

Communication from Public

Name: Julio

Date Submitted: 05/14/2024 02:36 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I think the Mayor is doing fine and the budgetary plan to help the homelessness crisis is a big step in the right direction

Communication from Public

Name: Joseph G

Date Submitted: 05/14/2024 02:39 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Homeless has been an ongoing issue in LA and it is good to see that Homeless individuals will be accommodated for and funding will be put towards trying to stop homelessness. If funding does not go into helping prevent homelessness, then efforts to helping the homeless can only do so much. I think a lot of the issues mentioned in the budget summary address a lot of the glaring issues that stand out and we should have been focusing on initially. As someone who takes public transportation regularly, the homeless have not been accommodated enough and it is an ever-growing issue that needs to be addressed to help those who are currently facing it and may face it in the foreseeable future. This budget summary focuses on restoring LA's beauty and I approve of the upcoming changes that we are going to see happen soon. We need to have a focus on our community and restoring that feeling of community while also staying economically friendly with the amount of people who live in LA county.

Communication from Public

Name: Jesse

Date Submitted: 05/13/2024 09:19 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I would like the council to support the mayor's budget to help take our homeless off the streets through inside safe. I live near Echo Park and would very much appreciate our council to pass the budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Stephanie Whack

Date Submitted: 05/15/2024 07:45 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of the City of Los Angeles, I am deeply concerned about the upcoming funding cuts. Victims of domestic violence, human trafficking and sexual assault will suffer from the VOCA federal funding cuts starting July 1st, 2024. As of yesterday, we learned that the State did not include additional funding in the revised budget, therefore it is critical the City step up. We can't afford to lose \$6M, shelter beds, facilities, staff, and survivor services which are already scarce. This will cause major impact on homelessness. Not just because victims will be forced to stay with the abuser or flee into homelessness; but also because many providers will lose their jobs. I am asking that you consider allocating the necessary 6 million of dollars to sustain current programs for victims in LA City but also to allocate an additional 6 million of dollars to compensate for the gap caused by VOCA funding cuts.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Whitman

Date Submitted: 05/15/2024 08:03 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding is the backbone to California's response to crime victims' needs. VOCA provides funds for an array of critical services and programs that support Californians after they have experienced a crime which includes domestic violence service providers, Rape Crisis Centers, legal assistance, human trafficking services, a range of options to address survivor homelessness, and other vital services. In FY 24-25, the state is cutting the program by 44.7%. Just about every DV/HT provider is funded by VOCA. • In the City and County, VOCA funding supports 24/7 DV/HT/SA crisis hotlines, emergency shelters, transitional housing, legal aid, counseling, support groups, housing assistance, and outreach & community education. • Victim service providers within the city are anticipating a \$6.5M loss in the upcoming fiscal year, a 58% reduction from the current year; impacting providers across ALL your council districts. To date, no state funding has been identified to offset the loss. • Every DV/HT provider the City contracts with has reported they will reduce or eliminate staff and essential programs; one agency has already started this process. Another agency is at risk of closing its doors, we cannot afford to lose even one DV shelter when there are currently only 500 shelter beds across the city dedicated to DV/HT/SA survivors fleeing violence. • Each year, DV shelters turn away 9,000 survivors fleeing from DV/IPV because DV shelters are at capacity; and only 10% of hotline callers are accepted into our DV shelters. • Mayor Bass and the City Council continue to work towards finding solutions to ending homelessness, however this budget and the City's refusal to fund and support DV/HT survivors counter that. Domestic violence is a homelessness issue. For years, DV/HT have not been prioritized within city, county, or LAHSA's policies on homelessness, despite data supporting the fact that Domestic Violence is a homelessness issue. • DV/HT shelters are critical in the solution to ending homelessness. In 2022, 44% of unhoused women said DV caused them to become homeless. And the 2023 Point in Time count reports over 3,900 people are homeless because they chose to flee; and 39% experienced DV/IPV in their lifetime, increasing from 2022 to 2023. • City and County funding sources supplement just 30% of victim service provider budgets and operations. The City funds

just \$6.5M across 10 DV/HT service providers and shelters; and the county, just \$4.1M across 12 DV shelters. These figures do not cover the full cost of a shelter bed night. For too long, DV/HT/SA service providers have operated on the fringes; our staff are grossly underpaid, at 5% - 15% less when compared to homeless service providers, and operational costs increase every year while revenue is stagnant. • As a movement we have learned to do a lot, with very little. Relying on the goodwill of our staff to work much harder through the vicarious trauma this work creates, with little pay. This needs to end now. Every year the narrative to end homelessness barely mentions Domestic Violence and Victim Services, it's time to invest in women and all individuals who are impacted by DV/HT/SA and genderbased violence; and support the service providers who do the work. • Our programs and expert staff are vital for the survivors we support, they depend on us for their safety, and opportunity to rebuild their lives free from violence. • We cannot afford to lose \$6.5M, one DV Shelter, 40 DV/HT/SA shelter beds, financial housing support dedicated to DV/HT/SA survivors, and essential services that prioritize confidentiality and safety, which is paramount for individuals and their families fleeing DV/HT. • The time to act is now. Fund the VOCA shortfall of \$6.5M, support the over 9,000 survivors and their families who depend on us and their City leaders.

Communication from Public

Name: Rubén Hornillo

Date Submitted: 05/15/2024 08:52 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Homelessness and the criminal activity surrounding homeless encampments are the main challenge the MacArthur Park community is facing. Encampments overtake public spaces, privatizing them, and generate littler and become marketplaces of illegal substances. Intoxicated and/or mentally ill homeless people engage in vandalism (illegal dumping, breaking into properties, etc.) and other activities like stalking nd intimidating women and children in park playgrounds.