

Communication from Public

Name: Francisco Romero

Date Submitted: 04/27/2021 03:33 PM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE - Special Meeting
Hello my name Francisco Romero, from Promesa Boyle Heights, and I am here to speak on agenda item #1, specifically the Mayor's 2021-22 budget. I am asking the Budget Committee to restore Recreation and Park's hiring authority for 140 staff positions that were lost to early retirement during the pandemic. Restoring these positions is critical to the health, well-being and survival of communities and in high park need communities such as Boyle Heights, where the park acreage is at about half-acre per every thousand residents. This means that the 'park pressure', meaning the high use of the parks is so profound that maintenance is six times more needed than in communities that have a county average of about 3.3 acres per every thousand residents. Local community residents that visit and access parks everyday like Hollenbeck Park in Boyle Heights, or South Park in South Central or Paxton Park, as examples, have been advocating not for less maintenance, but more - as parks have become the beacon where folks have been able to safely socialize, exercise and seek respite amid the pandemic. Today, we call on you as leaders to push for a double down on restoring these positions as a matter of urgency, and signals respect and gives dignity to communities such as Boyle Heights, South Central, San Fernando, etc. Please restore RAP hiring authority to restore these essential RAP 140 staff positions.

Communication from Public

Name: Veta Gashgai

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 09:03 AM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: We the Organized Blocks a Boyle Heights First Blocks a Whittier Boulevard's Committee submit this to ask the budget committee to increase The department of sanitation's funds. This is about equity, social justice, and racial justice all of these things are related to the conditions that I've been on the ground here in Boyle Heights for at least 16 years. Our community of workers mainly immigrants many in Documented stuff for environmental racism every day as they take the bus or to the laundry mat or to the local store all of us have to interact with trashy dirty conditions that are not normal in other cities. The Community in Boyle Heights are advocating for the department of sanitation to have a significant increase in funds at to be able to provide us efficient and sufficient services. We have suffered from environmental racism from the city of Los Angeles and our representatives regarding the conditions on our streets it has been this way for at least 16 years that I could vouch for as a teacher and a homeowner here. Our pre-Covid Conditions were nowhere near normal they were in fact and are in fact horrific. We need ground crew street sweeping on all her major streets which is under the department of sanitation not street services. Our major streets haven't had street sweeping in 40 years due to our lack of driveways and garage is Ally's on our major streets. Our trash cans are constantly overflowing I have photographic evidence that goes back to 2013/8 years that show this. Our supervisor in charge of the ALB's Ruben Leon here in Boyle Heights says he doesn't have sufficient crews to Handle or effectively maintain our trash cans here. He needs more staff. We also need roaming illegal dumping crews that could pick up all the legal dumped items that are constantly being thrown daily here. We also demand the LAPD and the other departments that have please officers in charge of stopping environmental crimes be forced to implement illegal dumping laws and go after and ticket illegal jumpers we support Ron Galperin's illegal dumping report and we need his recommendations to be made into policy and to be followed through on not just end up in the trash. We cant expect Constituents to have to call 311 every day and wait a week for the stuff to get picked up or more they should just automatically be picked up early early in the morning before the community has to interact with it.

Communication from Public

Name: Nana Gyamfi

Date Submitted: 05/01/2021 10:26 PM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Nana Gyamfi and I am the Executive Director of the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), the largest Black-led immigrant rights and racial justice organization in the US. A third of our staff resides in Los Angeles, as do three of our seven Board members. We educate, advocate, and organize on behalf of Black migrants and our families as well as working with African Americans for racial, social, and economic justice. I strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to support additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund that ensures due process for ALL, no matter an individual's background or residency. The fund must not have ANY exclusions and must be a multi-year program. A permanent and universal Los Angeles Justice Fund would protect all human beings facing deportation in immigration court. LA must lead the rest of the country with this fund. Access to universal representation in immigration proceedings is a racial justice issue. Black migrants are disproportionately detained and deported in comparison to other migrant populations. In fact, under the current enforcement priorities of this Administration, Black migrants have been detained and are facing deportation at an accelerated rate. Almost a fifth of Black migrants live below the poverty level, and most Black migrants detained and facing deportation cannot afford legal representation, and are forced to represent themselves. Few self-represented Black migrants prevail in immigration court. Our community members need the Los Angeles Justice Fund to be well-resourced and sustainable. As you can imagine, we were outraged when we saw the Mayor's budget and the lack of commitment to immigrant rights and racial justice that it revealed. We urge you and the other Councilpeople to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. We expect that the City will do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation.

BAJI insists that the City has a moral obligation to support immigrant rights and racial justice by funding the Los Angeles Justice Fund as BAJI, our partners, and community members are requesting. Thank you. Nana Gyamfi Executive Director Black Alliance for Just Immigration

Communication from Public

Name: Assata Umoja

Date Submitted: 05/04/2021 06:54 PM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: Your public call in process is flawed. After being on the phone nearly 4 hours in Planning and Land Use Management Committee May 4, 2021, I was never given the opportunity to speak. I pushed star 9, was acknowledged but never given the opportunity to speak. This is a denial of public access and needs to immediately addressed. How do you correct this most urgent Problem?