

Communication from Public

Name: Christina

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Comments for Public Posting: During the December 2025 Personnel and Hiring Committee meeting, it was stated that approximately six million dollars in salary funds remain unspent because many LAPD recruits do not make it through the full hiring and training process. In simple terms, this is money budgeted for officers who were never hired. At the same time, a large number of LAPD civilian employees are working in positions that were eliminated from the budget and are now only being paid through temporary substitute authority and unpaid holidays, with possible layoffs or displacement starting after June 2026. I am asking why these unspent recruit funds are not being considered as a temporary way to protect civilian positions that are already filled, already trained, and already doing essential work every day. Although this amount was described as a “small delta” at the committee level, six million dollars is not small when it comes to real people’s jobs. Using conservative estimates, six million dollars could support approximately 40 to 50 civilian employees for an entire year. Redirecting this money would not reduce the number of officers currently working, since this funding is not tied to any filled sworn positions. This appears to be a question of budget priorities, not public safety. In plain terms, I am trying to understand whether this money is treated as general “do whatever the Department wants” money, such as for overtime, promotions, or special operations, or whether it is restricted in some way. Who actually decides how this money is used, and why has civilian job stability not been part of that decision?