

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mark Blunk (Board Member of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Incorporated)

**Date Submitted:** 09/28/2023 01:19 PM

**Council File No:** 23-0418

**Comments for Public Posting:** Honorable Council President Krekorian and All Honorable Members of the City Council: This email is to ask for you to carefully consider taking positive action to support Committee action to condier a possible “Discretionary Cost-of-Living (COLA) increase. My personal experiences drive me to ask you for special consideration. The problem with the current high levels of inflation is that the Discretionary COLA was designed to aid retirees avoid accumulating such impacts. Many of these retirees live on limited pension amounts, and feel the negative compounded impacts of having to struggle with dramatically and incessantly increasing costs due to inflation. Many seniors require special costs for such things as nursing assistance or costs for deliveries of food they are no longer capable of cooking for themselves. As you know necessities such as fuel, food, and housing have increased recently more than other forms of discretionary spending. These extra costs are necessities and truly destroying retiree pensions. I would encourage you to at least consider having a the Budget and Finance and Personnel Committees consider the CF to show good faith with the approved provisions which encourage Discretionary COLA increases for years with high cost of living increases. Even a modest Discretionary COLA would go a long way with both retired LACERS members and those active employees of the City who will someday retire. I do believe you have the power to influence action on this matter with the assigned Chairs of the assigned Committees to move forward. Movement on the matter will allow retirees and LACERS members to have a voice in the matter. I believe they merit such consideration if for no other reason than that they were active employees of the City, just like you. The retirees worked for the City relying the concept that elected officials would consider the life situations and at least consider the protections proffered via the Los Angeles City Administrative Code section on Discretionary COLAs. LACERS retirees who need it the most need your help and deserve full consideration of a Discretionary COLA. Please consider talking to the Committe Chairs about scheduling the report before the Committees, to give those with little voice, some voice on the matter. Sincerley, Mark Blunk Board Member and Second Vice President of RLACEI

Former Chief Benefits Analyst for LACERS Retiree of LACERS

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Roobik

**Date Submitted:** 09/27/2023 04:58 PM

**Council File No:** 23-0418

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Mr. Chairman and Honorable members of the Council of the City of Los Angeles. I'm a retiree of the City of Los Angeles. I'm a proud 70 years old senior citizen. I severed my civic duty to the people of Los Angeles, and now I'm enjoying my retirement, but the cost of living such as rent , food , gas and anything to make ends need are so much higher these days , that the recent proposed 2.6 % COLA is not enough and it's not helping much, and the retirees need much more than that to continue living. Please consider another COLA increase to help me and other Retirees of The City of Los Angeles. Your consideration and assistance regarding this matter, greatly appreciated. Sincerely, retiree member.