

Communication from Public

Name: Carla Micaela Fuentes

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 05:12 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Blumenfeld and esteemed members of the Los Angeles City Council Budget and Finance Committee, My name is Carla Micaela Fuentes and I am commenting in my individual capacity, as the Outreach Committee Chair of this year's Planning Committee of the Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods, and a Boardmember of the Greater Valley Glen Council. I am writing to introduce an urgent matter concerning the upcoming Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods. As dedicated stewards of our city's neighborhoods, your support is crucial in ensuring the success of this significant event. Attached to this email, you will find a letter from the Congress of Neighborhoods Planning Committee requesting your support for Item No.1 - Consideration of the Mayor's 2024-25 Proposed Budget at your upcoming meeting on May 6th, 2024. Approval of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's Proposed Budget, including a \$10,000 contribution to the Congress of Neighborhoods, is vital to continuing this tradition and fostering community engagement. Your consideration and support in this matter are greatly appreciated. Your commitment to our neighborhoods will undoubtedly make a meaningful impact on their well-being. Best, Carla Fuentes



Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods

—

[Dorsay Dujon](#)

Chair

[Quintus Jett](#)

Vice Chair, Workshop
Subcommittee Chair

[Tony Wilkinson](#)

Treasurer, Finance
Subcommittee Chair

[Mihran Kalaydjian](#)

Secretary

[Blake Lynch](#)

Production Subcommittee
Chair

[Carla Fuentes](#)

Outreach Subcommittee
Chair

—

Congress of Neighborhoods
Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment
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Los Angeles, LA 90012
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#CongressLA24

May 4, 2024

Dear Councilmember Blumenfeld and Los Angeles City Council Budget
and Finance Committee Members,

For 13 years, the Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods has been a
cornerstone event, uniting leaders from 99 Neighborhood Councils,
City department representatives, and elected officials in a free
conference dedicated to addressing the concerns and interests of
Angelenos.

This year's Congress of Neighborhoods, "Neighborhood Power,
Citywide Impact: The Next 25 Years Start Now," holds particular
significance as it aligns with the 25th anniversary of the establishment
of the Neighborhood Council system.

We are reaching out to urge your committee to consider and approve
Item No.1 - Consideration of the Mayor's 2024-25 Proposed Budget, at
your upcoming meeting on May 6th, 2024.

Approval of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's
Proposed Budget, which includes a \$10,000 contribution to the
Congress of Neighborhoods, is paramount to sustain this citywide
tradition and ensure the success of the congress.

Your support in this endeavor will have a profound impact on the
well-being of our neighborhoods and the continued success of this vital
event.

Sincerely,

The Congress of Neighborhoods Planning Committee

info@neighborhoodcongress.la

Communication from Public

Name: Sophie Crawford
Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 09:49 PM
Council File No: 24-0600
Comments for Public Posting: SAVE THE INDUSTRY FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND SPIRITUALITY.

HOW TO SUBMIT AND CUSTOMIZE LETTER:

1. MAKE A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT (Go to FILE > MAKE A COPY) TO CUSTOMIZE THE TEXT IN THE HIGHLIGHTED AREAS THROUGHOUT THE DOCUMENT AND REMOVE THE HIGHLIGHTING AND INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE SUBMITTING.
2. INSERT YOUR ORGANIZATION/BUSINESS LOGO HERE.
3. DOWNLOAD THIS FILE AS A PDF.

SUBMIT YOUR PDF LETTER TO THE PUBLIC FILE HERE: <https://bit.ly/LABudgetPC>. AFTER UPLOADING, BE SURE TO VALIDATE YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMISSION THROUGH THE EMAIL CONFIRMATION YOU WILL RECEIVE.

INSERT YOUR LOGO HERE

May 3, 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,

ORGANIZATION'S NAME respectfully requests 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.** The City should prioritize its funds for community resources.

We 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.

ORGANIZATION'S NAME recognizes 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.
- Provide access to educational resources needed to run a successful and compliant garment business.

We 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. The City should maintain 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. We look forward to working with you on these important initiatives.

Sincerely,

NAME

TITLE

BUSINESS

Communication from Public

Name: John Perry

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 12:36 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I use Griffith Park every week. Griffith Observatory is a world renowned attraction and an important educational institution in LA. It is imperative that Angelenos have access to safe, clean, well maintained parks. Please do not cut the budget of the Dept of Recreation and Parks.

Communication from Public

Name: David Santoyo

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 01:00 PM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles parks are the front face of public tourism. Specifically, the most well known of these is Griffith Park and the Observatory. Cutting any funding for the two would be a shame to the city and shameful for highly paid officials that we ask to oversee and preserve these city gems. I, personally, donate to the Observatory in order to preserve its fabulous history and mission. Being a life long Los Angelian, who grew up underneath the Observatory, am shocked that any cuts would include the Observatory, literally our crown jewel. Do not include any more cuts to this already, city under-financed, and highly visible tourist attraction. Think of the face of Los Angeles and do not blemish it! Thank You!

Communication from Public

Name: Samuel Rosales

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 07:36 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is Samuel Rosales and I'm a museum guide at the historic Griffith observatory, my workplace is a place of science, discovery, ascertaining knowledge and spreading it to the masses. People of all ages, countries, states come visit this amazing place. I want to leave this comment because hundreds of jobs could be affected within the Department of Recreation and parks. It's an essential work environment and place where everyone is needed.

Communication from Public

Name: Lynn Ballen

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 08:54 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I do not support Parks Department funding cuts! The budget under debate needs to restore a minimum of 80 positions for LA City Dept of Recreation and Parks. I support making sure that LA parks are clean and safe and fully staffed for the enjoyment of everybody - families, community gatherings etc - and for a healthy and sustainable environment in Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Terrell E. Koken

Date Submitted: 05/04/2024 10:07 AM

Council File No: 24-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Griffith Observatory with its associated museum and planetarium are a longstanding Los Angeles tradition. I consider it one of the joy-places of my childhood, which I first encountered almost seventy-two years ago. When my seventeen-year-old daughter died in a motorcycle accident, it was the place I went to mourn her passing. It sparked my early interest in science and mathematics; a lifetime of work and pleasure ensued. I lived through its closure for renovation, hoping that some of its unique character would be preserved through this period. I was gratified, pleased, that the character of this wonderful facility was maintained through the process. The personnel there are a civic treasure. Were they to be lost through lack of funding, the collective expertise they possess and offer to kids, adults, and the rest of the public will never be regained. In my opinion this wonderful facility is the very soul of Los Angeles -- it has persevered through earthquakes, floods, storms, riots, politics, and financial disasters, and today stands as an inspiration to all who live here. Its unique character **MUST** be preserved, nurtured, and expanded if our city is to survive.