



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

June 19, 2020

Honorable Member of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall

Re: Charter Amendment Ballot Measure On Affirmative Action

Dear Honorable Members:

Thank you for your continued leadership in promoting racial equity and inclusion in the City of Los Angeles.

On June 10, 2020, the California State Assembly passed California Assembly Amendment 5 ("ACA-5"), which would repeal Proposition 209. If passed by the Senate and adopted by California voters in November, affirmative action will no longer be illegal in California, and the State would be able to adopt measures that affirmatively advance racial equity in government operations.

Even with the adoption of ACA-5 in November, however, the City would need to amend its own Charter to allow for affirmative action to be fully enacted within its boundaries. Currently, Section 371(a) of the Los Angeles City Charter permits the City to adopt ordinances giving preference in City contracting only for local businesses or businesses that produce recycled content. To expand the ability of the City to adopt preferential programs for City contracting and implement affirmative advancement with respect to race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in all City operations, Section 371(a) must be amended.

We have an urgent need to make reforms in our City government and society to promote racial equity. I therefore request that the City Council adopt all legislation necessary for a ballot measure reflecting this change to the City's governing document so that voters will be able to weigh in on this important issue.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the City Council:

1. **Request** that the City Attorney draft the documents necessary to place on a future ballot a proposed Charter amendment that will amend Section 371(a) of the City Charter to permit City contracting preferences on bases other than locality and recycled content.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'E. Garcetti', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI

Mayor