

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 05:33 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: May 4, 2024 Los Angeles City Hall 200 N. Spring Street, Room 450 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Re: Elimination of 8 positions at EWDD Dear Honorable Los Angeles City Council Members, I respectfully request that the City Council maintain funding for services and programs for our families, youth, and elders, like workforce development programs for garment industry businesses and low-wage workers, prioritizing its funds for community resources. I support the Garment and Fashion Industry Program being developed at the City through a special task force created by Council District 1. Garment worker members at the Garment Worker Center and the business coalition, Responsible Apparel Manufacturing Collective, aim to address various challenges faced by garment workers and businesses in Los Angeles, with the overarching goal of fostering a fair and sustainable garment industry ecosystem. It is critically important to take action urgently to protect and preserve garment manufacturing jobs in Los Angeles, particularly in light of the city's DTLA 2040 Community Plan, which poses a significant threat of displacing the entire garment industry, a vital economic sector providing jobs and livelihoods for thousands of workers. By advocating for initiatives that prioritize the retention and support of garment manufacturing businesses, we can preserve these essential jobs, maintain the cultural and economic fabric of our communities, and ensure the continued viability of the garment industry in Los Angeles. For the past six months, Garment Worker Center, local ethical and sustainable businesses, property owners including the Fashion District BID, Council District 1, Council District 14, multiple city departments, and representatives of LA County have come together to reimagine the local garment manufacturing landscape through a task force. The task force's recommendations rely on open positions at the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD). These recommendations are timely and important to the implementation of the Garment and Fashion Industry Program. All 8 positions at EWDD slated for elimination should be kept in order to grow programs such as the Garment and Fashion Industry Program as well as to support our local economy and labor force. This task force aims to create: 1) A new position dedicated to economic development and real estate, assisting emerging and existing businesses to thrive and

remain located in LA as well as to attract new businesses to LA in the garment and fashion industry. 2) A new position dedicated to Workforce development to support upskilling and other support for workers in the garment industry. 3) A WorkSource Center and Business Source Center pop up in the fashion industry to provide support to workers and businesses. I recognize the importance of these initiatives as they align with the values of promoting fair labor practices, sustainability, and ethical manufacturing. By investing in workforce development and providing resources to support compliant businesses, the task force aims to enhance the competitiveness of the garment industry based on quality, efficiency, and sustainability, while ensuring fair treatment of workers. The workers and businesses participating in the task force are recommending that the City: ensure garment manufacturers have the necessary space for their business to succeed and ensure workers can access jobs; promote the High Road of Made in LA Garments; support workforce development programs for the garment industry, including training in upskilling and advanced techniques; provide access to incentives tied to workplace standards to create a fair environment and bolster the sector, rather than fostering wage exploitation; and provide access to educational resources needed to run a successful and compliant garment business. I urge the Los Angeles City Council to prioritize the retention and support of garment manufacturing jobs by maintaining funding for vital services and programs, including the Garment and Fashion Industry Program, maintaining all 8 positions at EWDD: otherwise, it threatens the implementation of critical initiatives aimed at fostering a fair and sustainable garment industry ecosystem. Vulnerable Angelenos shouldn't pay the price for the City's fiscal irresponsibility, which includes \$20 million for police vehicles while gutting programs that support the community. Sincerely, Fran Smitherman TITLE BUSINESS

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 06:52 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Parks make life better and Griffith keeps people looking up.
Please protect our parks and keep RAP safe from budget cuts.

Communication from Public

Name: Jesse Turits

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 07:46 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Jesse and I live in Panorama City. This city's parks are a vital resource to my community. My son and I visit the Sepulveda Recreation center every day. Here he plays on the park and gets enriched by our active neighborhood. I've met other parents and we get to support each other. Our cultures meld, not just through activities that this park provides the neighborhood, but simply through play with other children and parents. Sadly this park already suffers your council's neglect. Equipment has been broken for months and the facilities desperately need updates. The staff is active and kind and doing their best, but without your backing and prioritizing of the children and families in our community the staff members can only do so much. And that's what this comes down to. Children and families. Parks create healthy communities. Not only in the medical sense of health but in the psychosocial sense of health. My neighborhood is over policed, helicopters fly low and shake our house daily. Usually with no apparent reason as they just fly off. What you can do to help "crime" is not by increasing the police budget again and decreasing the parks budget again but by investing in our parks. Show us you care about our health, happiness, and communities by investing in LA's parks and recreation. A focus on this will reduce crime, increase community bonds, and increase our trust in local government. Divesting in parks and investing in more police only will show my family that you care more to disturb our quality of life than support it. Investing in parks will show us that you care about our health and safety and about our neighbors. We go to the park every day. Hundreds of my neighbors meet us there. Kids form memories, teenagers develop lifelong bonds, parents get fresh air and opportunities to guide their young ones. Cultures are exchanged, exercise reduces diabetes and hypertension. Investing in our parks is a direct investment in our lives. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 08:08 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Los Angeles, I have always admired the Griffith Observatory for its significant contributions to science, education, and culture. The observatory is not just a landmark, but a beacon of knowledge that inspires curiosity and learning about the universe beyond our world. It is a place where both children and adults can explore and understand the cosmos, fostering a love for science and discovery. City parks, including the one housing the Griffith Observatory, are vital public resources that provide numerous benefits to all Angelenos and visitors alike. They serve as communal spaces where families can gather, children can play, and individuals can relax or exercise. These green spaces contribute to physical health, mental well-being, and social connections. They also host various community events and activities, strengthening the bonds among residents. Moreover, the Griffith Observatory and our city parks are accessible to everyone, regardless of socio-economic status. They are democratic spaces that embody the spirit of Los Angeles - diverse, inclusive, and vibrant. In light of the above, I strongly urge you to reconsider any proposed budget cuts to the RAP. Such cuts could lead to a decline in the maintenance and services of these public resources, adversely affecting their quality and accessibility. We must preserve and protect these treasures for current and future generations.

Communication from Public

Name: Kevin Tellez

Date Submitted: 05/01/2024 11:00 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Decreases to the operational budgets proposed will be highly detrimental to the well-being of residents, especially those that wish to pursue a secure and stable career with the municipal government in the near future. Furthermore, liability claims have harmed the fiscal health of the City of Los Angeles, which should require a re-evaluation of the role of the Police Department, as well as of the value that street services and sanitation bring. The City Controller has done an excellent job, his department is more valuable than any expensive consultant firm, and I praise his former support of those experiencing homelessness. Thank you all.