighborhood council as they completed the necessary forms and met deadlines associated with the certification process.

"This was an amazing coming together of groups and organizations that have never worked closely together, the residents and business communities," said DONE General Manager Greg Nelson. "This is what neighborhood councils are about."

A Greater Griffith Park neighborhood council leader and organizer Cameron Flanagan discussed the significance of completing the certification process.

"Hundreds of diverse volunteers were actively involved for nearly two years in forming our neighborhood council," said Flanagan. "They talked to their friends, involved their neighbors, and convinced other members of the community that our neighborhood council can be a influential force over decision making at all levels of government."

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