MOTION

Hate crimes are defined in California as criminal acts that are committed, at least in part, based on the real or perceived characteristics of the victim, such as race, religion, gender sexuality or disability. These types of crimes continue to be a serious problem in the United States, with a significant number being committed in California. According to a recent report released by the California Attorney General, the number of hate crimes reported in the state increased by 17.4 percent in 2017. Further, the number of hate crimes reported has increased each year since 2014.

While the number of hate crimes happening in our communities is disconcerting on its own, the California State Auditor has also found that hate crimes are chronically underreported across the state. According to the State Auditor, a number of police departments in the state do not always classify hate crimes as such, and vulnerable communities are reticent to report hate crimes to police. The City should work to ensure that hate crimes are properly reported and that all residents who are victims of hate crimes feel confident in reporting them to the police.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Police Department report on its policies related to tracking and reporting hate crimes which occur within the City of Los Angeles. This report should include information on what constitutes a hate crime, the Department's hate crime reporting requirements and what training officers receive on how to recognize hate crimes.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Police Department, with the assistance of the City Attorney and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, report on the feasibility of providing training to Senior Lead Officers, Neighborhood Prosecutors and Neighborhood Council Board members on ways to encourage individuals to report hate crimes, and on ways to partner with community organizations to fight hate crimes in our neighborhoods.

PRESENTED BY _____
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY _____

jwd

AUG 01 2018