

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT WITH RESPECT TO CF 25-0600

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa understands the criticality of the City's nearly \$1 billion budget shortfall as announced at Mayor Bass's State of the City address in April, but we urge council members to support the NCs and oppose the Mayors proposed reduction to the NC budgets from \$32,000.00 to \$25,000.00, as:

1. Neighborhood Councils have to pay for meeting spaces, storage units, elections and election materials, operational and training expenses (for new board members), outreach materials, etc. A budget cut would be devastating to our Neighborhood Councils who currently have little more than the funds to cover their basic expenses.
2. For Neighborhood Councils who do not spend their money, these funds are not lost. They revert to the General Fund.
3. The original Neighborhood Council budget was \$50,000. Over time, the NC budget has been reduced as inflation continues to rise. When the Covid-19 lockdown took effect, Neighborhood Council budgets were reduced to \$32,000. When the City recovered its footing and the department cuts were reversed, the Neighborhood Council budget was not restored.

The Neighborhood Councils provide a service to the city, and to the people of the city. They engage stakeholders in a way the City Council cannot because they are part of their respective communities. Many of the board members work with their respective Council Offices, each helping the other to achieve common goals. It would be a shame to frustrate the efforts of NCs by further reducing their very lean budget. Therefore we again urge the City Council members to oppose this proposed budget reduction and vote no.