

Communication from Public

Name: Morgan Goodwin

Date Submitted: 05/11/2021 10:51 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: May 11, 2021 Chair Krekorian and Councilmembers Budget and Finance Committee City of Los Angeles Submitted via email and Council File No. 21-0600 RE: Sierra Club's Priorities for 2021-2022 Proposed Budget The Sierra Club appreciates the opportunity to comment. We begin this letter by acknowledging and applauding the City Council's leadership on many climate and habitat issues that address the connections between health, wellbeing, jobs, emissions reductions and local resilience. We would like to ensure the City Council's success on these issues by recommending specific budget items that need to be incorporated into the 2021-2022 proposed budget. An allocation of \$3.4 million for the amortization study of LA's oil fields, and for a total of \$6.8 million over a two year period. Along with our partners at STAND-LA, we remain concerned that the process to phase out oil and gas drilling is moving too slowly given our public health is on the line. Funding will ensure this process has the resources it needs to move quickly and nimbly while prioritizing the health and safety of frontline communities. Adequate funding for staffing the Planning Department and the Petroleum Administrator's office to draft the non-conforming land use ordinance. An allocation of \$786,000 to realize LA's wildlife corridor as called for in LA's Green New Deal. This would be in line with Governor Newsom's 30 by 30 conservation goals, and Congressman Schiff's leadership on the Rim of the Valley Preservation Act. An allocation of \$2.5 million to adequately fund the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office, the Climate Emergency Commission, and Community Assemblies. As we make progress on fighting the pandemic and move toward recovery, frontline communities must be at the table and be given opportunities to provide input and leadership for a recovery to be just and for funding that is being distributed across federal, state and local to be equitable and prioritize frontline communities. Along with these requests for funding, Sierra Club supports the efforts of People's Budget LA. Currently, the proposed budget allocates over \$3 billion to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), accounting for 46% of the total budget, despite overwhelming support from Angelenos to redirect funding from LAPD to critical services that center and strengthen communities of color, such as reimagined public safety, housing, childcare, and

pandemic recovery, among others listed in their proposal. Redirecting funding from LAPD, along with unprecedented levels of funding from federal and state budgets, should allow the City Council to fully fund these critical programs for our communities and the environment. Morgan Goodwin Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter Director morgan.goodwin@sierraclub.org

>> Submitted to City Council by Morgan at 10:50am, May 11th <<

May 11, 2021

Chair Krekorian and Councilmembers
Budget and Finance Committee
City of Los Angeles

Submitted via email and Council File No. 21-0600

RE: Sierra Club's Priorities for 2021-2022 Proposed Budget

The Sierra Club appreciates the opportunity to comment. We begin this letter by acknowledging and applauding the City Council's leadership on many climate and habitat issues that address the connections between health, wellbeing, jobs, emissions reductions and local resilience. We would like to ensure the City Council's success on these issues by recommending specific budget items that need to be incorporated into the 2021-2022 proposed budget.

1. An allocation of \$3.4 million for the amortization study of LA's oil fields, and for a total of \$6.8 million over a two year period. Along with our partners at STAND-LA, we remain concerned that the process to phase out oil and gas drilling is moving too slowly given our public health is on the line. Funding will ensure this process has the resources it needs to move quickly and nimbly while prioritizing the health and safety of frontline communities.
2. Adequate funding for staffing the Planning Department and the Petroleum Administrator's office to draft the non-conforming land use ordinance.
3. An allocation of \$786,000 to realize LA's wildlife corridor as called for in LA's Green New Deal. This would be in line with Governor Newsom's 30 by 30 conservation goals, and Congressman Schiff's leadership on the Rim of the Valley Preservation Act.
4. An allocation of \$2.5 million to adequately fund the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office, the Climate Emergency Commission, and Community Assemblies. As we make progress on fighting the pandemic and move toward recovery, frontline communities must be at the table and be given opportunities to provide input and leadership for a recovery to be just and for funding that is being distributed across federal, state and local to be equitable and prioritize frontline communities.

Along with these requests for funding, Sierra Club supports the efforts of People's Budget LA. Currently, the proposed budget allocates over \$3 billion to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), accounting for 46% of the total budget, despite overwhelming support from Angelenos to redirect funding from LAPD to critical services that center and strengthen communities of color, such as reimagined public safety, housing, childcare, and pandemic recovery, among others listed in their proposal. Redirecting funding from LAPD, along with unprecedented levels of funding from federal and state budgets, should allow the City Council to fully fund these critical programs for our communities and the environment.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morgan Goodwin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Morgan Goodwin
Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter Director
morgan.goodwin@sierraclub.org

Communication from Public

Name: Mariana

Date Submitted: 05/11/2021 11:52 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing on behalf of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights to strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to allocate additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. Founded in 1986 CHIRLA is a California leader, with national impact, made up of diverse immigrant families and individuals who act as agents of social change to achieve a world with freedom of mobility, full human rights, and true participatory democracy, fully inclusive of refugees and immigrants. CHIRLA prides itself in its work to serve the immigrant community through civic engagement, community education, organizing, the provision of legal immigration services, and advocacy at the forefront of local, state, and federal government. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full-scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve-outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years.

Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing.

Communication from Public

Name: Mariana

Date Submitted: 05/11/2021 11:52 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

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Communication from Public

Name: Carolina Goodman

Date Submitted: 05/11/2021 09:59 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process. City Council must move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. The LA Justice Fund is an important way to support Angelenos who had been making valuable contributions to the economy of our city and who had been swept up by ICE and detained in Adelanto. This link provides the historical and contemporary context to understand the issue: <https://www.laprogressive.com/due-process-for-immigrants/> Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing.

Communication from Public

Name: Esperanza Community Housing Corporation

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 11:58 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Esperanza Community Housing Corporation (Esperanza) urges the Budget and Finance Committee members to allocate additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Bri Price

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 06:33 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Budget and Finance Member, I am writing to strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to allocate additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing. Respectfully, Bri Price

Communication from Public

Name: Laura A

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 07:00 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a mental health professional and fellow Angeleno. I strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to allocate additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, I urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing.

Communication from Public

Name: Lynne Lueders

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 07:14 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to allocate additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing. Respectfully, Lynne Lueders

Communication from Public

Name: Lynne Lueders

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 07:15 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to allocate additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing. Respectfully, Lynne Lueders

Communication from Public

Name: Camila Alvarez
Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 07:48 PM
Council File No: 21-0600
Comments for Public Posting: See attached file



CENTRAL AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER / CENTRO DE RECURSOS CENTROAMERICANOS

May 12, 2021

Re: Los Angeles Justice Fund
Council File 21-0600

Dear Councilmembers,

My name is Camila Alvarez, my pronouns are she/her, and I am the Legal Director at the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) in Los Angeles. CARECEN has been a Los Angeles Justice Fund grantee since 2017. Since then, we have represented multiple people in their removal proceedings. CARECEN has focused our work through LA Justice Fund on representing individuals detained at the Adelanto Detention Facility in Adelanto, CA. We have represented multiple people in their bond proceedings and have secured their release from detention so that they are able to reunify with their families. We have also represented and continue to represent many vulnerable individuals, such as refugee families, in their removal proceedings before the Los Angeles Immigration Court.

I strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to support additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund that ensures due process for ALL, no matter an individual's background or residency. In order to truly commit to universal representation, the fund must not have ANY exclusions and must be a multi-year program. A permanent and universal LAJF would extend that same promise to anyone facing deportation in immigration court. Los Angeles can once again be a national leader in affirming due process rights for all.

At a time when the City should be growing the LA Justice Fund from a pilot to a permanent program, the Mayor's proposed budget places the City's investment – and its immigrant residents – in limbo. It does so by allocating an amount that is both too little, just \$1 million, and too temporary, just one year of funding.

Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees' (GCIR) produced a report that sets a clear course for a sustainable LA Immigrant Community Defense Program. The City should do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget).

When individuals face removal proceedings in immigration court, the reality is that their cases are in front of the court for years before there is any resolution. Throughout that time, individuals need continued legal representation and support as they navigate the immigration court system. As a result, multi-year funding is essential. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation throughout the life of a case.

2845 West 7th Street, Los Angeles, California 90005-3907; 468 W. 5th Street, Suite 204, San Bernardino, CA 92401

tel: 213-385-7800 / fax: 213-385-1094 / web: www.carecen-la.org





CARECEN

CENTRAL AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER / CENTRO DE RECURSOS CENTROAMERICANOS

The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City Council should stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LA Justice Fund that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability.

As the most diverse and immigrant-rich city in America, LA should be leading the effort to sustain and expand deportation defense programs, not falling behind. Several jurisdictions—including [Long Beach](#) and [Denver](#)—have substantially expanded their programs this year. Others, like [San Diego](#), are poised to make multi-million dollar commitments to launch new programs. Los Angeles must do better.

The City Council should embrace a holistic LA Justice Fund by eliminating criminal exclusions and loosening residency requirements. All people facing deportation in LA courts deserve due process. By excluding people with criminal convictions, we perpetuate the racial discrimination that the program was created to fight against. By turning our backs on asylum seekers and those who have been pushed out by high housing costs, we compromise our values and ignore the economic realities of our essential immigrant workers. A holistic program is both the moral and cost-efficient way forward.

Respectfully,

//s// Camila Alvarez

Legal Director

Central American Resource Center

2845 West 7th Street, Los Angeles, California 90005-3907; 468 W. 5th Street, Suite 204, San Bernardino, CA 92401

tel: 213-385-7800 / fax: 213-385-1094 / web: www.carecen-la.org



Communication from Public

Name: James Huynh

Date Submitted: 05/12/2021 11:06 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Immigrants deserve and should have the right to an attorney during deportation proceedings. Failing to provide them with legal representation is negligent. We all deserve to have an attorney advocate for us in the face of state-sanctioned violence.

Communication from Public

Name: christopher r cohen

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 12:19 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Krekorian, I am writing on behalf of Justice LA to strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to allocate additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. Please include background information on your respective organization. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing. Respectfully, Chris Cohen

Communication from Public

Name: Leslie Sepulveda

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 12:53 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to allocate additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing. Respectfully, Leslie Sepulveda

Communication from Public

Name: Mary Proteau

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 02:29 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: A city's green space – parks, in particular – benefit not only the environment and the wildlife it supports, but its citizens. Griffith Park, the crown jewel of LA's park system, is a prime example of this. It is well-known that our parks are understaffed and under-funded, including Griffith Park, which makes additional budgets cuts indefensible. I therefore respectfully request that the Committee take action to recommend the following corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Retain the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the critically important Wildlife Pilot Study, and also implement the upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you for your consideration.
Mary Proteau CD 5 Resident

Communication from Public

Name: Val Carlson

Date Submitted: 05/13/2021 05:44 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: End Homelessness Now-LA (EHN-LA), which is a broad-based community campaign that promotes large-scale, permanent, supportive public housing and social housing as the solution to the homelessness catastrophe. For the past two and a half years, we have urged local governments to stop giving millions of dollars to wealthy developers, landlords, and bureaucrats and turn their vacant and underused public land and buildings into this kind of housing. Instead, the city is spending hundreds of millions --on HHH funded units that cost over \$500,000 each. --on temporary congregate shelters that can't be fully used due to the pandemic, and --on tiny houses costing over \$100,000 each, and on tent sites in parking lots costing \$2,600 each per month. This is an outrageous waste when decent one-bedroom modular apartments could be built for \$120,000 each and constructed in six months. The mayor's proposed 2021-2022 proposed budget gives way too much money to policing (\$3.5 billion) and way too little to permanent supportive housing (\$382 million). It's time to slash the bloated police budget. Stop the pre-textual traffic stops that harass and kill people of color. Stop using the police to tear down homeless encampments and persecute and criminalize unhoused people. Transferring an additional \$1 billion from the police and into permanent public housing would yield 8,333 units of modular housing at \$120,000 each. Do that every year until the end of the decade, and we will end homelessness in Los Angeles. The abysmal lack of large-scale public housing is the elephant in the room here. Until we build housing on this scale all we are doing thrashing around in a bureaucratic quagmire that goes nowhere. At the beginning of the meeting you said you have sent your budget recommendations to the CLA before today's public comments. Please update your recommendations based on what you have heard today—especially from our unhoused neighbors. Theo Henderson laid it all out. Just do it.

End Homelessness Now-LA

2122 W. Jefferson Blvd., L.A., CA 90018
endhomelessnessnowla@gmail.com
323-732-6416

May 6, 2021

Dear City Council,

End Homelessness Now-LA (EHN-LA), is a broad-based community campaign that promotes large-scale, permanent, supportive public housing and social housing as the solution to the homelessness catastrophe.

For the past two and a half years, we have urged local governments to stop giving millions of dollars to wealthy developers, landlords, and bureaucrats and turn their vacant and underused public land and buildings into this kind of housing.

Instead, the city is spending hundreds of millions
--on HHH funded units that cost over \$500,000 each.
--on temporary congregate shelters that can't be fully used due to the pandemic, and
--on tiny houses costing over \$100,000 each, and on tent sites in parking lots costing \$2,600 each per month.

This is an outrageous waste when decent one-bedroom modular apartments could be built for \$120,000 each and constructed in six months.

The mayor's proposed 2021-2022 proposed budget gives way too much money to policing (\$3.5 billion) and way too little to permanent supportive housing (\$382 million).

It's time to slash the bloated police budget. Stop the pre-textual traffic stops that harass and kill people of color. Stop using the police to tear down homeless encampments and persecute and criminalize unhoused people.

Transferring an additional \$1 billion from the police and into permanent public housing would yield 8,333 units of modular housing at \$120,000 each. Do that every year until the end of the decade, and we will end homelessness in Los Angeles.

The abysmal lack of large-scale public housing is the elephant in the room here.

Until we build housing on this scale all we are doing thrashing around in a bureaucratic quagmire that goes nowhere.

At the beginning of the meeting you said you have sent your budget recommendations to the CLA before today's public comments. Please update your recommendations based on what you have heard today—especially from our unhoused neighbors. Theo Henderson laid it all out. Just do it.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 08:38 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The first 3 years of funding for the LAJF have only scratched the surface of the total need, and upon which to build a more comprehensive, long-term, holistic set of legal and related services. The City, County, and partner foundations should each contribute just over \$3 million annually and to commit to multi-year support. The LAJF has been a lifeline for immigrants facing deportation and removal and a first line of defense against a formidable deportation machine. Los Angeles has one of the nation's highest number of immigrants and should show its progressiveness in providing immigration legal defense such as several major cities in Texas! Additionally, the city has received a large amount of federal funds and should use portions of it towards the LAJF! Los Angeles resident

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 11:35 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing.

Communication from Public

Name: Ron Collins

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 01:08 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am submitting the attached document on behalf of the Los Angeles Black Worker Center and the 1000 Strong Coalition. We are requesting \$4 million over a 2 year period in order to bring our Workforce Employment Demonstration Project with the Department of Public Works to scale.

To: Mr. Eric Garcetti, Mayor of the City of Los Angeles

Mayor Garcetti in 2019 you met with a group of us because you understand that the economic crisis in the Black community needs to be addressed in an aggressive and immediate fashion in order to keep some of the city's most vulnerable residents from falling deeper into poverty and homelessness. We are requesting a budget allocation of \$2 million/year for the next 2 years, totaling \$4 million, to get 200 Black Angelenos hired and to bring the Workforce Employment Demonstration project with the department of public works to scale. As it stands now Black people are 8% of the county population and 34% of the houseless population, and in places like Skid Row the population of unhoused Black people looks more like 75%. We know that you understand the key role that quality jobs play in combating poverty and creating the kind of economic stability that allows entire communities to thrive, and as such you supported the creation of our Workforce Employment Demonstration project with the Department of Public Works. This project is designed to pilot a program that connects Black Angelenos with quality public sector jobs within the department of public works as a means of addressing the Black jobs crisis and as a method to begin to build a more economically stable Black Los Angeles.

We know you to be a willing collaborator in this effort and we are asking for the necessary resources to make sure that the time and energy that we all have spent visioning and creating this foundation for change does not go to waste. This project represents your willingness to engage the community on a critical issue, and we hope that you feel as strongly as we do about ensuring the longevity and continued impact of this initiative. Creating quality jobs means creating economic stability and that sustainability will create a legacy that is about challenging divestment from Black communities by investing in the workforce. The City of Los Angeles has a moral obligation to its Black residents and one way that it can begin to address that obligation is by investing in Black jobs by providing us with necessary \$4 million over the next 2 years to bring the Workforce Employment Demonstration project with the Department of Public Works to scale. We are grateful for your involvement in this project, and we look forward to your continued support.

In Collaboration,

1000 Strong Coalition

LA Black Worker Center

SEUI LOCAL 721

AFSCME

Communication from Public

Name: Alexa Spiegel

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 10:00 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Budget and Finance Member, I am writing to strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to allocate additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. Please include background information on your respective organization. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge leaders like you to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000 people. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. Additionally, to truly align with racial justice principles, we strongly urge you to also remove the criminal carve outs from the LAJF structure as their very existence goes against the notion of equity and justice. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City must stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LAJF that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. The City must do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Los Angeles can and must do better. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing. Respectfully, Alexa Spiegel

Communication from Public

Name: Lionel Mares

Date Submitted: 05/14/2021 10:30 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Budget and Finance Committee: Upon hearing the "Chief Legislative Analyst" report on the Mayor's proposed Budget for Fiscal-year 2020-21 (FY 2020-21), by reducing a tiny amount of funds from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is not good enough. We must divert a much higher amount and to divert those funds to other city departments and community programs that actually serve the people. By divesting a larger amount of the budget from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and investing into our communities will greatly improve the lives of the working-class and the poor. We can build a stronger economy if we invest and uplift our communities (e.g., northeast San Fernando Valley, Skid Row, South Los Angeles, etc...), we can reduce Crime and Poverty. The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) has the largest budget out of all the city departments combined. This is why city departments are slow to respond to constituents concerns on issues of homelessness, poverty, unemployment, sidewalk damage, potholes, vandalism, trash, pollution, public housing, etc... because the city of Los Angeles heavily invests in policing. The Los Angeles Police Department not only gets a huge chunk of the Budget but they also get private donations from such organizations like the Police Foundation. This does not make sense! Why should the city council continue to give the Los Angeles Police Department a big chunk of the budget (funding) why giving very little to other city departments and or cutting back funding for other departments and programs that make an impact on our communities? It is unethical and inhumane. I strongly urge the City Council to divest a bigger amount from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and invest in other city departments and community programs and development. We have to uplift our communities. We are suffering. We are demanding real reform and social change. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Lionel Mares MPA Graduate Student, California State University, Northridge (CSUN)

Communication from Public

Name: Anthony Castanares

Date Submitted: 05/16/2021 12:27 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am Anthony Castañares and reside in Council District 4. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

Communication from Public

Name: Ann Dorsey

Date Submitted: 05/16/2021 10:15 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to fully fund the City's Wildlife Pilot Study Program and Wildlife Corridor Pilot Ordinance in the 2021/2022 budget. Protecting the City's natural areas and biodiversity are critical to our continued well-being.