

May 7, 2020

To: Los Angeles City Council

From: Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council

Re. Community Impact Statement in SUPPORT of Council File 17-0046-S2

Dear Los Angeles City Council,

The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council joins in support of Council File 17-0046-S2, The Los Angeles Justice Fund 2020. By renewing the Los Angeles Justice Fund, the City of Los Angeles will reaffirm its commitment to protect immigrant Angelenos who are part of our City's social and economic fabric. The Los Angeles Justice Fund supports legal defense attorneys representing Angelenos facing deportation and separation from their families and the place they call home.

As ICE continues to target community members with raids even as the City is under a COVID-19 lockdown, the Los Angeles Justice Fund provides a life-saving legal safety net. At this critical time, Los Angeles Justice Fund attorneys are fighting for and winning the release of medically vulnerable clients and people picked up in raids so they can return to their families and communities.

WHEREAS immigrant Angelenos and their families are an integral part of the social and economic fabric of the city;

WHEREAS Granada Hills is home to a diverse, multicultural community of which immigrants are a part of;

WHEREAS in Los Angeles County, approximately 68% of detained individuals and 26% of non-detained individuals facing deportation lack legal counsel;

WHEREAS those receiving legal representation during removal proceedings succeed over 5 times as often as those who are unrepresented;

WHEREAS the City of Los Angeles has previously approved funding for removal defense;

WHEREAS the Mayor's proposed budget includes a \$1 million allocation for removal defense;

THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council strongly supports the Los Angeles Justice Fund and urges the Los Angeles City Council to approve the proposed allocation of \$1 million for the program.

Should you have any questions, please contact me via email _____ or by phone _____.

Sincerely,