

MOTION

Angelenos count on the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to respond to life-threatening emergencies, fires and accidents. But, as one of the largest fire departments across the United States, LAFD is facing a shortage of personnel, fire stations, medical supplies, and ambulances.

In a recent news story, there have been allegations that LAFD paramedics, on a regular basis, have to barter for medical supplies to get through the day. It has also been reported that LAFD paramedics operate multiple ambulances with expired supplies and medications or below the requirements established by the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (DHS).

LAFD’s Supply and Maintenance Division is in charge of all supply procurement, apparatus and equipment maintenance, and contracts of the Department.

The COVID-19 pandemic created unprecedented disruptions and realignment in the global supply chain and manufacturing systems. As the impacts of the pandemic have recently receded and global demand for supplies have substantially increased, additional strains are felt in the supply chain affecting the Supply and Maintenance Division. Supply shocks and shortages, rapid increase costs for supplies and labor shortages continue to affect the Supply and Maintenance Division’s ability to maintain certain items at appropriate levels in order to support the field with the needed and at times, required items.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Fire Department report back on the current inventory (medical supplies, pharmaceuticals, etc.). This report should include predicted shortage issues that will occur with ongoing supply chain issues including any mitigations measures they may take to prevent shortages.

I FURTHER MOVE that the General Services Department, in consultation with Port of Los Angeles review and report back on current supply chain procedures for the Fire Department’s inventory, provide guidance on procurement reforms and aid in the procurement of any identified medical supply shortages.

PRESENTED BY:

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SECONDED BY:

*Ed Blum*

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MAY 10 2023

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