Communication from Public

Name: RUTH B PERRY
Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 10:13 PM
Council File No: 20-1606
Comments for Public Posting: Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare Committee Wednesday, February 3, 2010 Room 1050, City Hall Members: Councilmember Paul Koretz, Chair Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson Councilmember Mike Bonin Public Comments Regarding Council File 20-1606 Dear Honorable Members of the Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare Committee: On behalf of the almost 7,000 retired members of our organization, the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) is strongly opposed to any significant changes to the retiree health care benefits provided by LACERS. Following is our rationale in opposing any significant benefit changes: o Pursuant to LACERS most recent actuarial valuation, its retiree health benefits are exceptionally well funded at 85.6%. This funding level is virtually unparalleled in any jurisdiction in the country. o LACERS already works diligently every year to help ensure the best possible pricing for the health care plans it makes available to its retired members. These annual efforts include, but are not limited to: o Considering whether to go out to bid on the contracts and actually going out to bid every time it is deemed to be prudent. o Requiring its health care providers to give LACERS and its consultant voluminous data (not member identified) regarding the usage its members make and do not make of the plans. o In conjunction with its health care consultant, LACERS makes use of that data to help keep its rates low and to help ensure its members are using the benefits appropriately. Through this process, LACERS has been able to keep health care increases well below the actuarially-assumed increases. o LACERS also uses the data from the health care providers to provide areas of focus for its LACERS Well program. Through this program, LACERS helps its retirees live healthy retirements, including incentivizing specific preventive health care. LACERS was the first public institution to make such data-driven use of its retiree health care program. Especially during a global pandemic, this is a terrible time to be discussing health care reductions and/or increased co-pays, deductibles, and other costs for the women and men who served the City well during their careers. Some of our oldest and most vulnerable retirees are the ones who can least afford such changes and are the ones that provider and doctor changes would most adversely impact. Therefore, RLACEI respectfully requests that

the Committee not support this Motion as written and instead congratulate LACERS on a job well done for many years in managing retiree health care costs. Sincerely, Ruth B. Perry, President RLACEI c: LACERS Board of Administration RLACEI Board of Directors

Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare Committee
Wednesday, February 3, 2010
Room 1050, City Hall

Members: Councilmember Paul Koretz, Chair
Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Councilmember Mike Bonin

Public Comments Regarding Council File 20-1606

Dear Honorable Members of the Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare Committee:

On behalf of the almost 7,000 retired members of our organization, the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) is strongly opposed to any significant changes to the retiree health care benefits provided by LACERS. Following is our rationale in opposing any significant benefit changes:

- Pursuant to LACERS most recent actuarial valuation, its retiree health benefits are exceptionally well funded at 85.6%. This funding level is virtually unparalleled in any jurisdiction in the country.
- LACERS already works diligently every year to help ensure the best possible pricing for the health care plans it makes available to its retired members. These annual efforts include, but are not limited to:
    - Considering whether to go out to bid on the contracts and actually going out to bid every time it is deemed to be prudent.
    - Requiring its health care providers to give LACERS and its consultant voluminous data (not member identified) regarding the usage its members make and do not make of the plans.
    - In conjunction with its health care consultant, LACERS makes use of that data to help keep its rates low and to help ensure its members are using the benefits appropriately. Through this process, LACERS has been able to keep health care increases well below the actuarially-assumed increases.
    - LACERS also uses the data from the health care providers to provide areas of focus for its LACERS *Well* program. Through this program, LACERS helps its retirees live healthy retirements, including incentivizing specific preventive health care. LACERS was the first public institution to make such data-driven use of its retiree health care program.

Especially during a global pandemic, this is a terrible time to be discussing health care reductions and/or increased co-pays, deductibles, and other costs for the women and men who served the City well during their careers. Some of our oldest and most vulnerable retirees are the ones who can least afford such changes and are the ones that provider and doctor changes would most adversely impact.

Therefore, RLACEI respectfully requests that the Committee not support this Motion as written and instead congratulate LACERS on a job well done for many years in managing retiree health care costs.

Sincerely,

Ruth B. Perry

Ruth B. Perry, President

RLACEI

c: LACERS Board of Administration

RLACEI Board of Directors