

Communication from Public

Name: Lupe Ortiz

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 07:06 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the CPI for the Los Angeles are increased by 7.4% in 2022. This increase along with the increase of fuel, food, utilities and many other required needs have put a financial strain on many LACERS retirees and beneficiaries. With approximately 36% of retirees and beneficiaries receiving less than \$36,000 per year this high inflation has affected our daily living - we are faced with having to make the decision to either buy fuel or put food on our tables. As our pensions have not been able to keep up with the high inflation, we are requesting that the City Council approve the discretionary 2.6% as allowed by the Los Angeles Administrative Code; and provide relief and ease the financial worries of all City of Los Angeles retirees and beneficiaries. Thank you

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 07:10 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Pls approve the discretionary COLA, the rising prices at grocery store is horrible. I am now my parents caregiver and the rising prices are going up faster than my pension. I know have prescriptions to pay for and many doctors appointments to take them, gas prices I'm sure are only going to go higher. Please I ask you to approve the discretionary COLA

Communication from Public

Name: Teresa Mendez

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 09:00 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I respectfully request that you approve the discretionary COLA recommended by the LACERS Board. The LACERS pension has not kept pace with inflation. A discretionary cost-of-living adjustment will help retirees deal with the current inflation impact. Your support for City's retirees will be greatly appreciated.

Communication from Public

Name: B. Lawrence

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 09:27 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I am asking you to vote in favor of the discretionary COLA for 2023. As a retired LACERS employee, the cost of living and rising prices in Ca, has become extremely taxing and overwhelming. Every extra penny we receive will help with these rising costs that are affecting our families.

Communication from Public

Name: Renee M

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 09:32 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: With the cost of living increasing daily, just being able to manage the basic necessities has become daunting. I can't stress enough the importance of considering this discretionary COLA.

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle
Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 10:13 PM
Council File No: 23-0418
Comments for Public Posting: Hi, asking that you approve the discretionary COLA. Raising prices, especially groceries.

Communication from Public

Name: Ruth Perry - Retiree

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 05:38 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: According to the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, the annual average Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Los Angeles area increased by 7.4% in 2022. This increase along with the increase in fuel, food, utilities, and almost all other required needs puts many retirees in a precarious financial position. With 36% of retirees and beneficiaries receiving a pension less than \$36,000 per year, it is imperative that you approve the discretionary COLA increase of 2.6% as allowed by the Los Angeles Administrative Code. It is within your power to provide this relief and ease the financial worries of many well desiring City of Los Angeles retirees. Please do so without delay. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Maritza Campodonico

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 06:33 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I am asking you to please approve the discretionary COLA, as you know times are really hard now, every single item; food, rent, gas, actually prices for everything are raising more and more everyday, and my (our) pension it is not going up as fast. Please, I beg you to approve the discretionary COLA.

Communication from Public

Name: Marc Shanley

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 06:34 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: As a retired employee, retiring 21 years ago, I'm requesting the Mayor and Council approve the discretionary cola as inflation has been extremely harsh on a fixed income, thank you for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Ann Seales

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 06:36 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I am requesting that the City Council approve the discretionary 2.6 COLA increase to City retirees as recommended by LACERS. We are all aware that inflation has risen tremendously over the last year and the standard 3%COLA granted by LACERS does not keep up with the increased expenses we have all experienced. While the additional 2.6% does not match the rate of inflation it will significantly contribute to retirees being able to continue to live at a decent level. Please approve this request as is in your purview to do so.

Communication from Public

Name: Roy Revelles

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 04:22 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I respectfully request that you approve the discretionary COLA recommended by the LACERS Board. The LACERS pension has not kept pace with inflation. The last couple of years have been difficult for everyone because the cost of living is so high. We are paying higher prices on taxes, food, gas, utilities, medicines, etc. Your support for City's retirees will be greatly appreciated.

Communication from Public

Name: Marc Israel

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 04:29 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Good day! As a 40 year retired City Employee with Recreation and parks, I'm asking you to please approve the retirees discretionary COLA. Living in LA is very expensive as you know and everything has gone up and I'm just trying to enjoy my retirement with the pension I have. Thank you and please approve it as every little bit of money helps.

Communication from Public

Name: Blanca Gomez

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 04:36 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I respectfully request that you approve the discretionary COLA recommended by the LACERS Board. The LACERS pension has not kept pace with inflation. A discretionary cost-of-living adjustment will help retirees deal with the current inflation impact. Your support for City's retirees will be greatly appreciated.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 01:33 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Rising prices in all areas of the economy has risen drastically. The 3% COLA will not meet our financial responsibilities. We will barely meet the expensive financial climate with the 2.6% discretionary increase. Please pass this increase to keep up with the economy.

Communication from Public

Name: Sue McElvogue
Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 02:13 PM
Council File No: 23-0418
Comments for Public Posting: I want you to vote yes on the discretionary cola for the City employees. I am a retired Senior Recreation Director and can not keep up with the cost of living which has risen dramatically over the past few years.

Communication from Public

Name: June Lagmay

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 02:14 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Please support the recommendation of the LACERS Board of Administration (Board) to approve a discretionary cost-of-living (COLA) adjustment of 2.6% to eligible Tier I retired LACERS members. No one can dispute the unbelievable, record-breaking inflation we've experienced these past couple of years and while we are grateful for the Board's adoption of a 3% COLA for Tier 1 Members - the maximum allowed by the Administrative Code - this covers less than half of the 7.4% inflation index here in the Los Angeles area. The more than 22,000 affected LACERS members who devoted a lifetime of service in blue-collar, administrative and managerial positions in the City, trusted all during their careers that the devotion they showed in service would be honored by the City in their retirement. Please keep your commitment to economic justice for City retirees.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 03:11 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Due to the rising cost of everything (utilities, food,etc).It is imperative that we receive the COLA increase to be able to sustain monthly.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 03:17 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Please us retirees worked hard for the city I personally did 35 years. Please vote yes

Communication from Public

Name: David Perlstein

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 02:01 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Please apprive the ine time discretionary COLA for LACERS retirees. Inflation the last few years has really eaten into my pension and ir's making it difficult to survive on miney that's worth less and less each year. Thank you for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 01:28 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I am asking the The two Council committees that have been assigned the review of the 2.6% discretionary COLA that the LACERS Board recently recommended to approve the discretionary COLA. Rising prices of groceries, gasoline, insurance, and utilities are going up faster than our pension. It is for these reasons that I ask that the Council approve the 2.6% discretionary COLA.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 01:13 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to vote to adopt the recommendation from the LACERS board to add the discretionary COLA of 2.6% this year. Inflation has far surpassed the effect of the previous years COLAs so now my living expenses are barely covered by my pension.

Communication from Public

Name: Thomas Thornton

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 12:56 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Thomas Thornton. I retired from the City of Los Angeles in January 2018. Please approve the discretionary COLA. It is important to me due to rising prices for rent, food, gas, utilities and insurance going up faster than our Pension COLA. The discretionary COLA will assist me with the rising inflation.
Sincerely Thomas Thornton

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 11:55 AM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: The COLA proposed for retirees will be necessary to enable us to continue to afford basic necessities such as groceries, housing and gas due to rising prices and interest rates encountered throughout our communities. Thank you for considering our plight--I worked for the City of LA for over 32 years and am grateful to have served the community all the years.

Communication from Public

Name: ALEXander Bernard

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 12:10 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I am requesting that the Council adopt the recommendation regarding the discretionary COLA. I have been retired nearly 20 years, and my pension has not kept pace with inflation. It would appear that inflation will be with us for some time. The discretionary COLA would help with a retirees' purchasing power. I urge you to support the discretionary COLA.

Communication from Public

Name: Julie Cuttrell

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 12:15 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: As a retired LA City employee, I respectfully request that your honorable bodies approve the LACERS Board's request to grant the discretionary COLA of 2.6% for the coming fiscal year. While the typical formula has sufficiently, if not entirely, kept up with inflation at least since my retirement in 2010, the 3% COLA in 2023 will in no way match the dramatic costs of living that we have been experiencing for many months, and surely will continue to experience in the months, and quite possibly years, to come. I am solely responsible for my expenses, and have pared a number of things from my budget in recent months in reaction to ever-increasing costs of goods and services. The cost of natural gas alone during the worst of Winter proved to be a startling dose of reality. I am fortunate to still be able to pay my bills, and I'm grateful to have the benefits my career bestowed. I have no illusion of getting ahead, but by the same token, I do have an expectation of keeping up. A mere 3% COLA will not be representative of keeping up. Gratefully submitted for your consideration, Julie T. Cuttrell

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Williams

Date Submitted: 05/03/2023 12:30 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: The approval of the discretionary COLA is very important for us retirees as the cost of gas, housing, healthcare, food and other vital necessities continue to rise. Without it, many people will have difficulty sustaining safe and adequate living conditions. Thank you in advance for your consideration on this matter.