

Communication from Public

Name: Carol A Osborne

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 03:56 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: This is to request that City Council adopt the 2.85% discretionary COLA. Today's inflation is a hardship for many. Not only food and medications but check out the high auto and home insurance. Not to mention the high cost of fuel.

Communication from Public

Name: Ernesto Allen

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:00 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members, Please approve the additional 2.85% discretionary COLA proposed by LACERS as the cost of living in our City and State is getting unusually more expensive. Thank you for your consideration. Respectfully yours, Ernesto P Allen

Communication from Public

Name: Patricia Jackson
Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:01 PM
Council File No: 23-0418
Comments for Public Posting: Please I need more money. The cost of living is killing me, inflation. Inflation is not going away just going up. I can hardly buy food. Tried fast food, which is worse.

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew A

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:07 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Please approve the additional 2.85% COLA increase in addition to the 3%. As City of Los Angeles retired employees, we are impacted by the high rate of inflation more than the current employees because we live on limited income. For the last three or four years, the inflation has been around 5 to 9% per a year while our CLOA has increased only 3% per a year. We are too old to go back to work and depend on our pensions to live. Please don't let down senior citizens who worked hard for the City for many years. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:23 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: It's not fair to approve the active employees increase and not retired employees. Inflation affects everyone. Do the right thing and approve the 2.85%. We were dedicated workers.

Communication from Public

Name: TERESITA A. HERRERA

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:26 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I heartily agree with the additional 2.85% discretionary COLA in addition to the 3.00% COLA for the coming fiscal year for retirees, including myself.

Communication from Public

Name: CYNTHIA AVILA PEREZ-LIMON

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:28 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I worked for Los Angeles City Attorney's Office for 38 years. I was so proud of the work I did as a Facilities Manager. I feel very fortunate to have all the benefits and great pension as a retiree, although with today's cost of living we could have an additional increase. Everywhere we go, there are additional surcharges. Every one of our utility bills are constantly increasing. Our grocery bills are insane. I don't even know what to expect to pay for my homeowner's insurance this renewal period-if renewed! Gas prices are out of control. We have 2 doggies, you would think we are putting them through college. I recently requested an estimated to have a 60 ft - retaining wall installed - \$16,000.00 plus \$2,000. to eliminate the current wrought iron & vegetation. My 74 yr and myself, 64 removed the vegetation to save the \$2,000.00. We have to save where we can. We are not allowed to run our air conditioner freely since the bill is ridiculous, so we have to suffer through the heat. Again, any increase will help. Some days, I wonder if I should go back to work.....within 6 months, I will be paying for Medicare, so they're goes my cost of living increase.

Communication from Public

Name: James Daley

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:32 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: As a Security officer with the LAX Airport police traffic division providing the Traveling public with courteous help and information public safety In today 's inflation rates increases A COLA is absolutely necessary

Communication from Public

Name: Levene Roberson

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:39 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Being a senior individual we are not in a position to go out and get even a part time job due to our health. If you are single it is the only income you have. Civil employees are caught in the “Wind Fall” provision, which takes away a large amount of our Social Security if we worked in private industry before becoming a City Employee. The cost of living goes up and we’re caught trying to make adjustments to our budgets.

Communication from Public

Name: Beth Lingat

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:40 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I'm an LA City Retiree with over 30 yrs of experience working for the City. The cost of living has increased tremendously and it's been a struggle financially to cope. The Council support for the add'l COLA will definitely help with the inflation. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 04:44 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: It is to my knowledge that active city employees are about to get their raises July, well as a ex-city worker with rising food and necessities to live, I am hoping the city council could come to a agreement to follow through on cutting us in for a raise to avoid to many struggles ahead of us. May you please consider this message. God bless all city employees

Communication from Public

Name: Linda Vigil

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 05:13 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: As you are aware inflation has hit every segment of life especially for retirees. We have lost purchasing power. Prices have increased for food, utilities, gasoline, rents, autos, and higher interest rates. As retirees we can only tighten our belts so much. We do not have the ability to make more money. Many active City employees have recently accepted negotiations to significant pay increases, yet retirees are facing the same high prices they are, with a much lower income. I worked diligently 46 years for the City, 2 years with the Department of Water and Power and 44 years for the Harbor Department. I was not only dedicated to assisting Los Angeles citizens but was also dedicated to bringing more business to the City. Because of my dedication and the dedication of all retirees we made the Mayor and City Council look respectful, ethical and honorable by the our efforts. Therefore, I strongly encourage the Mayor and Council to adopt 2.95% discretionary COLA as a much needed assistance to the impact of high inflation. Thank you in advance for your consideration. Linda Vigil

Communication from Public

Name: Angelina Krytzer

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 05:25 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I have worked for the City of Los Angeles 28 years. The last 15 years was for the Personnel Department, Public Safety Police and Fire. These last few years has been challenging for my family with food, insurance for both car, home and utilities. Please pass the additional Cola. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Ronald Black

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 05:37 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I retired in 2010 after more than 25 years of service. When I retired, my wife and I used to be able to enjoy going out to eat, taking weekend drives, and vacations once in a while. Now, inflation has outpaced my pension. We rarely go out to a restaurant; our grocery bills have caused us to skip some meals; the price of gas and insurance limits how much we are able to drive; and vacations now are just staying at home. Significant pay increases for many active City employees help them keep up with high prices. But retirees like me face those same high prices without help. With your help, retirees can at least maintain a standard of living commensurate with the necessities of life. Please adopt the 2.85% discretionary COLA. I for one will be forever grateful. Sincerely, Ronald Black

Communication from Public

Name: Sheila Darling

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 05:44 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I am a retired employee who proudly served 36 years before retiring from the Los Angeles Police Department. Please support the Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) Board recommended "discretionary Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)" in addition to the 3.00% COLA the Board adopted for the coming fiscal year for retirees. Your retirees face rising and high costs in basic needs for housing, food, health and end of life preparations. As we gave our best in service to the City, we ask that you honor that commitment by aiding a dignified retirement life.

Communication from Public

Name: Peter Martinez jr

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 03:34 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I am a retired city employee and retirees also need raises. please consider these proposals for retirees also.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 03:42 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I would encourage you to approve the additional cost of living for retirees. Retirees are impacted by the high cost of living and inflation. It's quite disturbing seeing grocery prices continue to rise. Your support on this item is greatly appreciated. Thank you and thank you for your service to the community.

Communication from Public

Name: Juanita Medina

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 03:42 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I am a retired LA City employee. I worked for the police department. It would be an injustice for retired city employees not to be able to afford the basic living expenses , like food and medication. Please consider the proposal that is set before you.
Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Christine

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 03:44 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I encourage the Council to adopt the discretionary COLA increase of 2.85% for LACERS members. Inflation has affected all of us. The cost of gasoline, groceries and everyday items impacts our budget, straining our ability to make ends meet. Current employees have recently negotiated significant pay increases, and retired employees face the same high prices, with lower income. I was proud to work for the Department of Recreation and Parks for 20 years, providing positive experiences for the community. These experiences enabled residents to have a positive view of City government, as did our cooperative work with local Council members.

Communication from Public

Name: Liz

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 03:44 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Asking that the Council approve the recommended “discretionary Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). Having worked at Transportation, DWP, LAPD and Personnel Departments, I assisted the citizens of Los Angeles in various ways for over 34 years. It is only fitting that retiree pensions keep up with the cost of living and that we receive similar COLAs in line with active employee’s.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 03:45 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: City Council members my post is regarding the acceptance of the 2.8% cola request for retired LACER pensioners.I have worked 30yrs for the City of LA,serving as a civil servant for the Harbor Dept,Rec&Parks,Bureau of St Services,Urban Forestry and Bureau of Sanitation.As a retired member I face the high cost of inflation,on a fixed income.This request would help me deal with rising costs. Thank You ,John Osollo. City of Los Angeles Park maintenance Supervisor Retired

Communication from Public

Name: Ernest K Jessop

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 06:07 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: After many years of public service, we are retired and on fixed incomes. Other people have unions fighting for them, and need increases to keep up with inflation and the rising costs of living. We are asking for a much needed smaller increase to help us survive. I am a former BOS, Rec & Parks, and Street Services employee.

Communication from Public

Name: William J Mack
Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 06:51 PM
Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Honorable council members, As a retired Los Angeles city employee of almost 32 years of service in what was called The Bureau of Street Maintenance, then the Bureau of Street Services, I urge you to adopt the discretionary 2.85% COLA that LACERS has requested. This is the second year in a row that this request has been made due to the skyrocketing inflation rates that we have all experienced since the Covid19 pandemic. As you know, the current city employees have been negotiating, and accepting pay increases in their own contracts. We all have the same fiscal issues as they do, but we have a much lower income. In my 32 years of service, I worked in the Resurfacing and Special Projects division where I was an Equipment Operator. For most of my career I worked on a Special Projects Bridge Crew in the San Fernando Valley, Divison #265 where I was called on to do many projects for various Council members. We were dispatched during heavy rain storms to clear mud slides so the citizens of Los Angeles could travel safely on our city streets. We also worked a mud slide on Laurel Canyon Blvd. that was actively moving in order to keep it from burying the street below. We repaired washed out sections of Mulholland, Coldwater Canyon, Big Tujunga Canyon, and many more, building bulkhead walls and slough walls to hold the road where it was supposed to be. Many of these jobs were dispatched at night, taking us away from our families when they needed us most. While I'm sure the Council appreciated our work at the time, it would sure be nice if you showed your appreciation now by approving this 2.85% discretionary COLA to help pull us out of the relative poverty we're going through now. I'm sure this discretionary COLA would help the retirees that worked so hard for you for so many years. Thank you, William J. Mack Bureau of Street Services Special Projects Division #265 1984-2015

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 06:53 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I encourage you to support the Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) Board recommendation of an additional "discretionary Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)" of 2.85%. Recent retirees have been affected by high inflation and a higher cost of living than anticipated. Had I continued working, even though I served the City for over 40 years, I would have been the recipient of recently negotiated significant pay increases and my cost of living expenses will never catch up now. Please consider adopting the 2.85% discretionary COLA.

Communication from Public

Name: Nam Huynh

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 06:58 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Nam Huynh. I retired from the City of Los Angeles in 2015 after 30 years of service. I worked for the Information Technology Agency as programmer and IT manager from 1985 to 2000 and the Controller's Office as Director of Systems from 2000 to 2015. I support LACERS Board's recommendation for a 2.85% discretionary COLA for retirees. Although my retirement amount is higher than average retirement amount, my family has been negatively impacted by the high inflation, we have to carefully manage our finance every month to maintain our living standards. We have to take more trips to hospital and medical offices for appointments and the cost of gasoline continues to cause us to cut back on other necessities. Many active city employees have received significant COLA. Retirees contributed to the success of City the same and deserved to receive adequate COLA. By approving the discretionary COLA as recommended by the LACERS Board, the City Council and the Mayor show true appreciation to all retirees. I am very proud of my service to the City of Los Angeles. As the manager for the City's Payroll system (PAYSR) and manager of the Payroll Division in the Controller's Office, we have processed payroll for more than 40,000 City employees with accuracy and without any delays. I am sure other retirees also contributed significantly to the City in their own profession and capacity. I urge the City Council and the Mayor to adopt the 2.85% discretionary COLA for retirees. It's not only is a right thing to do for retirees who spent all their youth years at the City, but it also motivates active employees to stick with a City career where the City leadership values employees' service while they are active employees as well as after they are retired. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: MARY GRAY

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 07:17 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Honorable Council, Please approved the Discretionary COLA. I worked for the City Planning Department during AB283, where the City was court ordered to rezone all of the City. We hand folded, hand stuffed thousand of notices. We attended night meetings. We set up and took down meeting sites. I missed lots of quality time with my then teenage son all for the City of Los Angeles. After Planning I worked for Recreation and Parks hiring summer staff and the finances for 64 City Pools. Once again taking away time from my family to do City work hiring life guards on weekends and after normal work hours. Today wit my pension I am below the poverty level. I qualify for \$8 a month in food stamps. I did not see any different in the taxes i was paying before the BIG tax cut, I still pay the same monthly in taxes as I did before the cut, no relief. I could very much use the extra money monthly. I served the City of Los Angeles faithfully and well, this addition monies is very much needed and would appreciate it if you would approved the Discretionary COLA. It takes much more to live in the City today and we could use the help. When I tell people I retired from the City and I get food stamps and live in 'low income' housing (that is half of my monthly salary for rent) they don't believe that retiring from the City of LA would put me in poverty. Please APPROVE THE DISCRETIONARY COLA, please do not table it as the last one. Some retirees do have a great retirement, some of us do not and could use the money that is just sitting. Please let me have a better quality of life, this will help immensely. Respectfully submitted, Mary Gray

Communication from Public

Name: Dan Gallagher
Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 07:44 PM
Council File No: 23-0418
Comments for Public Posting: Please approve the discretionary COLA.

Communication from Public

Name: Vance Roque

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 08:47 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: I'm posting this message to support Lacers retirement board request for a discretionary COLA 2.85% for retired Lacers members. We are urging The Mayor and city council to take action regarding this matter. Please support this request for your retired members who dedicated their careers to City service. Inflation has hit us all hard and would like to ease the financial burden inflicted on us by inflation over several years. Please help us out by supporting the LACERS board's request. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Steven Wright

Date Submitted: 06/13/2024 11:12 PM

Council File No: 23-0418

Comments for Public Posting: Please consider implementing the 2.85% discretionary COLA for LA City Retirees. Having dedicated 32 years of service to the City of Los Angeles, I retired just before the pandemic began. Unfortunately, retirees like myself have faced significant financial hardships. The pandemic, along with other unforeseen circumstances, has exacerbated these challenges. Additionally, many retirees, including myself, have experienced a loss of income from rental properties due to tenants being unable to pay rent lawfully. Moreover, the realization that LACERS failed to provide comprehensive information on how IRMMA would impact our medical coverage post-transition to Medicare has compounded our financial anxieties. This circumstance has led me, and likely other retirees, to consider re-entering the workforce to prevent homelessness in the absence of sufficient medical support. I sincerely urge the council to adopt this discretionary COLA, as it would provide much-needed relief to retirees who are struggling to make ends meet. Thank you for considering our plea.