



2021 Neighborhood Council Election Election Day Challenges



Region	Neighborhood Council	Challenge Claim	Status	Result	Description
5	Greater Wilshire	Improper use of City Resources	Reviewed	Affirmed - Letter of Reprimand	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Sunday, March 21, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate violated candidate guidelines by using City resources for campaigning activities.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge and the evidence provided, the Independent Grievance Panel finds that the assertion regarding the improper use of City resources was accurate. Therefore, this challenge is affirmed. The Independent Grievance Panel recommends a letter of reprimand be provided to the candidate for the use of City resources to campaign in the Election.</p>
5	Greater Wilshire	Incorrect ballots	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. The challenge asserts that stakeholders in Greater Wilshire have received incorrect ballots or no ballots at all.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds that the assertion regarding voters receiving incorrect ballots was remedied by the City Clerk once staff was made aware. The City Clerk team placed phone calls to all voters who made contact with Clerk staff and made arrangements to issue the requested ballots once voters were determined to be eligible. The panel is satisfied with the City Clerk's remedy at the time of the election and therefore, this challenge is dismissed.</p>
5	Greater Wilshire	Incorrect ballots	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. The challenge asserts that stakeholders in Greater Wilshire have received incorrect ballots or no ballots at all.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds that the assertion regarding voters receiving incorrect ballots was remedied by the City Clerk once staff was made aware. The City Clerk team placed phone calls to all voters who made contact with Clerk staff and made arrangements to issue the requested ballots once voters were determined to be eligible. The panel is satisfied with the City Clerk's remedy at the time of the election and therefore, this challenge is dismissed.</p>





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5	Mid City West	Eligibility of Community Interest Organization	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, March 24, 2021. The challenge asserts that members of the Miracle Mile Democratic Club were not eligible to vote in the election.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds that the assertion that community interest stakeholders associated with Miracle Mile Democratic Club were not eligible to vote, is denied as the Miracle Mile Democratic Club meets the criteria for a community interest organization. Further, a determination was made by the panelists that these voters would not have affected the outcome of the election. Therefore, this challenge is dismissed.</p>
5	Mid City West	Eligibility of Community Interest Organization / Incorrect ballots.	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, March 24, 2021. The challenge asserts the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members of the Miracle Mile Democratic Club were not eligible to vote in the election. 2. Mid City West NC voters did not receive ballots. 3. Progressive Slate and Community First Slate used a similar website address. 4. Progressive Slate used inaccurate community interest definition. 5. Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences involvement in Progress Slate. <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds that the assertion that community interest stakeholders associated with Miracle Mile Democratic Club were not eligible to vote, is denied. Further, a determination was made by the panelists that these voters would not have affected the outcome of the election. The remaining assertions are not challengeable under Attachment E of the 2021 Neighborhood Council Election Handbook. Therefore, these challenges are dismissed.</p>





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6	Downtown Los Angeles	Receiving of ballot	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, March 31, 2021. The challenge asserts that the City Clerk has not received and processed a ballot from a stakeholder in Downtown Los Angeles NC.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds that the assertion regarding the receiving of the ballot is not challengeable due to the issue falling under USPS operations and not that of the City Clerk. Therefore, this challenge is dismissed.</p>
6	Downtown Los Angeles	Eligibility of Candidate, Eligibility of Qualifying Address, Incorrect ballots.	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Thursday, April 1, 2021. The challenge asserts the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The candidate no longer meets the requirements for the seat. 2. The business address used for the qualifying address is no longer valid. 3. Voters were issued ballots based on that qualifying address and were issued ballots incorrectly. <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds that the assertion regarding the candidate's eligibility and the qualifying address used, met the criteria during the certification process of the candidates and that any changes in status must be dealt with by DONE and the NC. It was found in the remaining assertion that the amount of voters using that address to qualify to receive a ballot would not have affected the outcome of the election. Therefore, these challenges are dismissed.</p>





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7	Elysian Valley Riverside	Improper Campaigning by Slate, Illegal Posting of Campaign Material	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, April 7, 2021. The challenge asserts the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improper campaigning by a slate on the Los Angeles River Greenway Park Trail. 2. Illegal posting of campaign material on public property. <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds that the assertion regarding the campaigning on the Los Angeles River Greenway Park Trail has no evidence proving that candidates violated the candidate guidelines. Further, the panelist made a determination that the location where the campaign material was posted was private property and that they had the owner's consent. Therefore, these challenges are dismissed.</p>
7	Elysian Valley Riverside	Eligibility of Candidate	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Tuesday, April 13, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate for the Elysian Valley Riverside NC no longer met the seat requirements.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds that the assertion regarding the candidate's eligibility and the qualifying address used, met the criteria during the certification process of the candidates and that any changes in status must be dealt with by DONE and the NC.</p>





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8	Lincoln Heights	Conduct of the Election - Voter Address Verification	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. The challenge asserts that the voter address verification process for Lincoln Heights NC was the cause of the low vote totals.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds the assertion of the voter address verification process to be the cause of low vote totals, as invalid, since voter turnout increased significantly from the prior election cycle. Further, addresses are verified by our system and a staff member before an application is processed to ensure accuracy. Therefore, this challenge has been dismissed.</p>
8	Lincoln Heights	Illegal Use of the NC Logo on Campaign Materials	Reviewed	Affirmed/ Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. The challenge asserts the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three candidates for the Lincoln Heights NC illegally used the NC logo in a newspaper ad. 2. The same candidates conducted an unsanctioned registration event that had materials with the NC logo. <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel affirms the challenge regarding the three candidates inappropriately using the NC logo. The evidence provided to the Panel shows the name of these three individuals in an advertisement promoting the election, with the NC logo listed next to their names. A letter of reprimand will be issued to those who are involved. Further, the second violation has been dismissed by the Panel under the grounds of there being an inadequate amount of information to ascertain that this was an unsanctioned event.</p>
8	Lincoln Heights	Voter Qualification	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, April 21, 2021. The challenge asserts that the City Clerk qualified voters for the Lincoln Heights NC election, that were associated with an organization that did not meet the community interest requirements.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel finds the assertion that the voters associated with the organization involved were given the opportunity to vote, was incorrect, as no voters using that community interest organization as their stakeholder status were processed. Therefore, this challenge has been dismissed.</p>





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Region	Neighborhood Council	Challenge Claim	Status	Result	Description
1	Sunland Tujunga	Candidate Using City Facility/ Use of City Logo on Campaign Material/ Use of NC Funds/ Placing of Campaign Material on Restricted Areas	Reviewed	Dismissed/ Dismissed/ Dismissed/ Affirmed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Saturday, April 24, 2021. The challenge asserts the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A slate of candidates used a City facility to hold an outreach event. 2. The slate used the City logo and NC logo on campaign material. 3. The slate used NC funds to create lawn signs and posters. 4. The slate posted campaign material on utility poles throughout the NC. <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertions that the slate used a City facility to hold an outreach event, used the City and NC logo on campaign material, and used NC funds to create lawn signs and posters. The Panel found that the City facility mentioned in the challenge was a public park and that there is no violation in using a public park to host an event. Further, the materials in question with the logos and the lawn signs/posters, were general outreach materials for the NC and not campaign materials for the slate.</p> <p>The Independent Grievance Panel affirms the fourth point of the challenge with a recommendation of a letter of reprimand issued to the slate. The Panel agreed that there were multiple flyers mentioning the slate that were posted on multiple telephone and light poles throughout the NC.</p>
1	Sunland Tujunga	Candidate Qualifications	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Tuesday, April 27, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate for the Sunland Tujunga NC election submitted fraudulent documentation to prove their stakeholder status.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that the candidate submitted fraudulent documentation. Further investigation showed that the candidate provided the required letter for the seat and that the organization used to claim stakeholder status, was in the process of updating the appropriate paperwork.</p>





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Region	Neighborhood Council	Challenge Claim	Status	Result	Description
1	Sunland Tujunga	Board Member Promoting Slate	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, April 28, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate for the Sunland Tujunga NC election illegally promoted a slate of candidates under her current capacity as a sitting Board member.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that a Board member illegally promoted a slate of candidates. The evidence provided in the challenge shows the individual is promoting the slate under their personal capacity and not as a representative of the NC Board.</p>
2	North Hills West	Request for Ballot Count	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Tuesday, May 4, 2021. The challenge asserts the number of votes each candidate received for the North Hills West NC election does not add up.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion and has recommended that the voter count information be provided to the challenger.</p>
2	Northridge East/ Northridge West	Ballot Drop-Box Location	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to these elections were submitted on Wednesday, May 5, 2021. The challenge asserts that there was incorrect information on the City Clerk drop-box locator website and that the address provided for the Northridge East and Northridge West drop-boxes was wrong.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that the incorrect information on the drop-box locator website affected the outcome of the election. The information was corrected once the challenger notified the City Clerk of the error. Based on the timeline of events, there wasn't compelling evidence to prove that the outcome of the election would have changed. The Panel does recommend that in the future, signage needs to be posted at the incorrect site, notifying the stakeholder of the correct address.</p>





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2	Porter Ranch	Candidate Challenge	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, May 5, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate submitted fraudulent information to meet the seat requirement for the Porter Ranch NC election.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that the candidate in question submitted fraudulent documentation to meet the seat requirements. At the time of certification, the candidate provided legitimate documents that met the criteria needed for the seat. Further, if the status of the candidate has now changed, DONE and the NC will be responsible for taking any necessary action.</p>

3	No Challenges were submitted for this Region.				
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4	No Challenges were submitted for this Region.				
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9	No Challenges were submitted for this Region.				
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Region	Neighborhood Council	Challenge Claim	Status	Result	Description
10	Park Mesa Heights	Candidate Using City Facility/ Resources	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Monday, May 17, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate for the Park Mesa Heights NC election illegally used a City facility and supplies to allow stakeholders to fax in their ballots.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that a Board member illegally used a City facility and resources. The evidence provided was insufficient to prove the claim that the candidate was using the facility and resources to their advantage, and not just providing election outreach and voter assistance.</p>
10	Park Mesa Heights	Candidate Using City Facility/ Resources	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, June 2, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate for the Park Mesa Heights NC election illegally used a City facility and supplies to allow stakeholders to fax in their ballots.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that a Board member illegally used a City facility and resources. The evidence provided was insufficient to prove the claim that the candidate was using the facility and resources to their advantage, and not just providing election outreach and voter assistance.</p>
10	Park Mesa Heights	Electioneering/ Candidate Using City Facility	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Thursday, June 3, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate for the Park Mesa Heights NC election was seen wearing campaign material and using a Council Office to submit voter applications.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that the candidate was electioneering and using City facilities. While wearing campaign materials when assisting voters during an NC sanctioned outreach event is prohibited, the evidence provided was insufficient and failed to prove this claim.</p>





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Region	Neighborhood Council	Challenge Claim	Status	Result	Description
11	Venice	Use of City and NC Resources for Campaigning	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate for the Venice NC election inappropriately used their position as a Board member and chair of a committee to promote their candidacy.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that the candidate used their position on the Board to campaign and found that the Board member was educating the public on issues that are occurring within the community and not using their platform to promote their candidacy.</p>
11	Venice	Negative Campaigning Against a Candidate	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. The challenge asserts that two candidates negatively campaigned against another candidate, with inappropriate Facebook posts and libelous articles in a local newspaper.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed this challenge. There are no NC campaign laws or rules governing NC elections. Statements made by individuals while campaigning are not challengeable offenses. This matter will be referred to DONE to determine if there was a violation of the Board Members Code of Conduct policy.</p>





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Region	Neighborhood Council	Challenge Claim	Status	Result	Description
11	Venice	Candidate Using NC Resources/ Misconduct by a Candidate/ Negative Campaigning Against a Candidate/ Conduct of Election	Reviewed	Affirmed/ Dismissed/ Dismissed/ Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. The challenge asserts the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A candidate conspired with the NC to have an outreach booth at the Venice farmers market and used the booth to promote their candidacy; 2. Misconduct by a candidate; 3. Negative campaigning done against a candidate on social media and in a local newspaper; 4. Voter did not receive their ballot. <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenges, the Independent Grievance Panel has affirmed the candidate used NC resources (Claim #1), however, dismissed (and in some cases referred to DONE) the assertions that there was misconduct by a candidate (Claim #2), negative campaigning against a candidate (Claim #3), and the conduct of the election (Claim #4). The Panel's decisions are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Firsthand accounts were provided stating the candidate involved approached stakeholders as they were at the NC booth, advising them on who to vote for. 2. The misconduct accusations took place before the 2021 NC election cycle and have been referred to DONE for further review and consideration. 3. There are no NC campaign laws or rules governing what candidates can and cannot say during their campaign. This matter will be referred to DONE to determine if there was a violation of the Board Members Code of Conduct policy. 4. Voters were advised near Election Day if they had not received their ballot, to contact our office to receive a replacement ballot.





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11	Venice	Candidate Using NC Resources	Reviewed	Affirmed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. The challenge asserts that a candidate for the Venice NC election was promoting their candidacy at a NC booth during an outreach event.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has affirmed the assertion that the candidate promoted their candidacy at a NC booth during an outreach event. The witness statements provided firsthand accounts of the candidate approaching them as they were at the NC booth, advising them on who to vote for. The Independent Grievance Panel recommends a letter of reprimand be provided to the candidate for this violation.</p>
11	Venice	NC Endorsement of a Slate	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. The challenge asserts that a member of a NC committee distributed campaign flyers promoting a slate along with the NC flyers they were assigned to distribute to NC stakeholders on behalf of the Council..</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that there was a NC endorsement of a slate. The individual who distributed the slate's campaign flyer along with the NC's flyer was not a part of the slate, a current Board member, nor a candidate, and therefore, is beyond the scope of the City Clerk for course correction. The matter will be forwarded to the NC informing them of the violation.</p>
11	Westchester-Playa	NC Endorsement of a Slate	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. The challenge asserts that a current Board member of the Westchester - Playa NC promoted a slate under their current capacity as a sitting Board member.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that a Board member illegally promoted a slate of candidates. The evidence provided in the challenge shows the individual is promoting the slate as a candidate and not as a representative of the NC Board.</p>





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11	Mar Vista	Placing of Campaign Materials on Restricted Areas	Reviewed	Dismissed	<p>A challenge to this election was submitted on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. The challenge asserts that a slate for the Mar Vista NC election posted signage on City Property, throughout the community.</p> <p>After a careful review of the submitted challenge, the Independent Grievance Panel has dismissed the assertion that the slate posted signage on restricted areas. The evidence provided showed signage on parkways and there is no clear clarification as to whether parkways are considered private or public property.</p>
12	No Challenges were submitted for this Region.				

