

On April 7, 2016, the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) convened the elections for the Studio City Neighborhood Council. This was the first election cycle for neighborhood councils that included an online voting option and Studio City was among the first participants in the new online voting system.

In theory, online voting may have the potential to draw greater participation in neighborhood council elections. However, in the aftermath of the Studio City experience, it is clear that more work needs to be done to shore up the security of voters' data, better train staff to handle the demands of candidates and voters to access said data. The nature of pilot programs, such as online voting, is to revisit the experience of the pilot and decide whether to move forward with more widespread implementation, and if so, what improvements can be made based on that initial experience.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council INSTRUCT the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to cease the implementation of the online voting system for future elections until (1) DONE completes a report with information about the experience of online voting for candidates, voters, staff and other stakeholders, and on the actions that DONE intends to take to improve the implementation process, outreach, training, data security, and other processes; and (2) the Council takes further action approving online voting under the conditions to be determined by the City Council.

Presented by: Paul Krekorian
PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

Seconded by: [Signature]

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