

**EMPOWERMENT CONGRESS
NORTH AREA NEIGHBORHOOD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**



A Certified City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Council

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Appointed Board

Shane Hapuarachy
Treasurer

At Large Representatives:

Sharon Stewart
Emmanuel Gabriel Caudillo
Lacey Goode
Rachel Capata

Elected Board

Michael Ureña
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Yolanda Jones
Vice President

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Carlos López

Area 2:

Bethany Leal
Rossana Cabrera

Area 3:

Jairo Umaña

PROCLAMATION

**Preserving Public Spaces – Engine House No. 18
October 6th, 2005**

We the Governing Board of the Empowerment Congress North Area Neighborhood Development Council, in fulfillment of our mission to represent the interests of this community and to notify Public Officials and entities of the wishes of this community does hereby proclaim our support for preserving Engine House No. 18 as a community space.

Where as, during the Charette held on Sunday August 17th 2005 conducted by the Community Redevelopment Agency and attended by Councilperson Bernard Parks, participants expressed unanimous support for preserving the structure for community use. Further, participants unanimously rejected the notion that the property be subdivided or used to develop housing.

Where as, Engine House No. 18 was added to the National Register of historic places in 1982 and it is a Mission Revival style building designed by renowned architect John Parkinson. The age and character of the structure are symbolic of the history and heritage of Los Angeles and specifically West Adams, Jefferson Park, and Exposition Park neighborhoods. The structure and adjoining property have served the people of this community since 1904 and should be allowed to continue this mission. Public access to historic buildings of this type must be maintained to insure their preservation.

Where as, Engine House No. 18 holds a value to this community far above the real estate market value. Further, there is a need for meeting space, arts space and office space for the use of Block Clubs, neighborhood associations, the Neighborhood Council, and other community groups. The cost to create such a new structure would be far above the cost needed to maintain Fire House No. 18 in this mission. Public access and control of this property must continue to meet the needs of the community.

Now, therefore, we proclaim our support and strongly urge and encourage unity and cooperation from the Community Redevelopment Agency, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Councilmembers Bernard C. Parks and Ed Reyes. We ask that a remedy be found that preserves Engine House No. 18 property as a community space. Signed and sealed this 6th day of October, 2005.