

MOTION

The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) responds to approximately 25,000 annual calls triggered by false alarms, which diverts vital and limited sworn resources from responding to real emergencies.

To address this issue, the City Council instructed the LAFD on May 23, 2018 to report on the implementation of a False Fire Alarm Program (C.F. 12-0122). Since that action, the Department has developed and refined the various components of the False Fire Alarm Program to ensure its success. These activities have included:

- Completing a six-month pilot program to monitor the technology and field resource protocols to accurately identify and track false alarms; and
- Working with the City Attorney to develop a False Fire Alarm Program ordinance that provides a fee structure for full cost recovery, penalty assessment, and an administrative appeal process; and
- Reviewing contract services for false alarm billing and related activities; and
- Analyzing administration activities and projected workload to determine the staff resources required for successful implementation: (1) Senior Management Analyst, (1) Accountant, (1) Accounting Clerk.

As the City continues to cope with severe budgetary challenges, departments have been directed to prioritize core services and seek full cost recovery, as appropriate. The LAFD's proposed False Fire Alarm Program would provide full cost recovery of sworn resources responding to false alarms and staff resources to administer the program. Further, the fee and penalty assessment structure would serve as an incentive for property owners to repair faulty automatic alarm systems, thereby enhancing the LAFD's availability to respond to actual emergencies.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that City Council INSTRUCT the Fire Department to report on the details of implementing the False Fire Alarm Program that includes full cost recovery of sworn responses and required staff resources for successful program administration.

Presented by:



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Seconded by:

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