

Communication from Public

Name: Bryan

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 02:15 PM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: Hello I would like to know why the unions for all City Employees were never given notice of this item. We would like to know the specifics of this Item. Clear and precise transparency is something that we would like to ask with LACERS recommendations and vote of such items. We ask for a vote against this until such time that notification and specific's can be viewed and discussed with all.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 01:34 PM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns. It is my understanding that current employees as well as retirees healthcare benefits are in danger of being reduced. With all due respect I am appalled!! I am a retiree. I worked hard for many years before retiring from City service. I paid my dues in City service for 30 years + which entitled me to predetermined benefits. It's not fair to rescind those benefits after they have been earned. The City of LA Code of Ethics require it's employees to be loyal to the best interest of the City. The City should honor the ethic of reciprocity to it's employees. Reducing our benefits now amounts to a betrayal of integrity and trust. PLEASE RECONSIDER THIS ACTION. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Marlene M. Brown

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 02:06 PM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: As a retired member of the City of Los Angeles, I am requesting that this motion to reduce our medical benefits be rejected as it is politically motivated. The motion comes under the guise of Covid 19. In comparison to other retirement systems, LACERS is virtually unparalleled in terms of their funding. There is no NEED to reduce the benefits of the Retirees or the City of Los Angeles employees.

Communication from Public

Name: Carolyn Jackson

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 08:58 AM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: I began my career in City Service in 1973. At that that time, I entered into a contract with the City of Los Angeles that provided a steady, predictable income, albeit at a lower salary that was being paid in the private sector. In return for the lower rate, I was entitled to enhanced employee benefits, such as health insurance and a reliable retirement. I paid into the retirement system for 34 years, expecting that the contract we entered into would be honored and knowing that I had a proprietary right to my job and its resulting benefits. I retired early under the first ERIP, understanding that my retirement was a settled matter. I believe that the proposal to reduce payment of health care benefits for retirees violates the contract that I served 34 years to protect. I have no other source of income and do not qualify for Social Security because my only employment was in public service which had its own retirement plan. As elected officials, you have a duty to serve your constituents. The services you provide are performed and carried out by the City's employees who earn their retirement pay, including the health care benefits. Retiree benefits might be an 'easy out' when looking for additional funds, but the truth is that these are EARNED benefits, not really something under the Council's span of control. Respectfully submitted, Carolyn Jackson

Communication from Public

Name: Vickie Cartwright Adams

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 06:56 AM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: I am a recent retiree of the City of Los Angeles. Having to adjust to a reduced salary and receiving a paycheck only once a month is challenging enough; yet, it's something that I was aware I'd have to deal with and looked forward to (and deserved retirement) after working for more than 34 years. However, to see that the City is considering reducing the healthcare benefits of retirees (which are already reduced) after we have worked diligently for many, many years of our lives and may have to pay MORE out of our pockets on a reduced paycheck is extremely upsetting! This should not happen and you should look for other ways to reduce costs as healthcare is too important especially in light of this pandemic and people with reduced salaries such as retirees. We don't deserve to have this dropped in our laps! The City unfairly blindsided its employees before with the charge back of the ERIP and now this?! Please reconsider. You will be putting your active employees in a bad position as well but to reward the people who have served the City for so many years to reach retirement and settle for reduced salaries and healthcare with an INCREASE in costs seems like a slap in the face.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 09:16 AM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: I urge this Committee to reject this motion. Current and retired City employees have served the City well and made countless sacrifices to delay salary increases, retired earlier to save the City money and since ERIP have been contributing to defray the costs of health benefits. I am well aware of the financial difficulties the City is facing but as a 30+ year current City employee, I'm tired of consistently bearing the brunt of poor decisions that Council members make on the backs of those who serve this City faithfully.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 05:28 PM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: I believe that during this time of a Covid-19 pandemic and the stress of health issues, this is not the time to have our medical benefits in question. I strongly object to have any medical benefits changed.

Communication from Public

Name: David Bunjac

Date Submitted: 02/21/2021 08:51 PM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: I am David Bunjac, the former President of the Los Angeles Chapter of LIUNA Local 777. I have retired under the SIP program, and I am commenting regarding potential changes to retiree healthcare benefits mentioned in the Budget & Finance motion dated December 15, 2020. While it is understood that the City has suffered unprecedented budgetary difficulties in dealing with the fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic, I would like to remind this committee the commitments that have been made by both the Coalition and the City regarding retiree healthcare. During the economic downturn of 2010, and the subsequent contract ratifications, one of the remedies for the ongoing retiree healthcare crisis at the time was a negotiated settlement of an increase in contribution by active City employees of 4% in perpetuity to fund the LACERS Retirement Healthcare Account. For this, we were guaranteed the two-party Kaiser Family rate with the benefits locked at that time. Additional benefits were (and have been) negotiated at group rates based on that basic benefit. I would like to remind this committee and the Council of the commitment to its labor partners that in whatever negotiations for benefits for retirees are negotiated, there is no diminished benefits, especially for members who will by nothing more than the onset of age, likely need the benefits the most. You are charged with our care, and I hope that you understand that it is a solemn duty that you carry for thousands of retired City employees. Thank you for taking the time to view my comments.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 07:07 AM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: As a retiree of the City of LA with serious health conditions, I rely on my health benefits and do not want them reduced or to have to pay more for them. I've already paid my dues. Please reject this motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Peggy LeGras

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 07:22 AM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: Pleases reject this motion, as I am looking to retire in the next few years and feel that this health care plan has been well managed thus far. This would adversely impact myself as well as thousands of current LACERS retirees who took the SIP, thinking that this measure would assist the City in cost saving measures.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 07:26 AM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: As a current City employee considering early retirement, I implore you to carefully consider this Motion and ensure the CAO thoroughly researches this matter before moving forward. Previous cost-saving measures, such as the Early Retirement Incentive Program, resulted in an ongoing financial burden for employees. Over a decade later, Tier 1 employees continue to make recovery payments each pay period and there appears to be no end in sight. Also, despite working through a pandemic, many employees were recently furloughed and there is a constant reminder that more furloughs and/or layoffs loom ahead. Please reject any recommendation to resolve budget shortfalls through our healthcare benefits and pension. After decades of service, City employees have proudly walked away with our healthcare benefits and pension. Please do not allow these to be placed in jeopardy.

Communication from Public

Name: Diane Frierson

Date Submitted: 02/22/2021 08:36 AM

Council File No: 20-1606

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to voice my opinion to changes to health care for retirees and current employees. The cost to retirees and employees will be huge. After working 30-35 years of service the last thing I wanted to do is pay out hundreds of dollars on medical insurance monthly to a set budget will put a great hardship on us.