

Communication from Public

Name: Patima Komolamit (Center for the Pacific Asian Family)

Date Submitted: 05/21/2024 08:18 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council, Center for the Pacific-Asian Family, Inc. (CPAF) thanks you for supporting survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking who are experiencing homelessness in the City Budget. Since 1978, CPAF has been saving lives, preventing homelessness, and encouraging resilience for and with Asian and Pacific Islander survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, in Los Angeles, through our emergency/transitional shelters, crisis intervention, and prevention services. We are one part of an immensely robust and dynamic network of organizations and providers that have been dedicated for decades to creating safer, empowered communities. We greatly appreciate the Budget and Finance Committee for their inclusion of \$6.5 million to bridge the gap in Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding. Nationwide funding cuts for VOCA are set to have devastating impacts on survivors and service providers. Council's leadership in bridging this gap will go a long way in supporting survivors in Los Angeles. We also thank the Committee for their inclusion of \$2 million for the expansion of shelter services and opening of new shelters for survivors. With the number of people experiencing homelessness due to fleeing domestic violence increasing 54% in the past year, we know the need for services, shelter, and housing for survivors is skyrocketing. 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. This funding is a great step on the path to ending homelessness for survivors. CPAF is on the front lines of this work, so we witness firsthand the impact that both funding shortfalls and the investments to fill those gaps have on limited English proficient, Asian/Pacific Islander immigrant survivors who are uniquely served by CPAF's linguistically accessible and culturally responsive services to those communities. We appreciate your continued dedication to ending homelessness in Los Angeles and hope to continue to collaborate in supporting survivors. Sincerely, Patima Komolamit Executive

Director Center for the Pacific-Asian Family, Inc. (CPAF)

Communication from Public

Name: Theresa Torrance

Date Submitted: 05/20/2024 11:38 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I would like to make public comment on the proposed city budget for 2024/2025. I appreciate the Mayor making Public Safety one of her top priorities and her efforts to provide funding for LAPD recruitment and retaining officers. However I urge city leaders to ensure proper funding for LAPD Civilian Overtime for much needed personnel and for PSRs who answer our 911 calls, and add back positions as requested by Chief Crowley. Our critical 911 service suffers from low staffing/recruitment and I was horrified to learn that with respect to the recent rooftop shooter in MDR, many people in their apartments in the building where the shooter was located were not able to get through to 911 but were met with a busy signal! We also need funding for LAPD admin positions to answer non emergency lines as currently people are left on hold for up to an hour to report a burglary, car theft or other criminal yet non emergency matters. This wait time is unacceptable and needs to be addressed. I am happy to see funding to hire more and much needed paramedics, but please do make sure that LAFD has proper funding, to include their overtime budget, not only for personnel but for fleet maintenance and resources so they are able to respond quickly and successfully to emergencies. I recognize that addressing the homeless crisis is top priority with a significant amount of the budget going to various services such as Inside Safe and affordable housing initiatives, and although I appreciate these efforts due to the constraints of various laws/ordinances which city leaders face, for the record I would like to state that no amount of housing or dispatching of certain mental health services is a long term fix for the homeless population that suffers from severe mental illness (to include those who are severely mentally ill due to substance abuse) as these people need ASSISTED LIVING or mandatory rehab, with full time care; Some of the funds that are going into dispatching temporary mental health & other services and affordable housing should be spent on assisted living facilities, but again, I am aware of the constraints which prohibits this as a solution. I can only hope that efforts are being made at city, state and federal levels to make bold efforts to address the very real mental health crisis as there will be no solving the homeless and public safety crisis until we properly address the mental health crisis. Finally, with respect to RAP, I urge the Mayor/City to fully restore all park ranger

positions so that we can ensure safety at our public parks. This is not an area to be neglected. Thank you for your consideration.