

**REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

---

DATE: June 10, 2025

TO: Honorable Members of the City Council

FROM: Sharon M. Tso   
Chief Legislative Analyst

Assignment No: 25-04-0334  
Council File No.: 25-0600


**Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget Special Studies**

**SUMMARY**

Pursuant to your request, our Office prepared and now transmits for your consideration the attached list of Special Studies requested by the Budget and Finance Committee during Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget deliberations. Special Studies include instructions to various City departments to report on Budget-related matters.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council adopt the attached list of Special Studies and instruct the City Clerk to open Council Files for each.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dora Huerta  
Analyst

Attachment: Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget List of Special Studies

## **Fiscal Year 2025-26 Requested Reports and Special Studies**

### **Aging**

- R 1. Instruct the Department of Aging, with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst and other relevant departments, to report to the Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging and Disability Committee on all City programs and services that serve seniors across all City departments, and opportunities to create efficiencies in managing these services.

### **Airports**

- R 2. Request Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) to report to the Trade, Travel, and Tourism Committee on its prior contracts with the General Services Department, the Bureau of Street Services, the Bureau of Street Lighting, and the Information Technology Agency. The report should include a discussion of LAWA's plans to contract with these departments in FY 2025-26.
- R 3. Request Los Angeles World Airports to report to the Trade, Travel, and Tourism Committee on increases to its reimbursements to the Personnel Department, including the cause of the increase and whether the increase is anticipated to continue into FY 2025-26.
- R 4. Request Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) to report to the Trade, Travel, and Tourism Committee on the feasibility of implementing a utilization fee for autonomous vehicles operating on LAWA property.

### **Animal Services**

- R 5. Instruct the Department of Animal Services to report to the Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee on the feasibility and cost effectiveness of contracting with non-profit organizations for services currently provided by the Department.
- R 6. Instruct the Department of Animal Services to report to the Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee on the current state of its facilities in relation to independent standards to better assess the need and related costs to upgrade facilities.

### **Building and Safety**

- R 7. Instruct the Department of Building and Safety to report to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee on the feasibility of implementing inspections fees to make Code Enforcement positions cost neutral or full cost recovery.

- R 8. Instruct the Department of Building and Safety to report to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee on the feasibility of implementing a sliding scale of fees for violators with repeated building code violations. The report should include an analysis of the feasibility of targeting locations or properties with repeated offenses on an annual or more frequent basis.

## **Cannabis Regulation**

- R 9. Instruct the Department of Cannabis Regulation to report to the Government Operations Committee on the necessary steps to update taxes related to cannabis and incorporate underground cannabis businesses into legal operations. The report should identify strategies for the Department to partner with the Economic and Workforce Development Department to support small cannabis businesses through Business Source Centers and other small business assistance, identify what other municipalities are doing in terms of enforcement, and provide recommendations to establish a self-funded enforcement operation.

## **Chief Legislative Analyst**

- R 10. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst to report to the Budget and Finance Committee on establishing a team to manage fee reviews for all departments including a bench of contracts, as needed, to ensure that the City is consistently recovering all costs in fees. The report should identify the appropriate department to administer this function.
- R 11. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst to report to the Budget and Finance Committee on all programs within the City that can be located within other jurisdictions in order to identify additional cost savings moving forward.
- R 12. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with assistance from the City Administrative Officer, Controller, Police Department and the Policy Lab of Carceral Ecologies at UCLA, to report to the Public Safety Committee and Budget and Finance Committee on the cost and effectiveness of aerial policing versus the potential impacts to public health and the environment.

## **City Administrative Officer**

- R 13. Instruct the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on how many of the remaining 132 Survivor Services Program beds are eligible for reimbursement through the L.A. Alliance Settlement Agreement.
- R 14. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Energy and Environment Committee on the feasibility of including a fee structure or base cost in the RecyclA Program to fund the repair of alleys damaged by franchisee trucks.

- R 15. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the status of the City's progress towards meeting the LA Alliance Settlement Agreement for 12,915 new interventions in light of the Inside Safe slots counting towards the goal and to also identify the current plan to comply with the Settlement.
- R 16. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the average per person cost across all City-funded interim housing interventions and the expected throughput rate into permanent housing.
- R 17. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the full cost and expenses associated with the Mayfair Hotel paid to date by the City.
- R 18. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on how many interim and supportive housing units are funded by the General Fund.
- R 19. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the number of contracts that the Los Angeles Homelessness Services Authority is managing for the City.
- R 20. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the feasibility of streamlining and consolidating all reporting related to homelessness programs that have been directed by the Council.
- R 21. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Personnel and Hiring Committee on how to exempt the Just Cause Ordinance positions from the Prioritized Critical Hiring process since they are funded by fees.
- R 22. Direct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Budget and Finance Committee with an analysis of transient occupancy tax revenues, including projections, risks, and impacts from decreased tourism from other countries.
- R 23. Direct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Budget and Finance Committee on whether there are additional cost savings that can be realized during the fiscal year by accounting for future retirements.
- R 24. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Public Safety Committee and Budget and Finance Committee on what percentage of the Fire Department fleet will be replaced with the \$46.1 million in Municipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles funding authorized in the FY 2025-26 Budget, including how many vehicles and what types will be replaced.
- R 25. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Public Safety Committee and Budget and Finance Committee on the percentage of Police Department fleet will be replaced with the \$27.2 million in Municipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles funding authorized in the FY 2025-26 Budget, including how many vehicles and what types will be replaced.

- R 26. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Public Works Committee on options available to engage in long-range capital planning, similar to the Department of Water and Power, and potential funding sources.
- R 27. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Budget and Finance Committee with an evaluation of the duties and responsibilities of the City's commissions and boards and recommendations for the elimination or consolidation of duplicative or overlapping commissions and boards to achieve operational and financial efficiencies.

### **City Attorney**

- R 28. Request the City Attorney to report to the Budget and Finance Committee on whether settlements that would generate City revenue can be prioritized and any existing cases that would be appropriate for this treatment.

### **City Clerk**

- R 29. Instruct the City Clerk to report to the Government Operations Committee on the cost that the County charges the City for ballot measure elections, including the feasibility of asking the County for a bundle rate if the City adds a large number of ballot measures or a discount in light of the City's budget challenges.
- R 30. Instruct the City Clerk to report to the Government Operations Committee with recommendations to reduce the administrative burden of issuing contracts and processing payment requests.

### **Cultural Affairs**

- R 31. Instruct the Department of Cultural Affairs to report to the Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee on the feasibility of contracting out the operations of the Department's facilities to ensure that the City is maximizing its assets. The report should identify the benefits and risks of contracting out these operations.

### **Disability**

- R 32. Instruct the Department on Disability to report to the Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging and Disability Committee on the resources needed, including staffing and other expenses, to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations and requirements for large scale

events, including the 2026 World Cup and the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and whether these expenses could be reimbursed by the LA2028 Agreement.

- R 33. Instruct the Department on Disability to report to the Budget and Finance Committee on the feasibility of establishing a fee-for-service program for the Department to ensure that services provided by the Department to support Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for physical improvements and web and mobile accessibility are reimbursed by other City departments, including proprietary departments.

## **Disability and Information Technology Agency**

- R 34. Instruct the Department on Disability and the Information Technology Agency to report to the Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging and Disability Committee on the staffing needs required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act Final Rule on web and mobile application accessibility requirements by the April 2026 deadline.

## **El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument Authority**

- R 35. Instruct the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument Authority to report to the Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee on alternative models for the management of El Pueblo including non-profit management, Business Improvement District management, or the consolidation of some or all of El Pueblo's programs under the Department of Recreation and Parks or the Economic and Workforce Development Department.

## **Emergency Management**

- R 36. Instruct the Emergency Management Department to report to the Public Safety Committee and Budget and Finance Committee on potential cost savings from establishing a Recovery and Reconstruction Division within the Department versus contracting for these services when needed.

## **Finance**

- R 37. Instruct the Office of Finance to report to the Budget and Finance Committee on the City's investments from 2017 to 2025, including the impacts on outflows from the portfolios into the City's financial statements (statement of revenues, balance sheets, and statements of cashflows), and the inflows and outflows between the General Fund and Reserve Fund.

## **Fire**

- R 38. Instruct the Fire Department to report to the Public Safety Committee and Budget and Finance Committee on which services are eligible for reimbursement through the State's Medi-Cal Program and how the City can increase reimbursements.
- R 39. Instruct the Fire Department to report to the Public Safety Committee and Budget and Finance Committee on a timeline for the implementation of the Department's new shift trade policy.
- R 40. Instruct the Fire Department to report to the Public Safety Committee and Budget and Finance Committee on costs that are incurred while Firefighters or Paramedics wait hours with patients to be admitted at hospitals and any legislative changes that can be made to prevent this from continuing.
- R 41. Instruct the Fire Department to report to the Public Safety Committee and Budget and Finance Committee on the feasibility of piggybacking on the County contract to use goats for brush clearance.

## **General Services**

- R 42. Instruct the General Services Department to report to the Government Operations Committee on opportunities to sell surplus properties or use City properties as part of joint development or lease agreement projects to generate revenue.
- R 43. Instruct the General Services Department to report to the Government Operations Committee on options to optimize the use of City-owned facilities, including adjusting or terminating facility leases, in light of changes in workspace needs due to the use of telecommuting options and in alignment with any changes in City space standards, to achieve cost savings and operational efficiencies.

## **Homeless Services Authority**

- R 44. Request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the following items related to the Continuum of Care (COC): 1) how much of the LAHSA COC annual funding gets allocated to City projects, 2) the service providers that are part of the COC, and 3) the City sites that are funded with COC funding.

## **Housing Department**

- R 45. Instruct the Housing Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the potential of cross-training inspectors throughout the City and creating a system through which these inspectors can work for any relevant department that employs inspectors.
- R 46. Instruct the Housing Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the City, State, and federal legal and regulatory requirements that the Department must satisfy to process reserve requests from developers and provide suggestions for advocacy to lower those barriers.
- R 47. Instruct the Housing Department, with the assistance of City Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst, to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee and Budget and Finance Committee, with key performance metrics, such as program expenditures, contract compliance, housing placements, retention outcomes, population level impacts, and any identified issues or corrective actions. Reports should be submitted on a quarterly basis during FY 2025-26.

## **Information Technology**

- R 48. Instruct the Information Technology Agency to report to the Government Operations Committee on all of the departments involved in administering the Human Resources and Payroll System and any efficiencies that can be created across departments.
- R 49. Instruct the Information Technology Agency to report to the Government Operations Committee on the demographic data of 311 users including age, disability status, and spoken languages.
- R 50. Instruct the Information Technology Agency to report to the Government Operations Committee with recommendations on how the City can use artificial intelligence to create savings and efficiencies in the FY 2025-26 Budget.

## **Mayor**

- R 51. Request the Mayor to report to the Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging, and Disability Committee on the feasibility of transferring oversight of Domestic Abuse Response Teams (DART) contractors to the Community Investment for Families Department.



## **Personnel**

- R 52. Instruct the Personnel Department to report to the Personnel and Hiring Committee with an evaluation of the potential impact that layoffs would have on long-term costs from reduced workers' compensation services, health screenings, and occupational safety programs especially during rising work injury claims.

## **Personnel and Police**

- R 53. Instruct the Personnel Department and the Police Department to report to the Personnel and Hiring Committee and Public Safety Committee on the feasibility of transferring to or consolidating the Custody Medical Care Program with the Police Department.

## **Planning**

- R 54. Instruct the Department of City Planning to report to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee on how elimination of staff and vacant positions will impact the Pacific Palisades recovery efforts, and the potential fiscal impacts of implementing a waiver to planning fees associated with rebuilding.
- R 55. Instruct the Department of City Planning to report to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee on the status of the Department's work plan to implement AB 1033 and recommendations to reduce the timeframe for the permitting approval of Accessory Dwelling Units.
- R 56. Instruct the Department of City Planning to report to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee on the impact that the FY 2025-26 Budget will have on small businesses, especially on legacy businesses and non-English speaking businesses.
- R 57. Instruct the Department of City Planning to report to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee on the status of the Department's long-range planning efforts in the San Fernando Valley, including multiple Community Plan updates and Transit Neighborhood Plans currently underway and proposed to be completed in the next two years, which will modernize zoning, land use, street designations, and development and design standards for more than 20 percent of the City after more than two decades. The report should include major milestones with projected timelines, and an analysis of how this work is critical to spur economic recovery, sustainable development, infrastructure improvement, housing growth, and community stabilization, including in compliance with state-mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation obligations.

## **Police**

- R 58. Instruct the Police Department to report to the Public Safety Committee and Budget and Finance Committee on opportunities to contract out Department services that will be eliminated or reduced by the elimination of civilian positions.
- R 59. Instruct the Police Department to report to the Public Safety Committee, the Personnel and Hiring Committee, and Budget and Finance Committee on the feasibility of the Department contracting human resources services, or the feasibility of transferring that work more fully to or collaborating more closely with the Personnel Department. The report should discuss the required timeline for implementing these changes.

## **Police, Cannabis Regulation, Bureau of Street Services, and City Attorney**

- R 60. Instruct the Police Department, Department of Cannabis Regulation, Bureau of Street Services, and request the City Attorney to report to the Public Safety Committee and the Government Operations Committee on which department manages and coordinates the City's cannabis enforcement efforts, how staffing is coordinated, and what cost-effective measures for cannabis enforcement can be implemented.

## **Public Works, Board**

- R 61. Instruct the Board of Public Works Office of Petroleum and Natural Gas Administration Safety, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to report to the Energy and Environment Committee on the potential legal impacts of renegotiating pipeline franchise agreements on the amortization of oil wells in the City.

## **Public Works, Contract Administration**

- R 62. Instruct the Bureau of Contract Administration to report to the Budget and Finance Committee on updating permit inspection fees to ensure that they achieve full cost recovery, including the costs of personnel and necessary system maintenance.
- R 63. Instruct the Bureau of Contract Administration, with assistance from the City Administrative Officer, to report to the Budget and Finance Committee on the benefits of and opportunities to consolidate the Office of Procurement within the Bureau. The report should discuss how this consolidation would impact opportunities for policy development, outreach and education, and leverage Regional Alliance Marketplace for Procurement to identify businesses in advance of the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

## **Public Works, Engineering**

- R 64. Instruct the Bureau of Engineering, in consultation with Building and Safety, City Administrative Officer, and City Attorney, to report to the Public Works Committee with options for long-term operations and maintenance funding for BuildLA, including City staff costs.

## **Public Works, Street Lighting**

- R 65. Instruct the Bureau of Street Lighting, with assistance from the City Attorney, to report to the Public Works Committee on the feasibility of updating the Street Banner Ordinance to expand the options of attachments and allow the Bureau to seek revenue generating opportunities.

## **Public Works, Street Services**

- R 66. Instruct the Bureau of Street Services to report to the Public Works Committee and Budget and Finance Committee with sidewalk and dangerous conditions liability payout trends over the past five years and the proactive work that will not be possible due to budget cuts in FY 2025-26 and how it will impact liabilities to the City.
- R 67. Instruct the Bureau of Street Services to report to the Public Works Committee on the funding and staffing needed to reduce the tree trimming cycle to five years.
- R 68. Instruct the Bureau of Street Services to report to the Public Works Committee by July 1, 2025 with a plan to ensure that streets with bicycle lanes and commercial corridors are swept with, at minimum, the same frequency as posted routes on residential streets as residential streets.

## **Recreation and Parks**

- R 69. Instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to report to the Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee on the status of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the operation of RAP's childcare facilities, the potential cost of enrolling a child in a RAP childcare facility if the service is provided by a non-City childcare service provider, and the feasibility of including language in the RFP that ensures the maintenance of these childcare facilities.
- R 70. Instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to report to the Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee with recommendations to amend the Los Angeles City Charter to increase the RAP funding formula.

- R 71. Instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks to report to the Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee on changes needed to current policy to facilitate the acceptance of private donations related to signage.
- R 72. Instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to report to the Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee on potential revenue-generating opportunities for RAP-owned properties both in and outside City limits.

## **Transportation**

- R 73. Instruct the Department of Transportation, with assistance from the Public Works Bureau of Street Lighting, to report to the Transportation Committee with options to pursue parking fines and fees for non-electrical vehicles parking in a bay designated for electric vehicle charging, also known as ICing, which creates transportation electrification issues and is a public nuisance. The report should include options that would allow the City to be cost-neutral for the Electric Vehicle charging program.
- R 74. Instruct the Department of Transportation to report to the Transportation Committee on the feasibility of Traffic Officers gaining access to out-of-state vehicle registration information.
- R 75. Instruct the Department of Transportation to report to the Transportation Committee with an evaluation of electric vehicle (EV) charging station needs at the Department's facilities and recommendations to increase EV charging capacities, including regular and super chargers for use by the Department and the public.
- R 76. Instruct the Department of Transportation to report to the Transportation Committee with a comprehensive list of revenue-generating programs that are managed by the Department and any opportunities to increase revenue to create long-term offsets and restore positions and funding.
- R 77. Instruct the Department of Transportation to report to the Budget and Finance Committee by July 1, 2025, with a list of grants that are at risk of losing funding and/or grant funding that may have to be returned due to the City not meeting deadlines or performance requirements. The report should include the amount of the grant, the date the grant was awarded, and whether the City requested a time extension.

## **Water and Power**

- R 78. Request the Department of Water and Power to report to the Energy and Environment Committee on the cost for the Department to add two new water trucks.

- R 79. Request the Department of Water and Power, in collaboration with the Public Works Bureau of Engineering and General Services Department, to report to the Energy and Environment Committee on a Memorandum of Understanding to streamline and fund renewable energy efficiency upgrades and host renewable assets on City property to achieve long-term savings for rate payers and eliminate emissions.