

Los Angeles Daily News

Democracy inaction

Idle neighborhood council is City Hall's dream come true

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Peace has at long last come to the Van Nuys Neighborhood Advisory Council -- the peace of utter inactivity.

This is what's known as democracy inaction.

Since the Los Angeles city clerk resolved the community's festering dispute over the council's questionable elections -- by removing two representatives from office but letting the others stay -- both sides have grown disillusioned with the whole process.

So there have been no meetings, and no schedule of meetings to come.

What's left is a neighborhood council in name only, one not even worthy of the patronizing "advisory" title because it doesn't even pretend to advise.

Surely such pointless symbolism is not what Los Angeles residents had in mind when they voted to create the councils in 1999. But as far as City Hall is concerned, it couldn't have turned out any better.