

Communication from Public

Name: Lynn
Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 01:05 PM
Council File No: 00-9999
Comments for Public Posting: I emailed Clerk.Homelessnessandpovertycommittee@lacity.org - on September 7th and never received a response. Does anyone read these emails and respond?

Communication from Public

Name: Les Fujimoto

Date Submitted: 09/24/2020 02:14 PM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: September 24, 2020 The Honorable Nury Martinez
Councilmember City of Los Angeles 200 North Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 RE: CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS Dear Councilmember Martinez and Members of the City Council: On behalf of Beverly Hospital and the other hospitals operating within the City of Los Angeles (City), we are requesting \$25 million from the City's federal allocation of Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to support hospitals for their unreimbursed COVID-19 related expenses. Hospitals in the City answered the calls of Governor Gavin Newson's and public health officials, taking the necessary steps to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. This led to financial crises for many organizations due to increased expenses and the deferment of scheduled and non-emergent procedures to prepare for surges in COVID-19 patients. Our hospital has taken steps to care for our community by: At Beverly Hospital, Montebello, CA, like others around Los Angeles and the nation, we have worked tirelessly to prepare and adapt to care for COVID-19 patients. As we work to support our nurses, doctors, and other health care heroes, we have purchased supplies, retrained employees, and reorganized our facility to ensure we are ready to serve our community. Many of these supplies are hard to find and, when we do find them, they command as much as 10 times the normal price and shipping costs. We have built surge and PPE storage spaces, tracked down testing kits, created negative air pressure rooms, and worked with LA County Public Health to open up a drive-up COVID Testing site, worked to secure medications and other supplies to care for the critically ill. The investments we have made are extraordinary, and we spared no expense to ensure we were prepared to help our people and our communities get safely through this pandemic. In addition to our efforts and expenses to prepare, we stopped or drastically reduced performing any non-essential services. These services are a significant portion of our normal revenue, and we are now in a financial as well as a health crisis. The pandemic has also hit hard other hospital departments as well with emergency rooms, diagnostic testing, and radiology departments all down about 30% in patient revenue. COVID impact in our city has been significant which represents slightly over forty (40) percent of all confirmed COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles County. Estimated net

COVID-related expenses for hospitals (March to December) are over \$234 million even after considering FEMA reimbursement. The CARES Act Provider Relief Funds made by Congress has not been a panacea for California hospitals. To date, hospitals have only received 2.1 percent of the total allocation on a per capita basis while the City of Los Angeles represents 1.2 percent of the nationwide population. Hospitals in the city have received less than 0.6 percent of the amounts allocated, leaving them with limited resources to prepare for additional waves of COVID-19 cases and related surges such as spikes in mental health and substance use disorders due to the pandemic. Hospitals, now more than ever, need your support to continue to serve their communities amid this pandemic. Please contact me with any questions at (323) 837-3404. On behalf of our physicians, nurses and support staff who are on the frontlines of this pandemic rendering life-saving medical treatment, we would like to thank you for your time and attention to our request. Sincerely, Les J Fujimoto Executive Director, Beverly Foundation VP Development and Community Relations, Beverly Hospital