

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Robert Bobby Arias

**Date Submitted:** 11/07/2025 10:57 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600-S43

**Comments for Public Posting:** As President of Champions in Service, I would like to express our appreciation for the City's continued leadership and commitment to fiscal responsibility during these challenging budgetary times. While this decision does not directly affect our agency, Champions in Service works with the three key departments: the Department of Aging (DOA), the Youth Development Department (YDD), and the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD). These departments provide critical services that directly support some of the City's most vulnerable populations, older adults, youth, and individuals seeking workforce and economic advancement. We recognize that the City faces difficult choices in addressing the current budget crisis; however, we respectfully and strongly encourage that funding and structural support for these three departments remain intact. Preserving these essential departments will help ensure that the City's collective efforts to promote equity, opportunity, and community resilience are not diminished. Together, we can continue to build on the progress already made to improve the quality of life and access to resources for those most in need. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and continued partnership. Sincerely, Bobby Arias, MSW, MPA President, Champions in Service

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Darlene Kiyan

**Date Submitted:** 11/07/2025 01:18 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600-S43

**Comments for Public Posting:** The number of residents aged 65+ is projected to rise from 1.44 million in 2020 to over 2.32 million by 2040—a 61% increase (PPIC analysis of CA Dept. of Finance data).  
<https://ad.lacounty.gov/news/lacounty-older-adult-population-grows/>  
Meeting the needs of this aging population requires experienced, strategic leadership. We are now in our fifth month of the fiscal year and have not received all of our contracts despite incurring expenses for the programs. Priority should be put in place to focus on moving operations forward while creating a plan to ensure all departments affected by this merger will be supported. We urge the City Council to pause consolidation efforts until: An independent analysis assesses fiscal, equity, and service impacts. A transparent, inclusive planning process engages key stakeholders—business, labor, youth, older adults, and community partners. A data-driven vision aligns economic, workforce, youth, and aging strategies with measurable goals and accountability. A plan for effective management practices that balance competing demands of such a large department with complex funding structures.