

Communication from Public

Name: Bryan Cardella

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 09:37 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am embarrassed that this is the proposed budget for our city. Giving the LAPD even more money and cutting thousands of necessary positions for maintaining quality of life/equity in our city is absolutely shameful. This is a recipe for failure. There are less police officers currently, and you're giving them even more money? I voted for a mayoral candidate that I thought was progressive. Looking at this budget proposal makes me think I was very wrong.

Communication from Public

Name: Daniel Soto

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 10:50 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Daniel Soto and I'm an arts administrator at UCLA. As a proud Angeleno, I'm grateful for the City Council for their time and attention. I am writing to share my disappointment with the proposed \$2.4 million budget cut to the Department of Cultural Affairs. This cut, coupled with the elimination of 24 vacant positions at the DCA, undermines the critical role that arts and culture play in driving our regional economy. In the year 2021 alone, the creative sectors were collectively responsible for 15% of California's \$3.4 trillion economy. Each job supported by creative industries—including the visual and performing arts, film and television production, arts education, and new media—resulted in nearly \$38,000 of additional tax revenue, generating over \$194 billion in federal, state, and municipal taxes. I strongly urge the council to increase the DCA's "salaries as needed" account by \$1 million to continue to pay part-time staff operating city-owned spaces. These spaces serve as crucial community hubs to foster social cohesion, education, economic growth, and cultural experiences. Thank you, Daniel Soto
Creative Producer UCLA Social Software

Communication from Public

Name: Valerie

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 10:59 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I want increased funding for spay/neuter!!! It's sooooo expensive to have a cat or dog spayed/neutered at a veterinary clinic in Los Angeles. Most people can't afford it. It could be a week's salary for some people. It's ridiculous. There are so many stray cats in this town. It's heartbreaking.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 11:10 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am submitted written comment with a concern around the proposed \$2.4 million budget cut to the Department of Cultural Affairs, coupled with the elimination of 24 vacant positions. With the LA28 Olympics on the horizon, now is not the time to divest from arts and culture. Instead, we should be expanding our capacity to meet the demands of events like the Olympic Cultural Olympiad, leveraging this global platform to showcase LA's diverse cultural heritage. We must reimagine how we allocate resources for community health and safety. I would like to ask the LA City Council to re-authorize vacant positions as recommended by DCA and increase DCA's "salaries as needed" account by \$1 million. If LA is touted as a "creative capital," please help keep that true. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Mishell

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 11:13 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I think it's absolutely ridiculous the city is planning to spend nearly HALF of the city's budget on policing. In December 2023 you said "We have really cut back resources to health and human services programs...Then when there are problems in the community, we expect the police department to take care of all of society's ills and that is just not what should happen. LAPD should not be responsible for substance abuse. For mental health. For homelessness."
(<https://abc7.com/amp/lapd-mayor-karen-bass-police-chief-michel-moore/14151750/>)
Though you acknowledge "society's ills" are a result of LACK of funding to social services and the police should NOT be responsible to tending to these issues, you are STILL CHOOSING to defund services crucial to the upkeep and betterment of our city, and CHOOSING to eliminate more than 2,000 jobs INSTEAD OF reallocating funds from the LAPD to fund these services. I implore you to act on your words and commit to funding crucial city services.

Communication from Public

Name: Jennifer Federico

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 11:29 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Re: Proposed budget for L.A. Animal Services Dear Councilmembers Blumenfield, Yaroslavsky, Rodriguez, Harris-Dawson, and McOske, I am writing to express my extreme concern and dissatisfaction over the Mayor's proposed budget for L.A. Animal Services. I understand that the proposal is to decrease the operating budget by \$1,039,128. This is completely unacceptable, and I implore the Council to reject it. The Animal Services division is one of the city departments that are NOT currently overspending. The situation at the animal shelters is dire, with dogs in particular suffering the consequences; living in pop-up crates in the hallways, sharing kennels made for only one dog, being euthanized because of lack of space, and not receiving enough enrichment or medical attention. Additionally, cats are breeding uncontrollably because of a lack of spay and neuter resources, with "bottle babies" being left at the shelters daily (many of which are euthanized because of the inability to properly care for them) and cats on the streets falling prey to a multitude of issues (cars, predators, nasty people, illnesses, etc.). These are living creatures that deserve our empathy and care. People are the cause of the terrible situation currently in our shelters, and people should be the ones to resolve it. Decreasing the Animal Services' budget is not the way to do that. The mission of L.A. Animal Services is to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of animals and people. This is simply not possible without enough staff to care for the animals there and enough services for the people of Los Angeles to care for their pets. A budget less than what is already being used for the Animal Services division is the exact opposite of what is needed for the department to fulfill its mission. As a volunteer at L.A. Animal Services for over 7 years, I have witnessed firsthand the very serious struggles the animals at the shelter face when there aren't enough staff. Dogs that are literally losing their minds because they have been kept in a cage for over a year. Cats that are left in the "behavior room" without any enrichment at all for months. Rabbits that have babies at the shelter when nobody even realized they were pregnant. I have also seen (and experienced myself) the burnout of the staff and the volunteers. I have seen the way the staff gets treated by some members of the public – a situation that could potentially be lessened with some major outreach efforts. I

have talked to people who have witnessed animals being seriously abused but cannot get an officer to help for months, because the officers are so overextended. I truly believe that the idea that the Mayor and Council are even considering defunding Animal Services when we are in a complete state of crisis is morally reprehensible. If you have not been to the shelter lately, I implore you to visit so that you can see firsthand what is happening. Additionally, I feel that you would be doing the animals of Los Angeles a tremendous disservice by voting to give them LESS CARE without truly understanding the situation. The Mayor's proposed budget also increases liability claims by \$1.9 million. This seems particularly ironic, in that there might be less reasons for liability claims if there were more staff on hand to make sure that people do not get hurt. Increasing the budget for liability while decreasing the budget for staff is particularly worrisome and feels sad and cynical to me; not at all what we should want our city to be. Other city departments that are currently overspending should not be rewarded with additional funding while the proposed budget for Animal Services is decreased. As a Los Angeles resident and a person who cares how my taxes are used and how the animals in our city are cared for, I vehemently encourage you NOT to accept the Mayor's proposed budget for the Animal Services department, and instead consider the GM's budget request, which includes drastically needed funding for the shelters. As Ghandi once said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Is Los Angeles really going to continue to let the calamity that's been playing out for years at its shelters continue? The Council has an opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the way that L.A.'s animals are treated, get the current disaster under control, and help us move in a more humane direction for the future. I urge you NOT to support the Mayor's proposed budget and instead accept the GM's budget to increase funding for L.A. Animal Services. Sincerely, Jennifer Federico, Chesterfield Square / South L.A. shelter volunteer

Communication from Public

Name: Molly Lee Wootton

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 03:24 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass and members of the Los Angeles City Council, I implore you to take immediate action to address the dire situation of shelter overcrowding plaguing our city. It's a crisis that demands urgent attention. By allocating more resources to LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter programs and increasing voucher amounts for veterinarians, we can begin to tackle the root cause of this problem. Every day that passes without action means more animals suffering and being euthanized due to lack of space. Our city's character is at stake, and it's imperative that we demonstrate compassion and responsibility towards our animal companions. Please, let's not fail them in their time of need. As a Los Angeles resident, I strongly urge Mayor Karen Bass and the Los Angeles City Council to increase LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter and increase voucher amounts so more veterinarians can participate in the city's voucher program. The lack of access to pet sterilization is greatly contributing to the severe overcrowding crisis in Los Angeles city shelters. Our treatment of animals reflects our city's character. Please don't let animals suffer under your watch. Mayor Bass, City Council members, the time for decisive action is now. Los Angeles is facing a shelter overcrowding crisis of unprecedented proportions, and the consequences are dire. Too many animals are paying the ultimate price because of our failure to provide adequate resources for spaying and neutering. We cannot allow this cycle of suffering and euthanasia to continue. I urge you to prioritize funding for LA Animal Services' spay/neuter programs and expand voucher amounts for veterinarians. Lives depend on it. Our city's compassion and integrity are on the line. Let's not be remembered as leaders who turned a blind eye to the plight of innocent animals. The time to act is now, and the responsibility rests with each of us to make a difference.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 03:43 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass and members of the Los Angeles City Council, I implore you to take immediate action to address the dire situation of shelter overcrowding plaguing our city. It's a crisis that demands urgent attention. By allocating more resources to LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter programs and increasing voucher amounts for veterinarians, we can begin to tackle the root cause of this problem. Every day that passes without action means more animals suffering and being euthanized due to lack of space. Our city's character is at stake, and it's imperative that we demonstrate compassion and responsibility towards our animal companions. Please, let's not fail them in their time of need.

Communication from Public

Name: Amanda Farina

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 05:19 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass and members of the Los Angeles City Council, I implore you to take immediate action to address the dire situation of shelter overcrowding plaguing our city. It's a crisis that demands urgent attention. By allocating more resources to LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter programs and increasing voucher amounts for veterinarians, we can begin to tackle the root cause of this problem. Every day that passes without action means more animals suffering and being euthanized due to lack of space. Our city's character is at stake, and it's imperative that we demonstrate compassion and responsibility towards our animal companions. Please, let's not fail them in their time of need. As a Los Angeles resident, I strongly urge Mayor Karen Bass and the Los Angeles City Council to increase LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter and increase voucher amounts so more veterinarians can participate in the city's voucher program. The lack of access to pet sterilization is greatly contributing to the severe overcrowding crisis in Los Angeles city shelters. Our treatment of animals reflects our city's character. Please don't let animals suffer under your watch. Mayor Bass, City Council members, the time for decisive action is now. Los Angeles is facing a shelter overcrowding crisis of unprecedented proportions, and the consequences are dire. Too many animals are paying the ultimate price because of our failure to provide adequate resources for spaying and neutering. We cannot allow this cycle of suffering and euthanasia to continue. I urge you to prioritize funding for LA Animal Services' spay/neuter programs and expand voucher amounts for veterinarians. Lives depend on it. Our city's compassion and integrity are on the line. Let's not be remembered as leaders who turned a blind eye to the plight of innocent animals. The time to act is now, and the responsibility rests with each of us to make a difference.

Communication from Public

Name: Twinkle Werber
Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 05:25 PM
Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass and members of the Los Angeles City Council, I implore you to take immediate action to address the dire shelter overcrowding plaguing our city. It's a crisis that demands urgent attention. By allocating more resources to LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter programs and increasing voucher amounts for veterinarians, we can begin to tackle the root cause of this problem. Every day that passes without action means more animals suffering and being euthanized due to lack of space. Our city's character is at stake, and we must demonstrate compassion and responsibility towards our animal companions. Please, let's not fail them in their time of need. As a Los Angeles resident, I strongly urge Mayor Karen Bass and the Los Angeles City Council to increase LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter and increase voucher amounts so more veterinarians can participate in the city's voucher program. The lack of access to pet sterilization is greatly contributing to the severe overcrowding crisis in Los Angeles city shelters. Our treatment of animals reflects our city's character. Please don't let animals suffer under your watch. Mayor Bass, City Council members, the time for decisive action is now. Los Angeles is facing a shelter overcrowding crisis of unprecedented proportions, and the consequences are dire. Too many animals are paying the ultimate price because we fail to provide adequate resources for spaying and neutering. We cannot allow this cycle of suffering and euthanasia to continue. I would like you to prioritize funding for LA Animal Services' spay/neuter programs and expand voucher amounts for veterinarians. Lives depend on it. Our city's compassion and integrity are on the line. Let's not be remembered as leaders who turned a blind eye to the plight of innocent animals. The time to act is now, and the responsibility rests with each of us to make a difference. We cannot continue to leave animals to suffer and die alone and in terrible circumstances

Communication from Public

Name: Arihel Bermudez

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 06:05 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass, City Council members, the time for decisive action is now. Los Angeles is facing a shelter overcrowding crisis of unprecedented proportions, and the consequences are dire. Too many animals are paying the ultimate price because of our failure to provide adequate resources for spaying and neutering. We cannot allow this cycle of suffering and euthanasia to continue. I urge you to prioritize funding for LA Animal Services' spay and neuter programs and expand voucher amounts for veterinarians. Lives depend on it. Our city's compassion and integrity are on the line. Let's not be remembered as leaders who turned a blind eye to the plight of innocent animals. The time to act is now, and the responsibility rests with each of us to make a difference. The animals need us TODAY! #spay #neuter #lamayor #budget #spayandneuter

Communication from Public

Name: Bonnie Bose

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 06:21 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: 1. Mayor Bass and members of the Los Angeles City Council, I implore you to take immediate action to address the dire situation of shelter overcrowding plaguing our city. It's a crisis that demands urgent attention. By allocating more resources to LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter programs and increasing voucher amounts for veterinarians, we can begin to tackle the root cause of this problem. Every day that passes without action means more animals suffering and being euthanized due to lack of space. Our city's character is at stake, and it's imperative that we demonstrate compassion and responsibility towards our animal companions. Please, let's not fail them in their time of need. 2. As a Los Angeles resident, I strongly urge Mayor Karen Bass and the Los Angeles City Council to increase LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter and increase voucher amounts so more veterinarians can participate in the city's voucher program. The lack of access to pet sterilization is greatly contributing to the severe overcrowding crisis in Los Angeles city shelters. Our treatment of animals reflects our city's character. Please don't let animals suffer under your watch. 3. Mayor Bass, City Council members, the time for decisive action is now. Los Angeles is facing a shelter overcrowding crisis of unprecedented proportions, and the consequences are dire. Too many animals are paying the ultimate price because of our failure to provide adequate resources for spaying and neutering. We cannot allow this cycle of suffering and euthanasia to continue. I urge you to prioritize funding for LA Animal Services' spay/neuter programs and expand voucher amounts for veterinarians. Lives depend on it. Our city's compassion and integrity are on the line. Let's not be remembered as leaders who turned a blind eye to the plight of innocent animals. The time to act is now, and the responsibility rests with each of us to make a difference.

Communication from Public

Name: Vanessa

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 07:15 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass and members of the Los Angeles City Council, I implore you to take immediate action to address the dire situation of shelter overcrowding plaguing our city. It's a crisis that demands urgent attention. By allocating more resources to LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter programs and increasing voucher amounts for veterinarians, we can begin to tackle the root cause of this problem. Every day that passes without action means more animals suffering and being euthanized due to lack of space. Our city's character is at stake, and it's imperative that we demonstrate compassion and responsibility towards our animal companions. Please, let's not fail them in their time of need. As a Los Angeles resident, I strongly urge Mayor Karen Bass and the Los Angeles City Council to increase LA Animal Services' budget for spay/neuter and increase voucher amounts so more veterinarians can participate in the city's voucher program. The lack of access to pet sterilization is greatly contributing to the severe overcrowding crisis in Los Angeles city shelters. Our treatment of animals reflects our city's character. Please don't let animals suffer under your watch. Mayor Bass, City Council members, the time for decisive action is now. Los Angeles is facing a shelter overcrowding crisis of unprecedented proportions, and the consequences are dire. Too many animals are paying the ultimate price because of our failure to provide adequate resources for spaying and neutering. We cannot allow this cycle of suffering and euthanasia to continue. I urge you to prioritize funding for LA Animal Services' spay/neuter programs and expand voucher amounts for veterinarians. Lives depend on it. Our city's compassion and integrity are on the line. Let's not be remembered as leaders who turned a blind eye to the plight of innocent animals. The time to act is now, and the responsibility rests with each of us to make a difference.

Communication from Public

Name: W Jean Hussey

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 10:22 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please, do not cut funding for LA's Shelter system. Indeed, the amount given them rather should be increased. I am an animal rescue helper, and the need currently is overwhelming. The number of adoptable dogs and cats who need help is beyond anything I have ever experienced in the past 5 years.

Communication from Public

Name: NANCY SAYLE

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 11:36 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello - I am going to make this short and sweet. Cutting budgets for animal shelters is unacceptable. The current state of many shelters is appalling, with poorly funded facilities and inadequate staff who lack animal expertise. This results in animals who suffer from cramped, stressful, and terrifying conditions. Reducing funding will only make things worse, eventually leading to nothing more than a hoarding-styled death camp. It's time to take action and allocate more budget to upgrade the facilities, provide better attendants, and create a less stressful environment. We owe it to these sentient beings to give them the care and attention they deserve. The public must be educated about the importance of spaying and neutering their pets to reduce the number of animals that end up in shelters. It's time to make a change for the better. There are several ways to make animal shelters better. One of the most important steps is to allocate more budget for the care and upgrading of the facilities. This can include expanding the space for the animals to reduce crowding, improving the lighting and ventilation, and providing more comfortable bedding and toys. Additionally, hiring better attendants who are trained in animal care can greatly improve the quality of life for the animals in the shelter. Providing regular medical checkups and vaccinations, as well as proper nutrition, can also help to keep these animals healthy and happy. Finally, it's important to encourage more adoptions and to educate the public about the importance of spaying and neutering their pets to reduce the number of animals that end up in shelters. I encourage you to step up to this challenge~

Communication from Public

Name: Sharayah Johnson

Date Submitted: 05/02/2024 07:52 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, My name is Sharayah Johnson, I am a local resident living in District 10 who volunteers most of my free time outside of my full time work schedule to Bubbles Dog Rescue. Since becoming very involved in rescue work in Los Angeles I have volunteer at the South La Shelter, and follow all shelters on social media, and meet regularly with volunteers from various city shelters to keep tabs on the living conditions our shelter animals endure. What I have witnessed myself while walking through the shelter is a devastating case of hoarding and animal neglect. Since city shelter contracts do not require staff to provide any kind of enrichment or exercise whatsoever it is completely acceptable to the shelter to allow dogs to only be walked out of their kennel once a week or month or for some documented cases even months. Dogs sit constantly in their own excrement and filth, which oftentimes will make them sick, and in turn will give the shelter a reason to kill them labeling them as a "medical" case when really the condition is treatable but the shelter in turn just needs to kill for space. To make matters worse, because Los Angeles shelters are trying to live up to their deemed "No Kill" standards we are in turn actually hoarding dogs in crates in hallways where they rarely get walks outside of their crates or receive enrichment. It is bad enough to be left in your kennel for weeks without a walk on the grass. Now imagine yourself being left in your crate stacked on top of another crate with no enrichment for weeks on end. This is actual animal abuse and neglect. How ironic is it that an animal could be confiscated from an abuse or hoarding case to only then end up at the shelter to be in similar or even worse conditions that we have deemed as legal? When local animal advocates say that LA city shelter animals are in a crisis it is NOT an exaggeration. I urge the city council to go visit the shelter for themselves to make their own decisions. Clearly what we need during this time of crisis is an increase in funding for staff to provide care for the animals, vet technicians to provide adequate medical for animals to end needless suffering, and much more funding towards spay and neuter programs so that we may drastically reduce the numbers coming into the shelters as a whole. This crisis is already dire at the current budget the animal shelters are receiving. I can absolutely promise that more budget cuts will result in LA Animals Services committing more atrocities to animals under its

care. It is absolutely shameful for our city with all of its resources to be treating animals as such. I urge the city council to reconsider this part of the mayor's proposed budget, to not propose further harm on animals within our care, and instead ask the mayor for more resources for animals during this time of need. I ask that if you have ever had a beloved family pet you imagine them suffering in the conditions we deem as acceptable in our LA city shelters, and imagine how much trauma that will leave them with for life should they survive. Please find it in your heart, duty, and city council position, to stand up for the animals of LA and demand a budget increase for LA City Shelters. Sincerely,
Sharayah K. Johnson

Communication from Public

Name: G Rocio G Elorza

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 12:08 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Buenas tardes mi nombre es G Rocio G Elorza y formo parte de la comunidad de el Parque Lemon Grove y quiero darles las gracias sobre las becas que dieron para el campamento de verano, para muchas familias que no tienen las posibilidades de pagar \$ 50 o mas por cada hijo. También nos gustaría que tomaran en cuenta a nuestra comunidad ya que hay varias calles que cuentan no cuentan suficientes luces; y esto es un peligro para los padres y jovenes que trabajan y llagan tarde a sus casas, también sugerimos que haya mas patrullaje en nuestras calles. De antemano agradecemos mucho su atención y espero tener noticias tuyas pronto . Sincerely G Rocio G Elorza Parque Lemon Grove.

Communication from Public

Name: David Garvoille
Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 12:24 PM
Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing with grave concern over the cut in park funding. Losing 300 jobs plus the additional \$10 million cut to part-time staffing is going to be detrimental to our youth who will soon be getting out of school. They need parks to play and be active and stay healthy. Ask any youth development person, they will tell you, if we don't preserve our parks, we will pay for it on the back end with disaffected youth who are suffering from overuse of electronic devices, crushing loneliness, depression, and more. Not to mention summer slip-back phenomena, where kids lose what they learned during the school year because they are disengaged over the summer. Many thanks, Dave

Communication from Public

Name: Alexandra Grossi

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 01:24 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: LA Recreation and Parks is at risk of losing the ability to fill over 300 full-time positions due to staffing cuts and a \$10M reduction in the part-time budget. These front-line positions support recreation programming, new park planning, and maintenance staff, all of which are critical for maintaining the well-being of LA City parks and ensuring they remain accessible and well-maintained. The recreation staff positions provide essential services to communities across the city. Many of the positions proposed to be cut are from the maintenance program. When parks are not well-maintained, community members may feel unsafe accessing them. Neglected parks can become areas for unwanted activity, further contributing to the perception that they are not safe spaces for families to enjoy. Additionally, the proposed \$10M cut in part-time recreation and programming positions will exacerbate inequities in LA's park system. Part-time recreation and parks staff play crucial roles in operating community centers, providing lifeguards for swimming pools, and maintaining park restrooms. Without these positions, the department will need to reduce hours and services provided to communities, where the recreation center often serves as the only safe space for children and families. The Department is urging the City Council to restore a minimum of 80 full-time positions proposed to be cut to maintain essential services. While the Department's leadership is committed to closing the equity gap in access to park space, without sufficient staff, this goal may be unattainable. Access to parks significantly impacts mental and physical health, and it is essential to consider the long-term effects on communities across Los Angeles. Please take action now!

Communication from Public

Name: Lilah J Mehri

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 01:32 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Council members, We urgently ask for the restoration of RAP's authority for a minimum of 80 full-time positions and the reversal of the \$10M cut in the Department's part-time budget. Soon students across LA will be on summer vacation. Our youth need safe, clean, well-maintained parks to stay physically active and healthy.

Communication from Public

Name: Monica A. Lerma

Date Submitted: 04/30/2024 12:33 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Subject Line: DVHSC requests additional funding for CIFD programs for survivors Dear Chair Blumenfield and the Budget and Finance Committee: The Domestic Violence and Homeless Services Coalition (“DVHSC”) requests that the budget on Homelessness and Housing prioritize survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking who are experiencing homelessness. Since 2016, DVHSC has grown to include over 800 individuals representing 244 community-based organizations, government officials, philanthropic circles, and individuals with lived experience of homelessness and domestic violence. We have become the largest coalition of our kind across the nation creating a client-centered system that increases access to safe housing and supportive services for survivors of domestic violence and their families. Though we appreciate in this challenging budget year that the current allocation for survivors of domestic violence maintains funding from the previous fiscal year, survivors and service providers cannot afford to maintain the status quo when the number of people experiencing homelessness due to fleeing domestic violence has increased 54% in the past year (2023 LAHSA PIT). Nearly 40% of the adult homeless population in Los Angeles has experienced domestic violence, or intimate partner violence, a 7% increase from 2022. Echoing the Point In Time Count, the 2022 Los Angeles County Women’s Needs Assessment found that 48.4% of women experiencing homelessness had experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime, and within this group, nearly half cited this experience as a cause of their homelessness. While the number of people impacted by domestic violence increases, funding to support survivors in Los Angeles City programs are facing a drastic cut from federal funding resources: Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). VOCA funds used by Victim Service Providers leverage into our City of Los Angeles funded programs and are set to decrease 58% from the previous year. This reduction in funding, with no current plan to compensate from any other funding source, will have devastating impacts on survivors and service providers. As numbers increase, and funding does not, the DVHSC requests that survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault are prioritized in this budget. To do this, we request for the city to:

- Allocate funding for additional domestic violence and

human trafficking shelter locations, and for enhancing existing shelters. To support the enhancement of existing shelter, and to support the opening of three new shelters, the DVHSC requests an additional \$6 million to be allocated in this budget. • Help bridge the funding gap for domestic violence services in light of devastating VOCA cuts. With a projected loss of \$6.5 million in funding for FY 2024-25 to Victim Service Providers in the City, thousands of survivors will be impacted. Reducing staff, housing programs, availability of services, shelter beds, and more, will hurt a population already incredibly vulnerable to experiencing homelessness. Thank you for considering our requests. We appreciate your continued dedication to ending homelessness in Los Angeles and hope to continue to collaborate in supporting survivors. Sincerely, Monica A. Lerma