

Communication from Public

Name: Phatchara Udomsin

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:52 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Phatchara Udomsin. I'm a staff attorney at the Thai Community Development Center. I am here to show my strong support for the RepresentLA program. Please approve the proposal to allocate \$1 million for RepresentLA in the city's final budget. As one of the recipients of the RepresentLA fund, I was able to provide immigration assistance to restaurant workers who are victims of wage theft. Without ensuring that these workers-victims can apply for the immigration relief that they're eligible with no cost, the workers would not be able to afford attorney fees and would remain fearful of retaliation from their employers and would not be able to assert their rights under labor laws. After receiving work permits, these workers are now able to find better jobs and can better support themselves and their families. ??This example show how critical the funding of RepresentLA is to ensure due process for immigrant communities in Los Angeles. Especially now in the current anti immigrant climate and ramp up of deportations, it is imperative that we continue RepresentLA's important services to protect all communities in Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Matt Dial

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:52 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is Matt Dial, I live in district 13. I am supportive of many of the Budget and Finance Committee recommendations, including the restoration of over 1,000 jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget offers significant improvements, I hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. I understand that the city faces severe financial challenges, but the continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. Neglected infrastructure, polluted neighborhoods, and extreme weather all pose severe risks to public safety. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate, and social programs that the City needs in this budget. You can deepen that investment by funding climate and social programs, protecting City workers, Day Laborer Centers, a public bank, and supporting the unarmed crisis response, UMCR, Expansion to 3 additional precincts: Mission, Rampart, and Harbor. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget!

Communication from Public

Name: Katja Nelson

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:54 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of APLA Health, we are calling on the City to fully preserve funding and positions for the City AIDS Coordinators Office (ACO) within the Department on Disability. This office provides critical and lifesaving services for people living with and at risk for HIV and have been a long-term supporter of community based organizations. The work of the office is a critical piece in our efforts to end the HIV epidemic in Los Angeles. Additionally, The Women Together Program relies on ACO funding to serve 300 women of color by keeping them in medical care, by providing life skills and meaningful social connection. How does funding help us accomplish these benchmarks: through health seminars, like our HIV Matters For Her where female clinicians provide the latest HIV information; through monthly life skills that provide tools for healthy relationships , computer skills, mitigating stress and isolation; from referrals to essential services like benefits and behavioral health; through the Women's HIV Resource Guide that we created for LA COUNTY and through our Positive Self Management Trainings that are evidence-based trainings to manage chronic disease that we have adapted for women with HIV who are 50 and older. We also help producers Women's HIV Wellness Retreat and the annual Women's HIV Treatment Summit. Ricky Rosales has been a champion for people living with HIV and helping prevent HIV for so many in Los Angeles. Without his guidance, we are left adrift. This department is small but mighty, and we cannot stand to lose it. Please preserve both the programs and staff. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Tony Kuoch

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:55 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is: Tony Kuoch I am supportive of many of the Budget and Finance Committee recommendations, including the restoration of over 1,000 jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget offers significant improvements, I hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. I understand that the city faces severe financial challenges, but the continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. Neglected infrastructure, polluted neighborhoods, and extreme weather all pose severe risks to public safety. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate, and social programs that the City needs in this budget. You can deepen that investment by funding climate and social programs, protecting City workers, Day Laborer Centers, a public bank, and supporting the unarmed crisis response, UMCR, Expansion to 3 additional precincts: Mission, Rampart, and Harbor. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Stephanie Tong

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 03:00 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of CD13, I am supportive of many of the Budget and Finance Committee recommendations, including the restoration of over 1,000 jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget offers significant improvements, I hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. I understand that the city faces severe financial challenges, but the continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. Neglected infrastructure, polluted neighborhoods, and extreme weather all pose severe risks to public safety. Stop investing in expensive oppression and invest in systems that are fiscally and materially circular. LAPD paid \$320 Million in liability payouts just within the last fiscal year. Meanwhile, street services decreases traffic deaths and injuries, climate action decreases urgent care visits, and healthy homes decrease cancer rates. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate, and social programs that the City needs in this budget. You can deepen that investment by funding climate and social programs, protecting City workers, Day Laborer Centers, a public bank, and supporting the unarmed crisis response, UMCER, Expansion to 3 additional precincts: Mission, Rampart, and Harbor. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 03:08 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: ?????, ?? Kang, Tae Ho ?? ? 1 ??? ?? ?? ?????. ?? ?? ????? ?? ??
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(English Translation) Hello, my name is Kang Tae Ho, and I am a
resident of District 1. I often see our neighbors excluded from
critical services like city assistance and housing support because
of language barriers. I myself wanted to apply for affordable
housing, but due to a lack of language access, I couldn't complete
the process on my own and had to turn to a local organization for
help. It's something I should have been able to do by myself.
That's why I'm very concerned that this year's city budget does
nothing to solve these language access issues—and instead
proposes cuts to language services and staff. Language access is
not a luxury; it is a basic right that ensures all residents can fairly
access city services. Our requests: - Do not cut staff or funding for
language access. - Invest in real interpretation and
translation—not Google Translate—for the places that need it
most. Language is a human right. Let's build an LA where
everyone can understand. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 03:16 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I encourage the following DTLA priorities for inclusion in this year's budget. 1. Redirect Homelessness Spending Based on Community Input (support not sweeps!) 2. Supercharge Mental Health First Responders in DTLA 3. Fund Faster Repairs of DTLA's Street Lights (or find new lighting solutions) 4. Invest in Overtime Funding for Community-Based Safety Patrols 5. Add public hygiene stations that include toilets and handwashing stations 6. Prioritize sidewalk repairs and maintenance to reduce the amount the city spends on injury lawsuit payments

Communication from Public

Name: Bianca Molina

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 12:49 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fund the Public Bank Feasibility Study. My name is Bianca and I'm a born and raised LA resident / member of Council District 1 and a representative of inclusive action for the city a non profit organization. The LA City Council has approved funding for the public bank feasibility study. I urge the Council to immediately fund the next phase. This plan will outline how LA can use its own balance sheet to save money, cut borrowing costs, and reinvest in priorities like affordable housing, green energy, small businesses, and community development. As LA faces a \$1 billion budget deficit and thousands of union jobs at risk – this is urgent. Delays will keep costing the city billions in debt service and finance costs. It's time to stop sending public money to Wall Street, reinvest it in our communities, and help prevent future budget deficits.

Communication from Public

Name: Alice Stanley Jr.

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 01:40 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Thank you for considering my comments. I am a writer, Angelino, and Sunrise Movement activist. I am supportive of the new budget proposed--specifically the restoration of the 1000 climate, social, and municipal jobs. I urge the city to continue to protect climate and social programs, as well as a public bank. I recognize the city has significant safety concerns, but I do not think continuing to address our issues through LAPD alone is logical. Before I was a writer, I spent many years a public school teacher. One of the most obvious lessons every good teacher learns, quickly, is that most discipline issues are actually best addressed as preemptive community issues. Of course, discipline is important in a classroom...but asking what is causing the discipline issues is much more important. It is my belief that most children, and people for that matter, want to be good. If they misbehave, there is often a reason. Typically, the student's needs haven't been met in some capacity. If a child shows up to school hungry, tired, distressed by family trauma, uncomfortable in their skin, sick, etc. they might be more likely to "act out." To punish the child for their behavior, when they're merely reacting to their circumstances is not just borderline cruel, it's ineffective. If students consistently cause problems because their basic needs aren't being met, discipline will always merely be a band-aid. Teachers cannot detention students into "being good." Real student behavior improvement comes from ensuring the whole classroom community is as healthy as possible. If students of mine were misbehaving because they didn't feel physically or emotionally safe in my classroom, it would be, frankly, outrageous for me to spend a majority of my time disciplining them instead of addressing the issues that made the students feel unsafe in the first place. I think the parallel I am trying to draw here between the classroom and discipline to Los Angeles and the LAPD is clear. When I say we need to defund the LAPD, I am not saying I think we should eliminate the LAPD. I recognize police officers play a significant role in our society. However, what I am saying is the way we keep gutting the good parts of our city to blow more and more money on aggressively disciplining the "bad parts" simply doesn't work. Honestly, the way our budget is set up is unfair to police officers. Every time we strip funds from preventative community care, that's more policing for officers to

do, often outside their training. When we defund youth programs, we get more youth crime. When we don't protect our environment, we get a sicker and more desperate society. When we destroy animal care, we lose our humanity. When we cut mental health services, we get unsafe public areas. It's ridiculous to think cops should be--or even could be--picking up all that slack. The LAPD cannot be teen crisis experts, climate scientists, veterinarians, and wellness counselors. The LAPD can only clean up the messes specialty services are meant to prevent. But if we keep slashing those specialty services to fund LAPD, our problems will only intensify, leading to a vicious cycle of more and more discipline for less and less actual life. Again, as a teacher, if I had a rowdy class, I guess I could hypothetically keep spending more and more time and energy on punishments until the majority of our day was discipline...but I think almost anyone can see such a backwards method would just lead to a depressed and angry student population. Truthfully, I bet the class would become even rowdier. Thank you again for your time. I urge you, please consider prioritizing green services, programs, and workers in our budget this year--and every year.

Communication from Public

Name: Nadine Angele

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 01:10 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fact spay/neuter is the most effective way to reduce shelter intake, fewer cats breeding cats would be a good thing! If you didn't know, it's been 10 years since the value of the voucher or income levels has increased while the the cost of veterinary care has increased 60%. Example, a local veterinary practice here in Echo Park went from quoting \$600 to spay a cat a couple years ago to \$1,000. There are currently less than a dozen providers accepting the city vouchers. This means people who want to fix their pet cats may wait weeks or months. The public is also competing with rescues for those highly coveted appointments. Even our shelters have admitted last spring at a commission meeting, enforcing the spay/neuter law is nearly impossible. The Citywide Cat Program funding is also at risk at a time when volunteers are paying more out of pocket just to fix cats. Volunteers need more easy access local clinics & mobile options. Please keep the CCP going and Funded, if possible increase the voucher value.

Communication from Public

Name: Hannah

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:12 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name Hannah Sands, I live in district 5. As a tax payer in LA, i want to see a return on my investment and i want to see the city i love and the people i care about invested in. I am supportive of many of the Budget and Finance Committee recommendations, including the restoration of over 1,000 jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget offers significant improvements, I hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. I understand that the city faces severe financial challenges, but the continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. Neglected infrastructure, polluted neighborhoods, and extreme weather all pose severe risks to public safety. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget. You can deepen that investment by funding climate and social programs, protecting City workers, unarmed crisis response, Day Laborer Centers, and a public bank. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew Graebner

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:15 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: This is my public comment for the 2025-26 fiscal year budget that you denied me and dozens others the right to speak to you during the hearing before the full Council, despite many of us, including myself, being there since 8 AM. The budget as proposed is disastrous for the city, it is disastrous for the residents of and visitors to this city, and it is disastrous to the reputation and ability to get reelected of any of you who vote for this budget. If this budget is passed as proposed, there will be historic, unprecedented, and devastating cuts to initiatives, programs, and services that actually keep people safe, healthy, and happy and ensure that everyone's needs are met. Meanwhile, once again, EVEN MORE money is going to the LAPD. This is a department that does not keep people safe, does not ensure that everyone's needs are met, and is racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, and is already on track to kill EVEN MORE PEOPLE than they did last year. The LAPD and the constant efforts you and the Mayor make to give them more, and more, and more money each and every year is the number one reason this financial crisis you seek to solve with this budget proposal even exists in the first place. Until recently, this city had record funds and was doing very well financially. While there are other things that are contributing to the financial crisis this city is in that you cannot control, the fact that you gave the LAPD officers a contract at the behest of the LAPPL that you can't afford and the fact that the LAPD, which you give billions to every year and again, are proposing to give even more to this year, keeps getting the city into more lawsuits and more liability payouts is something that is in your control and it is the fault of everyone on the Council who continues to vote to give so much money to the LAPD. The LAPD and their budget and everything they do is contributing so much to the city's financial crisis. While I waited at City Hall for my opportunity that never came to address you for two minutes today, I met and heard the public comments of so many people who will be profoundly negatively impacted by this budget if it is passed as proposed. I have to ask - did any of you look up at the people coming to speak at your meeting today? Did any of you look in the eye the people who keep our city running and moving and the people who care for the animals in our shelters and the people who provide opportunities for our youth in the Youth

Development Department and the people who work to combat climate change in the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office who are now all going to be laid off if this budget is passed as proposed? The list goes on, and on, and on. People are going to lose their jobs because of this budget, and I don't feel like enough of you care. Meanwhile, you continue to give even more money to the LAPD. Instead of passing this budget as proposed tomorrow, you should hold some community meetings. These should be meetings held in the communities at hours that people can attend and with opportunities to provide call-in comment as well. You should hear from each and every community member who comes to or calls in to these meetings, and you should continue comment until each and every person who wishes to speak is able to do so, with the full attention of everyone on the Council (or at least Budget Committee.) You should then actually LISTEN to everyone who speaks and the updated budget that you should propose should reflect those comments. You should allow the People's Budget LA Coalition to make a presentation to the whole Council on the participatory process that took place through the People's Budget Survey, which showed that people do not want billions of dollars going to the LAPD. People want you to defund the LAPD and redirect those funds towards community services and programs. Please reject this budget proposal and work with the community to create a budget that will actually work for the community

Communication from Public

Name: Amira Shaer

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 01:19 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Anyone who has had the pleasure of visiting Barnsdall Art Park knows that it is more than just a landmark—it is the heart of Los Angeles’ reverence for arts, culture, diversity, and equity. It is an oasis, where a love of the arts, nature, architectural marvels, and our community naturally come together. As home to the Hollyhock House, Frank Lloyd Wright’s architectural masterpiece and LA’s only UNESCO World Heritage Site (something I was shocked to learn), Barnsdall stands as a powerful testament to our city’s rich cultural heritage. For nearly a century, it has been a beloved gathering place for Angelenos and visitors alike—an oasis of natural beauty, creativity, and accessible arts education. The proposed budget cuts threaten to dismantle this irreplaceable institution. Eliminating seven essential staff positions, including three of Hollyhock House’s four full-time roles, would force the suspension of public tours—undermining the City’s 15-year effort to secure UNESCO designation and jeopardizing its future. These cuts would also devastate programming at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Barnsdall Gallery Theatre, and the Barnsdall Arts Centers, which have provided affordable fine art classes to generations of children and adults for over 50 years. Barnsdall Art Park embodies the best of Los Angeles: a commitment to centering the arts, creativity, accessibility, cultural preservation, and community enrichment. It is a place where locals and tourists alike find inspiration, where students discover lifelong passions, and where our city’s dedication to creativity shines. At a time when we should be investing in our cultural legacy—especially ahead of the World Cup and Olympics—we cannot afford to step back from protecting and preserving this cherished institution and all that it offers Angelenos of all ages and backgrounds. I strongly urge you to reject these cuts entirely. Los Angeles must uphold its promise to protect Barnsdall’s staff, programming, and UNESCO-status integrity. Our communities deserve nothing less than a thriving Barnsdall—for this generation and all those to come.

Communication from Public

Name: Pablo R Escobar

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:20 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Pablo Escobar and I am the Director of Client Legal Services for 1736 Family Crisis Center. We provide shelter services to individuals, adults and children, who are fleeing Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking and homelessness. Our agency urges the City Council to preserve the funding of vital public and community safety services that, if eliminated, will cause catastrophic harm to thousands of Angelenos seeking services through the CIFD's Survivors Services System. Any disruption in funding will have significant negative impact on our most vulnerable city residents who need these services to escape life-threatening situations related to DV, human trafficking and homelessness. Ongoing funding for these programs must remain at the FY 2024-25 levels if not further increased. Los Angeles is the largest City within the 4th largest economy in the world. If cuts are indeed needed, they cannot come at the expense of the most vulnerable whose lives will be imperiled if they are further ignored. Please make the right choice and fully fund the CIFD's Survivors Services System. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Abigail Henkin

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:23 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. My name is Abigail Henkin. I live in district 1. I am supportive of many of the Budget and Finance Committee recommendations, including the restoration of over 1,000 jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget offers significant improvements, I hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. I understand that the city faces severe financial challenges, but the continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. Neglected infrastructure, polluted neighborhoods, and extreme weather all pose severe risks to public safety. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget. You can deepen that investment by funding climate and social programs, protecting City workers, unarmed crisis response, Day Laborer Centers, and a public bank. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Celia Cody-Carrese

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:24 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is Celia Cody-Carrese, I live in district 1. I am supportive of many of the Budget and Finance Committee recommendations, including the restoration of over 1,000 jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget offers significant improvements, I hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. I understand that the city faces severe financial challenges, but the continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. Neglected infrastructure, polluted neighborhoods, and extreme weather all pose severe risks to public safety. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget. You can deepen that investment by funding climate and social programs, protecting City workers, unarmed crisis response, Day Laborer Centers, and a public bank. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Kenia

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:31 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: FUND THE DAY LABOR CENTERS!

Communication from Public

Name: Ayano Casares

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 02:54 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed budget cuts to Los Angeles Animal Services. Reducing funding for animal shelters and critical animal care programs is inhumane and unacceptable in a city that claims to value compassion and public responsibility. Our city shelters are already under immense strain, with limited staff, overcrowded conditions, and insufficient resources. Cutting their budget will only worsen the situation—leading to increased animal suffering, more strays on the streets, and a higher risk to public health and safety. Los Angeles must uphold its commitment to being a no-kill city and protect the most vulnerable lives in our care. I urge you to preserve or increase funding for Animal Services, and ensure that our shelters are properly staffed, animals receive timely medical care, and community support programs remain intact. Please do not turn your back on the animals who depend on us. Sincerely, Ayano Casares

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 02:44 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: ?????, ?? Lim Soon Kyu ??, LA 1 ??? ?? ????. ?? LA ?? ?? ??
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??? ????? ?? ? ?? ???. ?????. (English Translations) Hello my
name is Lim Soon Kyu and I live in LA District 1. I am a member
of the LA Language Justice Coalition, and I am here today on
behalf of nearly one million LA residents who are not fluent in
English. Far too many people struggle to access critical city
services and information due to language barriers. In my family's
case, a city inspector came to our home, but there was no way to
communicate in Korean. We ended up having to pay \$200 out of
pocket to hire a translator. This kind of situation could happen to
anyone and clearly shows how serious the lack of language
services can be. However, this year's city budget does not address
this issue — in fact, it reduces vital staff and programs. Our
requests: 1. Please preserve and expand the language access
positions at CIFD. 2. Please support the Housing Department in
building a strong and reliable interpretation and translation
system. All residents deserve equal access to city services. Thank
you.

Communication from Public

Name: Deonna Knowles

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 06:16 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Everyday people are at risk, your neighbor, your brother, the community is at risk, worker protections are at risk. Please protect the staff at the Office of Wage Standards and at city Day Labor Centers as part of defending as many of LA's workforce as possible. Drastic cuts to city departments including the Office of Wage Standards (OWS) could turn the clock back on long-overdue reforms to fighting wage theft in Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Awoenam Mauna-Woanya

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 04:31 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is Awoe, I am supportive of many of the Budget and Finance Committee recommendations, including the restoration of over 1,000 jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget offers significant improvements, I hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. I understand that the city faces severe financial challenges, but the continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. Neglected infrastructure, polluted neighborhoods, and extreme weather all pose severe risks to public safety. Research shows police do not prevent crime - we need to address the root causes and by providing basic services well, we won't need police. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate, and social programs that the City needs in this budget. You can deepen that investment by funding climate and social programs, protecting City workers, Day Laborer Centers, a public bank, and supporting the unarmed crisis response, UMCR, Expansion to 3 additional precincts: Mission, Rampart, and Harbor. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget. Awoenam Mauna-Woanya

Communication from Public

Name: James

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 04:40 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The unhoused population desperately need mental health as well as housing. It is not acceptable for thousands of people to live in the streets. The health and safety issues for this population are urgent and pressing there is a gap between budgets passed and change on the ground. Downtown is like a developing country and those of us who walk the streets or get the metro and buses live with this chaos on a daily basis in a city where most people drive by it all and turn a blind eye or don't know what to do. We need psychiatric hospitals and they need 24/7 care. This is a crisis spinning out control.

Communication from Public

Name: Isabella Potenzini

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 04:46 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is Isabella Potenzini. I live in district 4. I am supportive of many of the Budget and Finance Committee recommendations, including the restoration of over 1,000 jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget offers significant improvements, I hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. I understand that the city faces severe financial challenges, but the continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. Neglected infrastructure, polluted neighborhoods, and extreme weather all pose severe risks to public safety. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate, and social programs that the City needs in this budget. You can deepen that investment by funding climate and social programs, protecting City workers, Day Laborer Centers, a public bank, and supporting the unarmed crisis response, UMCR, Expansion to 3 additional precincts: Mission, Rampart, and Harbor. I urge you to protect the jobs, climate and social programs that the City needs in this budget.

Communication from Public

Name: United Firefighters of Los Angeles City
Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 04:52 PM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please see the attached 5-21-25 budget letter from United Firefighters of Los Angeles City



UNITED FIREFIGHTERS of LOS ANGELES CITY

Local 112 IAFF AFL-CIO-CLC

May 21, 2025

Honorable Marqueece Harris-Dawson
President
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Council President Harris-Dawson:

On May 14, 2025 we sent a letter to the City Council Budget and Finance Committee and all City Councilmembers regarding the Mayor's proposed FY 2025-26 budget and a number of proposed cuts to the LAFD budget that the Budget Committee was considering. I've re-attached this letter for your reference.

This letter discussed proposed cuts to Homeless Fire Protection and Street Medicine (\$11,202,726), Emergency Incident Technician (EIT) positions (\$7.4 million revised to \$9.2 million), Mechanics and Supply/Maintenance Staffing (\$2,457,265), and various cuts to firefighter safety needs (\$2,957,000). Unfortunately, the Budget and Finance Committee moved forward with implementing these cuts from the Mayor's proposed LAFD budget with the exception of \$1.7 million to hire desperately needed new mechanics and shop workers to maintain our LAFD rigs.

The purpose of this letter is to highlight another critical issue that needs immediate attention.

As of May 4, 2025, the LAFD had 105 Firefighter/Paramedic vacancies. This is an absolute crisis when you consider the fact that our department goes on more than 400,000 EMS calls each year and our Firefighter/Paramedics are the most important component of providing advanced life support for our patients.

There are Firefighter/Paramedic vacancies in every single city council district. Here are just some of the examples:

CD 1 (Hernandez)	FS 12 (Highland Park)	1 FF/PM Vacancy
CD 2 (Nazarian)	FS 89 (North Hollywood)	3 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 3 (Blumenfield)	FS 93 (Tarzana)	6 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 4 (Raman)	FS 35 (Los Feliz)	3 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 5 (Yaroslavsky)	FS 58 (Pico Robertson)	3 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 6 (Padilla)	FS 81 (Panorama City)	5 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 7 (Rodriguez)	FS 7 (Panorama City/Mission Hills)	7 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 8 (Harris-Dawson)	FS 64 (South Los Angeles)	2 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 9 (Price)	FS 33 (South Los Angeles)	5 FF/PM Vacancies
CD10 (Hutt)	FS 26 (West Adams)	3 FF/PM Vacancies



CD 11 (Park)	FS 5 (Westchester)	1 FF/PM Vacancy
CD 12 (Lee)	FS 96 (Chatsworth)	4 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 13 (Soto-Martinez)	FS 52 (Hollywood)	3 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 14 (Jurado)	FS 9 (Skid Row)	4 FF/PM Vacancies
CD 15 (McOsker)	FS 38 (Wilmington)	2 FF/PM Vacancies

We have attached the full list of Firefighter/Paramedic vacancies as of May 4, 2025 to this letter for your reference.

The Mayor's original budget proposal for the LAFD included \$540,000 to send up to 45 firefighters to paramedic training school in the next fiscal year and an additional \$376,961 to send even more firefighters to help close this huge vacancy gap. Unfortunately, the Budget Committee cut this \$376,961 of supplemental funding. With 105 current Firefighter/Paramedic vacancies, cutting this additional funding to send dozens more firefighters to paramedic school will only make this crisis even worse. That's why we are asking the city council to restore full funding for this desperately needed part of the LAFD budget.

It's important to understand that the LAFD has been sending firefighters to paramedic school for decades, with as many as 75 firefighters per year attending school for the past several years. It's also important to know that there is no external pool of paramedics in the public or private sector ready to be called on to help us with this crisis. There is a paramedic shortage throughout the State of California and there is no plan B to address this emergency. The only real, sustainable way to fill our Firefighter/Paramedic vacancies is to continue sending as many LAFD Firefighters as possible each year to paramedic school. Without additional funding to send a minimum of 75 firefighters to school each year, these critical vacancies will continue in fire stations throughout the city.

We know that you have difficult decisions ahead and that this is a terrible budget year. At the same time, there should be nothing more important in our city than the safety of our residents, commuters, visitors, and firefighters. Each one of our budget requests has been presented to you with that in mind.

Thank you for your consideration.

On behalf of the UFLAC Executive Board,



John Bagala
IAFF-112 Conservator

CC: Honorable City Council Members
Mayor Karen Bass
CAO Matt Szabo
Interim Fire Chief Ronnie Villanueva
Board of Fire Commissioners

PRIMARY AND NON-PRIMARY VACANCIES EFFECTIVE MAY 4, 2025

CAPTAIN II	CAPTAIN I	APPARATUS OPERATOR	ENGINEER	FIREFIGHTER/ PARAMEDIC	FIREFIGHTER	SPECIALTY ASSIGNMENTS
1-B	7-A	RMT-A	7-A	2-A	RMT-A	CAPTAIN I
2-C	7-B		7-B	2-C	RMT-B	USR 88-B
12-B	7-C		7-C	3-A	3-A	FF/DIVER
35-B	9-C		11-A	4-A	4-B	49-A
37-B	12-B		33-A	4-B	6-A	110-A
38-C	17-B		57-A	4-C	6-C	
50-C	19-A		77-A	5-A	7-A	
60-B	43-B		80-B	7-A	7-B	
60-C	57-C		93-B	7-A	7-C	
61-C	59-B		102-B	7-B	11-A	
74-B	59-C		103-B	7-B	11-B	
75-C	61-C		106-A	7-B	13-A	
92-A	69-A		114-B	7-C	13-B	
93-C	69-C			7-C	13-C	
105-B	73-A			9-A	14-B	
112-C	75-C			9-A	14-C	
	80-A			9-B	14-C	
	81-C			9-B	27-C	
	82-A			10-A	28-B	
	82-B			10-B	28-C	
	83-A			10-C	33-B	
	83-B			13-C	34-B	
	88-B			14-B	37-B	
	91-B			14-B	37-C	
	98-A			14-C	38-A	
	98-B			15-A	38-A	
	104-C			19-C	43-C	
	107-A			26-A	46-C	
				26-C	48-A	
				26-C	48-C	
				33-A	55-A	
				33-A	57-A	
				33-B	58-B	
				33-B	58-B	
				33-C	62-C	

PRIMARY AND NON-PRIMARY VACANCIES EFFECTIVE MAY 4, 2025

CAPTAIN II	CAPTAIN I	APPARATUS OPERATOR	ENGINEER	FIREFIGHTER/ PARAMEDIC	FIREFIGHTER	SPECIALTY ASSIGNMENTS
				34 - A	66 - B	
				35 - A	67 - A	
				35 - C	67 - C	
				35 - C	74 - A	
				38 - A	74 - B	
				38 - C	74 - B	
				39 - B	74 - B	
				39 - C	74 - C	
				46 - A	78 - C	
				46 - B	81 - A	
				52 - A	81 - B	
				52 - B	81 - C	
				52 - C	85 - B	
				57 - B	89 - A	
				57 - C	91 - B	
				58 - A	92 - C	
				58 - A	94 - B	
				58 - C	94 - C	
				60 - A	96 - A	
				60 - B	101 - A	
				60 - C	103 - C	
				61 - A	114 - A	
				61 - A		
				64 - B		
				64 - C		
				65 - A		
				68 - A		
				71 - A		
				73 - A		
				73 - B		
				73 - C		
				74 - A		
				74 - B		
				75 - A		
				75 - C		

(P)= Primary

(T)= Temporary

PRIMARY AND NON-PRIMARY VACANCIES EFFECTIVE MAY 4, 2025

CAPTAIN II	CAPTAIN I	APPARATUS OPERATOR	ENGINEER	FIREFIGHTER/ PARAMEDIC	FIREFIGHTER	SPECIALTY ASSIGNMENTS
				77 - C		
				79 - A		
				81 - A		
				81 - A		
				81 - B		
				81 - C		
				81 - C		
				82 - A		
				82 - C		
				88 - A		
				88 - C		
				89 - A		
				89 - A		
				89 - C		
				90 - C		
				91 - A		
				91 - B		
				93 - A		
				93 - A		
				93 - B		
				93 - B		
				93 - C		
				93 - C		
				94 - A		
				94 - B		
				94 - B		
				96 - A		
				96 - A		
				96 - A		
				96 - C		
				98 - A		
				98 - C		
				98 - C		
				100 - B		
				105 - B		

(P)= Primary

(T)= Temporary



UNITED FIREFIGHTERS of LOS ANGELES CITY

Local 112 IAFF AFL-CIO-CLC

May 14, 2025

Honorable Katy Yaroslavsky
Budget and Finance Committee
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chairwoman Yaroslavsky:

We are reaching out to you today on behalf of the nearly 3,400 members of United Firefighters of Los Angeles City (UFLAC) regarding the discussions related to the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

As stated in our previous letter dated April 28, 2025, UFLAC understands that the City is facing a major budget deficit and that difficult decisions must be made by our elected leaders. At the same time, the Mayor's proposed LAFD allocation of \$923 million for FY 2025-26 is not enough to sustain a fire department that is tasked with protecting nearly 4 million people and responding to well over 500,000 emergency calls for service each year.

At the City Council Budget and Finance committee meeting on May 8, 2025, several proposed cuts to the current and proposed 2025-26 LAFD budget were discussed totaling \$24.3 million dollars. While it's worth noting that this figure is less than the CAO's proposed \$34.7 million cut in his memo dated May 7, 2025, we want to be clear that a \$24.3 million dollar cut is both unsustainable and unacceptable to the members that we represent.

We would like to explain why each of the major proposed cuts will hurt public safety.

1) Homeless Fire Protection and Street Medicine Program (\$11,202,726)

This expansion of services, including resolution authorities for 67 positions, is critical to properly staff the LAFD when we our firefighters and paramedics are truly on the frontlines of the homeless crisis. In 2024, our members responded to more than 66,446 homeless related emergency calls for service (182 calls per day). In addition, between 2018 and 2024, the LAFD responded to 76,449 homeless related fires (35 per day).

This new funding in the Mayor's proposed budget is designated to staff four LAFD Fast Response Vehicles (FRVs), four Advanced Provider Units (APRUs), two Basic Life Support (BLS) Ambulances, and much more.

Our firefighters and paramedics are already stretched to their limits responding to nearly 200 homeless related calls for service every day. These additional positions and resources will allow our members to continue this work and still be able to respond in a timely manner to other medical emergencies and structure fires that happen every day in each council district.

2) Emergency Incident Technician (EIT) Reduction (\$7,418,354)

Eliminating 42 EIT positions will have an immediate negative impact on incident command and management as well as firefighter and public safety at major incidents which happen every single day in our city. EITs play a critical role in managing emergency responses, coordinating resources, ensuring effective communication, and supporting incident commanders. They are highly trained and dedicated firefighters who serve as a



bridge between command staff and the boots on the ground firefighters and paramedics on scene. In fact, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) states that EITs (also known as Fireground Incident Technicians or FITs) are an essential part of the Incident Management System and must continue to be deployed at each emergency incident.

In addition to the immediate impact that the removal of EITs will have on public and firefighter safety in the field, this action would violate the Modified Coverage Letter of Agreement (LOA) in MOU 23 for 2024-2028 which was agreed to by UFLAC and CAO Matt Szabo on November 4, 2024. This LOA states, in part:

“During the term of the current MOU, the Department agrees to not implement any deployment modification which involves scheduled Field Resource closures...any long-term Field Resource closures, or any variation of scheduled closures...Field Resource is defined as any front-line emergency response company or unit assigned to one of the four Geographic Bureaus with personnel assigned to it on a full-time basis and has authorized position authorities assigned to it.”

It's clear that our LAFD Emergency Incident Technicians are a critical front-line emergency response unit with full-time personnel and authorized position authorities assigned. They are in fact a Field Resource as defined in our MOU and removing these positions would violate both the Modified Coverage LOA and the mandate for constant staffing that is guaranteed throughout MOU 23 for firefighter and public safety.

In previous budget deficits, the City of Los Angeles cut EITs with devastating results. We implore you to not make the same mistake and continue the funding for these critical positions.

3) Supply and Maintenance Staffing (\$2,457,265)

For the past several years, the lack of civilian mechanics and trained professionals at our LAFD shops has led to a revolving door of at least 100 fire trucks, engines, ambulances, and special duty vehicles being offline and unavailable to respond to community emergencies. The negative impact of this short staffing was highlighted during the Palisades Fire, but the everyday consequences are even more concerning.

We don't have enough frontline and backup rigs to respond to emergencies as it is. This problem becomes a crisis when dozens and dozens of multi-million-dollar apparatus are stuck at the LAFD Fleet & Maintenance yards because we don't have enough mechanics and related positions (carpenters, welders, painters, sheet metal workers, etc.) to fix them.

Thankfully, Mayor Bass included nine months of funding and resolution authorities for 26 positions in her proposed budget to address this problem. Cutting this desperately needed staffing would be shortsighted and incredibly dangerous as our firefighters responded to 514,211 emergency calls for service in 2024, which is an average of 1,409 calls per day.

4) Assorted Cuts to Firefighter Safety Needs (\$2,957,000)

The Budget & Finance Committee spoke about cutting proposed budget allocations to Firefighter Turnout Maintenance and Repair (\$1.5 million), Voice and Data Communications Equipment (\$1 million), and Fire Station Maintenance (\$457,000). Each of these items are critical for firefighter safety.

With respect to Firefighter Turnout Maintenance and Repair and Fire Station Maintenance, it should be noted that firefighters have a considerably higher rate of cancer than the general public. In fact, the profession of firefighting itself has been classified as a Group 1 Carcinogen that is known to cause cancer and be harmful to humans. Every day, our members are exposed to toxic, cancer-causing chemicals in the air we breathe and the turnouts that we wear. Although there has been a commitment at the national and state level to one day produce firefighter turnouts that don't contain cancer causing Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), this equipment does not exist today. Therefore, regular specialized cleaning of our turnouts and our fire stations where we utilize this gear is essential in our ongoing fight against cancer in the fire service. The money spent on workers comp, disability claims, and death benefits for firefighters who acquire occupational cancer far outweighs any small amount of savings that are achieved through cutting specialized turnout and fire station cleaning.

The money allocated to Voice and Data Communications Equipment is also critical for firefighter and community safety because we need to be able to effectively communicate in all emergency situations. Firefighters need situational awareness at all times, and this comes with reliable communications, especially in the event of a Mayday call or other circumstances where a firefighter or member of the public is in dire risk.

Finally, we want to remind you that LAFD Firefighters and Paramedics have not been properly paid for years. We urge you to find a way to fix this problem which includes nearly \$1.8 million in funding for payroll integration software and staffing.

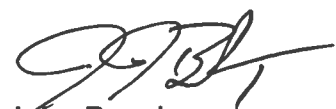
Once again, we understand that the City of Los Angeles is in a budget crisis, but there should be no greater priority in the City's budget than the lifesaving work of the LAFD. At the same time, we understand how important civilian positions are in other LA City departments and we don't want hard working city employees to be laid off.

What then is the answer? As stated in our previous budget letter, a good place to start would be with the hundreds of millions of dollars spent each year on the homeless crisis with very little to show for it. We ask once again, where has this funding gone and what do we have to show for it? What we're doing is not working and we need to completely change the way that we've been approaching the homeless epidemic.

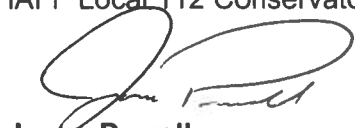
The Mayor's proposed budget took positive steps in the right direction towards funding your LAFD. We're asking you and the members of the B&F Committee to keep this funding intact and not cut the proposed budget.

We thank you for your time and careful consideration of our position on these incredibly important issues.

Sincerely,



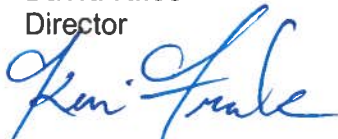
John Bagala
IAFF Local 112 Conservator



Jason Powell
Treasurer



David Riles
Director



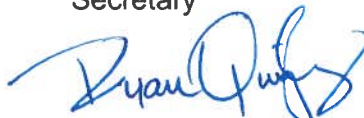
Kevin Frank
Director



Richard Ramirez
2nd Vice President



Kent Koffler
Secretary



Ryan Quigley
Director



Dave Fabela
Director

CC: Budget and Finance Committee Members
Honorable City Council Members
Mayor Karen Bass
CAO Matt Szabo
Interim Fire Chief Ronnie Villanueva
Board of Fire Commissioners

Communication from Public

Name: Norma Palacios

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 05:05 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, On behalf of the Drug Policy Alliance, I write to urge you to preserve funding for the AIDS Coordinator's Office (ACO). We want to begin by thanking the Budget and Finance Committee for taking the critical steps to fund the work of the Department on Disability and AIDS Coordinator's Office. Maintaining funding for the programs supported by the ACO will save lives and provide critical pathways to care services, including substance use disorder treatment to help our vulnerable communities. Los Angeles must continue to make investments in health services and community responses to continue to reduce overdose deaths and preventable health issues. We need to continue making it easier to access services instead of reducing support for them. As the Council finalizes the budget, we ask you to adopt the funding recommendations by the Budget committee to support HIV prevention services and harm reduction programs in the City of Los Angeles. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Norma Palacios

Communication from Public

Name: Brenda Lopez

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 05:22 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Brenda Lopez, I am representing the Day Labor of North Hollywood with Hope the Mission in CD2- We are here on behalf of the thousands of individuals who depend on the Day Labor Center — people who, without it, would be left without support, without direction, and often without hope. I'm proud to stand here representing 60,389 participants who have received services through our center, and 30,033 working participants who have been placed in jobs by our team. These are not just numbers — they represent real people, real families, and real progress. This center has been serving our community for 37 years. That's nearly four decades of consistent commitment, connection, and life-changing support. As the manager of this center, I want to express how vital this program is to everyone we serve. This is more than just a workplace — it is a place of opportunity, dignity, and transformation. We've supported community members with immigration services, helping them obtain green cards and work permits so they can become legally employed and fully contribute to the economy. But beyond paperwork and placement, we provide something even more powerful: the chance to feel human again — to be seen, valued, and given a fair shot at rebuilding a life. We are not here to fight. We're here to show you how important this center is — and how valuable it has become to the communities we serve. I know it is your responsibility to make difficult decisions and weigh many competing needs. But it is our responsibility to advocate for the people who rely on us — especially in moments like this, when the future of something so meaningful is at stake. What's even more inspiring is how our day laborers give back. During the summer, they volunteer for community clean-up projects — not because they are asked, but because they care. During the holidays, many come to the center simply to bring joy and connection, sharing their stories and their time. They often offer their help around the property — fixing, cleaning, improving — asking for nothing in return. These are not just job seekers. These are neighbors, caretakers, and proud members of this city. We're asking today for your continued support — to keep our center open and to maintain the budget that allows us to do this critical work. I understand that change is sometimes necessary. But I urge you to ask: Why change or cut a program that's working? We have proof of success, stories of

transformation, and a future to build if we're allowed to continue. We are not just a center. We are a lifeline. We provide job training, immigration services, food gift cards, financial assistance — sometimes just a safe place to regroup. These may seem small on paper, but for someone in crisis, they are life-changing. And I stand before you not just as a manager, but as someone who has lived through homelessness. I've been without a job. And it was HOPE the Mission that extended a hand to me and gave me a second chance. That moment changed everything. Now, I'm committed to giving that same chance to others. Councilmembers, you've helped build something strong — something that works. I ask that you continue that support. Protect this program. Protect its funding. Let us continue helping people stand where I'm standing now — with purpose, with pride, and with hope. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Laura Lull

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 05:50 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Laura Lull. I am the CEO of Rainbow Services, Ltd., a domestic violence organization in San Pedro. Rainbow Services is also the co-lead of the Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition. I want to express my strong support for the restoration of \$4.4 million in CIFI Survivor Services funding. We thank the Budget and Finance Committee for recognizing the urgent need to preserve shelter and housing resources for survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault. With nearly half of LA's unhoused population having experienced domestic or intimate partner violence, these programs are life-saving. We now urge the full Council to protect this critical funding in the final budget. Please stand with survivors and approve the full \$12.4 million in General Funds to support CIFI's Survivor Services in FY 25-26. Many thanks!

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Shaughnessy

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 05:54 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing to advocate for the Licensed Preschools operated by the Department of Recreation and Parks. RAP's proposed FY 2025–26 budget eliminates staff positions at eight licensed centers—essentially closing them. We urge the City Council, the Mayor's office, and the RAP board of Commissioners, to work with RAP to keep these sites open and publicly operated. We believe there are viable funding options—including city support and fee schedules based on family income—that can help sustain these programs. We've heard that decisions to cut these positions in the FY 2024–25 budget may have been based on low enrollment. But low enrollment was likely a result of the fact that many centers were not yet fully open, licensed, or staffed. Several sites were still waiting on licensing approvals, while RAP staff were onboarding through the city's own lengthy hiring process. It's disappointing that RAP seems ready to give up on this program so early—especially when the city invested \$20 million in renovations, and the first centers didn't begin operating until mid-to-late 2023. Some haven't even opened. Now we're told that these public centers may be privatized through an RFP process that would give private operators a five-year contract with a potential five-year extension. Why are we not giving our public model the same time and commitment? Public funds, public buildings, and public trust have been invested in these centers. We owe it to our communities, and to RAP staff, to give this program a real chance to thrive. Let's not walk away from something that has the potential to be a national model for city-run, high-quality early childhood education.

Communication from Public

Name: Jillian Burgos

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 06:11 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is Jillian Burgos, CD2 resident, neighborhood councilmember speaking on my own behalf. I was denied my right to make public comment today even though I was one of the first to sign up for public comment and got there at 8am. The randomization of public comment is unfair for those who prioritize these meetings. Everyone should have the right to engage with their government. If you are limiting public comment sessions, then it should be first come, first serve. If you randomize, you need to allot the time for everyone to be heard. Please restore Neighborhood Council funding. With a federal government that has gutted vital funding for services we have non profits, schools and community groups scrambling to the neighborhood councils for grants. Cutting our funding means we also have to turn these groups away. Please Reallocate the funds from defunct neighborhood councils and redistribute it to those who are doing the work. I've found a half million unused funds. When budget season comes around, we always ask how we will pay for it. I got you. First: Start by excluding (LAPD) NON-PENSIONABLE salary increases and bonuses in next fiscal year's pension contribution. That is at least 40 MILLION DOLLARS that the City can save and help avoid hundreds of layoffs. Second: Also we do not need 2 helicopters costing \$24M without updating a study from the 1970's. Studies by LAPD show Helicopters don't solve crime. Third: We can add funds to by implementing a public bank. The FIX LA report found that Los Angeles pays over \$334 million a year in fees and interest to Wall Street banks By using its own capital and credit, Los Angeles can cut fees, interest, and debt service paid to private banks. I have outlined nearly \$400M In savings to fund these programs. Thank you for expanding Unarmed Crisis response and funding expansion. Please protect the \$13.8M allocated. This program saves money in reducing liability payments and allows for specialized care. Finally please keep the \$1M for Represent LA. All Angelenos deserve due process!

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Palombi

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 06:53 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: AFSCME Local 2626 the Librarians' Guild commends the Budget and Finance Committee on their diligent review of the Mayor's Proposed FY25/26 Budget. Within a few short weeks the Committee was able to identify edits that will save 1,000 hard working City employees from layoff. Our union strongly suggests that these revisions continue after the Budget is adopted so that the remaining jobs still vulnerable to layoff be protected. It is a shame that the newest City employees are threatened with job loss, when they have so much to offer, including novel ways to use technology for greater efficiencies and responsiveness to constituent needs. While the City has struggled to restore its workforce to pre-recession levels, the service needs of our residents have escalated. This has created a challenging deficit, not just between our revenues and expenses, but between our human resource capacity and the output needed for robust public services. Now is not the time to shrink the City workforce. That chapter of our City's story has already been written. It is not the time to meet the same old challenges with the same old solutions. Thank you for taking up the challenge to prioritize the City workforce and the essential services that City workers provide.

Communication from Public

Name: Jasnik Moreno

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 03:24 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, my name is Jasnik from District 1 in Los Angeles. I am supportive of many of the Budget and Finance Committee recommendations, including the restoration of over 1,000 jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget offers significant improvements, I hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. The continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. LAPD paid \$320 Million in liability payouts just within the last fiscal year. Meanwhile, The wildfires potentially cost the city over \$100 Billion in property and revenue losses. Climate affects every facet of our well being and should be reflected in our political decisions. Los Angeles has always been at the forefront of progressive climate action, let's pave the path by supporting a budget that supports climate justice through city planning, transportation, crisis response, and a public bank. The right to clean air, clean water, and healthy homes is fundamental and applies to us all. We have a right not to be poisoned where we are living.

Communication from Public

Name: Jasmine

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 03:25 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm a 22 year resident of downtown LA, asking Mayor Bass and City Council to not only NOT reduce by one cent funding for LA Animal Services but to prioritize and increase funding for spay and neuter, the only proven humane method of reducing animal over population. Since 2021 I have been spaying and neutering the community cats in my neighborhood through Trap Neuter Return (TNR). TNR is the practice of humanely trapping cats, neutering them so they dont continue to breed and returning them to the only homes they know, the street. The goal is to reduce the number of homeless cats suffering on the street and necessarily reduce shelter intake and euthanasia. The LA Animal Services administered Citywide Cat Program is a vital program to achieving this goal and has been hugely impactful. We need to increase funding for this program not reduce it. It is deeply disturbing to see the proposed city budget reflect how much it devalues the lives of the most defenseless. Cutting animal services would be catastrophic for the animals and the people that care for them and frankly it boggles the mind why and who thought this was a good idea? In a city where there are already about 1 million homeless cats alone suffering and dying on the street. What happens in 2028 when the world descends on Los Angeles for the Olympics and see what will then be the apocalyptic cumulative result of these cuts - stray sickly cats and dogs wandering the streets between cars? Because that's going to be the reality. It's been said that the measure of a humane society is how it treats its most vulnerable, it's children, disabled, old and feeble - and animals. A world class city such as Los Angeles must do better. We must not only NOT cut funding to vital animal services but must prioritize funding programs that have been proven to reduce the need for shelter intake in the first place - free and affordable spay and neuter services both for pets and free roaming homeless cats alike.

Communication from Public

Name: Kimberly Orbe

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 05:16 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council:, On behalf of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter, I am writing to urge you to protect LA's climate initiatives and jobs. With the climate crisis at our front doors, it is critical to maintain our current commitment and investments in protecting the public sector workforce that LA relies on for climate resilience. Please see the letter attached that further details our comments.



May 20, 2025

Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

JOHN FERRARO COUNCIL

CHAMBER

ROOM 340, CITY HALL

200 NORTH SPRING STREET, LOS

ANGELES, CA 90012

Subject:

Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

On behalf of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter, I am writing to urge you to protect LA's climate initiatives and jobs. With the climate crisis at our front doors, it is critical to maintain our current commitment and investments in protecting the public sector workforce that LA relies on for climate resilience. The City's environmental justice progress is possible because of city workers, including those in LASAN, Street Services, Planning, Recreation and Parks, and the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office. City workers are critical to programs like brownfields remediation, LA River restoration, environmental planning, cooling centers, the Rec and Parks programs, and shade that families rely on. These jobs are climate jobs that working families and LA's climate progress rely on. In a time when working people and the environment already face unprecedented federal threats to the resources and regulations necessary for health and well-being, the role our city can play in our collective safety and well-being is more crucial than ever. Please do everything possible to protect the workforce in these departments.

The Sierra Club is committed to addressing the climate crisis by protecting communities and centering equity and justice as we work to address environmental and climate priorities. Continued budget cuts will significantly restrict our ability to improve air and water quality, stay safe during periods of extreme heat, and meet the CO2 emissions reduction goals for the Los Angeles region. Any cuts to these programs would negatively impact our local commitment to:

- Center environmental, social, and climate justice when policy decisions are made
- Advance local decarbonization efforts
- Advance 30 x 30 goals and local biodiversity Initiatives
- Manage air quality monitoring around oil and gas drill sites and a public transparency dashboard for oil and gas compliance and our work to phase out harmful and polluting oil drilling operations.
- Protect workers. The Office of Wage Standards (OWS) helps ensure Angelenos are making the wages they deserve and are legally owed. City workers are a critical part of the LA economy, and widespread layoffs will have significant negative impacts to the

region. Protecting workers and prioritizing local, environmental social justice jobs is intersectional to our climate efforts.

We support a budget that will avoid laying off further staff. Please defend as many of the City of LA's workforce as possible and protect LA's climate initiatives that build public power, create union jobs, and allow us to meet the current moment and urgency for climate justice and resiliency.

Sincerely,

Kim Orbe
Acting Chapter Director
Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club

Communication from Public

Name: Jason Bautista

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 11:47 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, my name is Jason Bautista, Community & Civic Engagement Associate at the Thai Community Development Center (Thai CDC), based in Thai Town, Council District 13. We are also a proud member of the LA Language Justice Coalition. Over half of Angelenos speak a language other than English at home, and nearly 1 million have limited English proficiency (LEP). However, right now too many residents still face barriers when trying to access critical City services and information. We are deeply concerned that the proposed budget not only fails to include key language access investments, but also cuts critical staffing and programs that directly serve LEP communities. We urge the board to prioritize our requests, which include: 1) Preserve the filled Management Analyst position in the Office of Immigrant Inclusion and Language Access. Eliminating this role would leave just one person to oversee the entire Citywide Language Access Program, which is responsible for ensuring equitable access to City services and programs for immigrant and refugee Angelenos. This is simply unacceptable for a city as large and diverse as Los Angeles. 2) Strengthening language capacity in the Housing Department. This includes dedicated funding for interpretation, translation, training, and multilingual support so LEP tenants can access life-saving housing services. 3) Oppose the consolidation of key departments like Aging, Youth Development, and Economic and Workforce Development. These cuts will reduce support for and disproportionately harm our most vulnerable residents, including our elderly populations who are linguistically marginalized and isolated. As the City finalizes its budget, we implore you to prioritize language justice and ensure meaningful access to services for our residents who are at risk of being left behind. By supporting our priorities, we can create a more equitable and inclusive LA for all. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 11:52 AM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached memo from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority.



MEMO

Date: May 21, 2025

To: Los Angeles City Council

cc: City Administrative Officer, City of Los Angeles
Chief Legislative Analyst, City of Los Angeles

From: Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum, Chief Executive Officer *Va Lecia Adams Kellum*

Re: Concerns Regarding Allocating 50% of Interim Housing Funding to the Unappropriated Balance

Introduction

This memo is to express the Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority's (LAHSA's) significant concerns regarding the City General Fund's proposed approach to Interim Housing funding in FY25-26, which introduces unnecessary uncertainty and administrative complexity into a critical system already navigating substantial transitions. Specifically, seeking reductions of 10-15% immediately after adopting a rate increase after years of study and debate will potentially reduce service providers' ability to meet new enhanced standards set in the Scope of Required Services (SRS). Additionally, placing significant portions of dedicated Interim Housing funds into the Unappropriated Balance poses considerable challenges that undermine the effectiveness of our collective efforts to address homelessness.

City Played an Integral Role in Developing the New Bed-Rate and SRS

The new Interim Housing SRS and associated bed rates were developed through extensive collaboration among the City, LAHSA, and County partners. This comprehensive effort, spanning the past year, carefully considered the resources needed for effective, compassionate care, emphasizing accountability and transparency. Given this thorough work, which established more robust SRS and Key Performance Indicators, reducing costs before implementing the newly approved bed rate is counterproductive. Fully funding this work at the FY 2025-26 approved rate and appropriating the necessary funds upfront, consistent with the City's standard practice, aligns with program needs and streamlines administrative processes for essential services.

Increases Administrative Burden While Reducing Administrative Resources

At a time when the homeless services system in Los Angeles is undergoing considerable change and requires stability to effectively implement new strategies and absorb shifts in funding streams and oversight, holding back committed Interim Housing funds in the Unappropriated Balance injects unwelcome uncertainty. Service providers and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) require predictable and consistent funding streams to maintain operations, plan for the future, and most importantly, provide uninterrupted care and support to individuals experiencing homelessness. The lack

of assured access to the full, appropriated funding hinders their ability to confidently staff programs, secure leases, obtain/maintain insurance, and make necessary operational decisions. This uncertainty is particularly detrimental in the current environment of systemic restructuring.

Furthermore, requiring LAHSA and its contracted service providers to petition for the release of funds from the Unappropriated Balance creates a significant and avoidable administrative burden. Service providers, many of whom operate with limited administrative capacity, are particularly impacted by these delays and complexities in accessing essential operating funds, potentially jeopardizing their ability to deliver agreed-upon services. This additional process diverts valuable time and resources away from direct service delivery and program management toward navigating bureaucratic hurdles and managing unpredictable timelines and payments. This move is especially concerning in a year when the City is reducing its administrative funding rate on General Funds for LAHSA from 15% to 10%; the effect will be to increase the administrative work required on every Interim Housing contract at the same time the funding to support that work is being removed.

Exacerbates Stress on the System

This approach also contributes to broader system instability. The stop-and-go nature of funding access will impede the seamless operation of the Interim Housing, disrupting the flow of individuals through the rehousing system, and undermining efforts to optimize placements and outcomes. A stable funding environment is fundamental to building and maintaining a reliable and effective service environment. Placing the second half of all Interim Housing funding into the Unappropriated Balance works counter to this need for stability and predictability within the homeless services ecosystem.

Conclusion

For these reasons, LAHSA urges the City Council to ensure that Interim Housing is both fully funded in line with the rate increase approved by the Council earlier this year and fully appropriated and readily accessible to LAHSA and service providers in a timely and predictable manner, without being held unnecessarily in the Unappropriated Balance. Such a commitment to sufficient, stable, and streamlined funding is crucial for the effective operation of the City's Interim Housing programs and for making continued, tangible progress in addressing the homelessness crisis in Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Ana Griffin

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 12:07 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm advocating for the Licensed Preschools operated by the Department of Recreation and Parks. RAP's proposed FY 2025–26 budget eliminates staff positions at eight licensed centers—essentially closing them. We urge the City Council to work with RAP to keep these sites open and publicly operated. We believe there are viable funding options—including city support and fee schedules based on family income—that can help sustain these programs. We've heard that decisions to cut these positions in the FY 2024–25 budget may have been based on low enrollment. But low enrollment was likely a result of the fact that many centers were not yet fully open, licensed, or staffed. Several sites were still waiting on licensing approvals, while RAP staff were onboarding through the city's own lengthy hiring process. It's disappointing that RAP seems ready to give up on this program so early—especially when the city invested \$20 million in renovations, and the first centers didn't begin operating until mid-to-late 2023. Some haven't even opened. Now we're told that these public centers may be privatized through an RFP process that would give private operators a five-year contract with a potential five-year extension. Why are we not giving our public model the same time and commitment? Public funds, public buildings, and public trust have been invested in these centers. We owe it to our communities, and to RAP staff, to give this program a real chance to thrive. Let's not walk away from something that has the potential to be a national model for city-run, high-quality early childhood education.

Communication from Public

Name: Kris Bunting

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 12:19 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Kris Bunting I am a Location Manager who has worked in Los Angeles my entire career. I am writing in support of The Citywide Filming Manager and industry liaison at City of Los Angeles Eva Bitar. Eva's Job is in danger of being cut.. If this happens this will be the nail in the coffin for filming in Los Angeles.. THERE IS NOT AN ADVOCATE FOR FILMING IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. EVA WAS/AND IS OUR ONLY VOICE.. Eva has been the miracle worker helping productions cut through the red tape and keeping filming in Los Angeles. Her Job is Vital to the future of filming in this city.. She started the City-Wide task force meeting where every department in the city was invited and you could voice your complaint. those meetings have been taken away from her and now we are no longer invited.. when filming in Los Angeles is dire wouldn't this be the time to have all hands on deck? I have worked on one of the first shows awarded the California film commission film incentive in 2015. Eva and along with Kevin James came down to our set on the FOX show entitled Rosewood and took a group photo with our crew. Eva Bitars work should go unrecognized or replaced with people that don't have a clue what has already been done or what hurdles stand in the way. Eva and Her future of Filming in Los Angeles are VITAL! PLEASE Consider... This isn't just her job but all of our jobs! Please My name is Kris Bunting I am a member of teamsters 399 my number is 310-831-7776

Communication from Public

Name: Victoria

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 10:18 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I've lived in West LA for over 16 years and I love this city, but it is a very dysfunctional city. I support funding for: unarmed crisis response, humane no-kill animal shelters, affordable housing aid, resources for residents struggling to afford food/shelter/healthcare, public transit (not air taxis). Please don't cut resources for the least of us from the 2025-2026 budget. Prioritize the needs of the many over the few (even though they may be louder/have more money).

Communication from Public

Name: Alma De Jesus

Date Submitted: 05/19/2025 03:36 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Worker protections are at risk. Please protect the staff at the Office of Wage Standards and at city Day Labor Centers as part of defending as many of LA's workforce as possible. Drastic cuts to city departments including the Office of Wage Standards (OWS) could turn the clock back on long-overdue reforms to fighting wage theft in Los Angeles. We need to properly fund the departments in our city that are responsible for enforcing the laws that protect working class families and their ability to achieve economic prosperity. More money for workers is good for the local economy. Please protect the staff at the Office of Wage Standards and at Day Labor Centers, and defend as many of the City of LA's workforce as possible. Fair wages keep working families housed and prevent homelessness. Existing national and regional research shows that higher wages improve the local economy by spurring economic growth and new employment opportunities throughout the local economy. When workers can afford to live where they work, they are able to spend more in the local economy — at our local restaurants, cafes, shops, and grocery stores. When workers thrive, we all thrive. The Office of Wage Standards (OWS) helps ensure Angelenos are making the wages they deserve and are legally owed. City workers are a critical part of the LA economy, and widespread layoffs will have significant negative impacts to the region. Protect LA's climate initiatives that build public power and create union jobs. Please protect the public sector workforce that LA relies on for climate resilience. The City's environmental justice progress is possible because of city workers including in LASAN, Street Services, Planning, Recreation and Parks, and the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office. City workers are critical to programs like brownfields remediation, LA River restoration, environmental planning, cooling centers, and the Rec and Parks programs and shade that families rely on. These jobs are climate jobs that working families and LA's climate progress rely on. In a time when working people and the environment already face unprecedented federal threats to the resources and regulations necessary for health and well-being, the role our city can play in our collective safety and well-being is more crucial than ever. Please do everything possible to protect the workforce in these departments.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 05:12 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to urge you to NOT cut funding for the animal shelters

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/19/2025 11:27 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Protect LA's climate initiatives that build public power and create union jobs. Please protect the public sector workforce that LA relies on for climate resilience. The City's environmental justice progress is possible because of city workers including in LASAN, Street Services, Planning, Recreation and Parks, and the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office. City workers are critical to programs like brownfields remediation, LA River restoration, environmental planning, cooling centers, and the Rec and Parks programs and shade that families rely on. These jobs are climate jobs that working families and LA's climate progress rely on. In a time when working people and the environment already face unprecedented federal threats to the resources and regulations necessary for health and well-being, the role our city can play in our collective safety and well-being is more crucial than ever. Please do everything possible to protect the workforce in these departments.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 09:07 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a DTLA resident over the past 10 years, I can see the great potential that our areas has to offer. However, the city appears have neglected to provide the area that serves as the home for thousands and the central business and financial district with adequate policing, sanitation, and mental health services. The city needs to refocus its resources into downtown for its citizens and workers who are here. Not only to those people deserve that, but anything less will result in an international embarrassment when the Olympics and World Cup arrive. At the very least Europeans will gravitate towards what they understand to be the city center. If we do not fix our issues, we will not only be a national disgrace, but an international one.

Communication from Public

Name: Paul Gamberg

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 09:14 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Sometimes, LA City acts like a tractor-trailer with a legitimate driver pulling each wheel in a slightly different direction. The 1-2-3 punch of land inflation-COVID, Trumpisms. and Fires require vision and leverage. The surest way to get there is PARTICIPATION of the PUBLIC through beefing up Downtown and relaxing the whole system of Neighborhood Councils, which as a member of the Neighborhood Council Movement (NCM), I helped bring to Los Angeles. Fund the Night through proven workers who touch the streets. Fund safety, lighting, sanitation, and the daytime will prep the City for the inevitable World Cup and Olympics!!!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 08:28 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The 2025 wildfires in January, individuals with disabilities faced significant challenges, including death, when they were left behind in the evacuation efforts. Many people with disabilities, especially those with physical and cognitive impairments, struggled to evacuate due to accessibility issues, transportation limitations, and the need for specialized care. Evacuation sites, shelters, and even emergency vehicles were not always accessible to individuals with disabilities, hindering their ability to find safe havens. Even once they reached the Disaster Recovery Centers, I have received indications that accessibility was overlooked and sign language interpretation was unavailable. The steep cuts anticipated for the DOD appears indicative of a City that does not recognize persons with disabilities, and also goes against the Mayor's agenda and declaration of the state of emergency on homelessness. National research shows that people with disabilities are disproportionately likely to experience homelessness. In fact, the 2023 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress by the US Housing and Urban Development (HUD) states that roughly one in every three individuals experiencing homelessness (PEH) had experienced a chronic pattern of homelessness (31%), meaning that they have experienced homelessness for extended periods of time and have a disability (as defined by HUD). The unfortunate oversights are evidence of the intentional erasure of a marginalized population. Services continue to be lacking despite the City's 2016 landmark class action settlement (Willits v. City of Los Angeles, Case No. CV 10-05782 CBM (C.D. Cal.)), requiring the City to spend more than \$1.4 billion to make its sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks and other walkways accessible to individuals with mobility disabilities. This is the largest disability access class action settlement in US history, and one that is very expensive for the City, yet the City now expects to cut the certified access specialist from its budget. This type of cost could be prevented with the spending of a fraction of the cost of the settlement, and I believe the continued cuts will force the City into deeper and deeper debt with reactive costs associated with anticipated lawsuits in the near future.

Communication from Public

Name: Todd

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 08:28 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I support the unarmed crisis response for LA city residents and the additional \$4,500,000 they seek to continue to provide cheaper, more accountable (until police unions start paying for police misconduct instead of citizens), more neighborly (although who'd want cops to live in our city anyways?) emergency responses in lieu of an even more bloated police budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Trenisha McGee

Date Submitted: 05/19/2025 02:46 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'd like cleaner bus stops and business entryways such as Pharmacies, hair salons, Cleaner trains and train stations. And a bathroom station that is an actual building with a waste pipeline like in traditional homes w/ monitors and searches to enter. I'd like to have more street surveillance and school/ classroom surveillance. I'd like more commercials about helpful things regarded toward environmental health and the importance of obtaining an education also esoteric commercials regarding karma (reap & Sow) I'd like police to do their jobs of issuing on the spot restraining orders. And keeping their hands to themselves. And fines for environmental health crimes. Removal of homicidal music/content from Social Media platforms per Civil & Criminal, Terrorist Threat Laws, Charles Mansion Law i.e. Brainwashing and Mind Control, per Tort Bodily harm and injury /Emotional Distress.



Communication from Public

Name: Kathy Dorr

Date Submitted: 05/17/2025 06:57 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The pet overpopulation is the highest it's ever been, for a number of reasons. Dogs & puppies, healthy and adoptable, are being killed for space. Yet even homeless people can get a breeders license. Who is there to clean up the mess when dogs & cats are neglected, abused, and assaulted? Not the city shelters. They're too overwhelmed bc the mayor cut their budget. Now she wants to close shelters a but staffing. The answer to pet overpopulation is to spay and neuter every animal adopted, stop giving out breeding licenses, and punish people who do not follow these laws. Animals need our protection.

Communication from Public

Name: Brandee Aquino

Date Submitted: 05/18/2025 10:04 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The spay neuter program is crucial for Los Angeles. There's a severe crisis we have with 1000s of suffering, neglected yet healthy deserving, cats and dogs with no resources or homes in sight. The spay neuter project will assist the city. It's rescue organizations, volunteers, and Indy trappers with trying to control the ever-growing population. Please do not defund or cut. Please add to the budget so that these people can continue their efforts and Animals do not continue to suffer.

Communication from Public

Name: Douglas C. Comer, Ph.D. President, ICOMOS-USA

Date Submitted: 05/19/2025 08:53 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Honorable Councilmembers, I write as the President of the United States National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites, and the former Chair of the 2017 Committee to Revise the US Tentative List, which recommended that a serial nomination of Frank Lloyd Wright sites be put forward to the World Heritage Committee for inscription on the World Heritage List. In 2019, eight of these sites were inscribed as The 20th Century Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright, including the City of Los Angeles-owned Hollyhock House:
https://franklloydwright.org/unesco_heritage_list_of_20th_century_architecture_of_frank_lloyd_wright-2/. Inscription on the World Heritage List rests upon the demonstration of what is referred to in the 1972 World Heritage Convention as Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). This places it among what the World Heritage Committee considers to be the most iconic cultural and natural sites in the world. Inscription also rests upon assurance by those charged with the management of the site that the criteria and specific attributes for which the site was inscribed will retain the qualities of authenticity and integrity. Recent reports in the news media suggest that budget and staffing cuts are proposed by the City of Los Angeles that reduce Hollyhock House's four full-time positions to staff the site to only one, breaking from the City's original commitments. I urge the City to maintain these four positions and to provide the funding necessary for this and for adequate maintenance of the site and its collections. The Hollyhock House was selected as one of eight Frank Lloyd Wright sites nominated and inscribed out of almost 400 such sites in the United States. It must be a source of immense pride in the City of Los Angeles, as it is for the United States. Preserving and maintaining sustainable public access to Hollyhock House will demonstrate the continued robust participation of Los Angeles and the United States in the World Heritage Program at a time when ICOMOS International, the 107 ICOMOS national committees around the world, and the global public seek such reassurance. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like additional information. Sincerely, Douglas C. Comer, Ph.D. President, ICOMOS-USA Cc: Matt Hale, Deputy Mayor for Finance, Operations, and Innovation Jacqueline Hamilton, Deputy Mayor for Neighborhood Services Dilpreet Sidhu, Deputy Mayor of International Affairs Bernyce Hollins, Mayor's Office Budget Chief Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst Erin Bromaghim, Chief of Staff, Council District 5 Matthew Szabo, City Administrative Officer Maria Gutierrez, Office of the City Administrative Officer Daniela Cuevas, Office of the City Administrative Officer Daniel Tarica, Department of Cultural Affairs General Manager Christopher Concepcion, DCA Assistant General Manager Lisa Davis, DCA Community Arts Director Carla Fantozzi, DCA Art Center Director III, Barnsdall Park Abbey Chamberlain Brach, DCA Arts Manager II, Hollyhock House Misty LeGrande, President, Los Feliz Neighborhood Council Christopher Martinez, President, East Hollywood Neighborhood Council Colter Carlisle, Vice President, East Hollywood Neighborhood Council Justin Gunther, Chair of the Frank Lloyd Wright World Heritage Council, Vice President of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and Director of Fallingwater

ICOMOS-USA

International Council on Monuments and Sites

May 19, 2025

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Los Angeles City Council
200 N Spring St., Room 435
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

I write as the President of the United States National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites, and the former Chair of the 2017 Committee to Revise the US Tentative List, which recommended that a serial nomination of Frank Lloyd Wright sites be put forward to the World Heritage Committee for inscription on the World Heritage List. In 2019, eight of these sites were inscribed as The 20th Century Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright, including the City of Los Angeles-owned Hollyhock House:
https://franklloydwright.org/unesco_heritage_list_of_20th_century_architecture_of_frank_lloyd_wright-2/.

Inscription on the World Heritage List rests upon the demonstration of what is referred to in the 1972 World Heritage Convention as Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). This places it among what the World Heritage Committee considers to be the most iconic cultural and natural sites in the world. Inscription also rests upon assurance by those charged with the management of the site that the criteria and specific attributes for which the site was inscribed will retain the qualities of authenticity and integrity.

Recent reports in the news media suggest that budget and staffing cuts are proposed by the City of Los Angeles that reduce Hollyhock House's four full-time positions to staff the site to only one, breaking from the City's original commitments. I urge the City to maintain these four positions and to provide the funding necessary for this and for adequate maintenance of the site and its collections.

The Hollyhock House was selected as one of eight Frank Lloyd Wright sites nominated and inscribed out of almost 400 such sites in the United States. It must be a source of immense pride in the City of Los Angeles, as it is for the

1701 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20006, USA
Telephone: (202) 463-1291 | www.ICOMOS-USA.org

United States Committee, International Council on Monuments and Sites
Comité des Etats-Unis, Conseil International des Monuments et des Sites
Comité de los Estados Unidos, Consejo Internacional de Monumentos y Sitios
Комитет США Международного совета по вопросам памятников и достопримечательностей

United States. Preserving and maintaining sustainable public access to Hollyhock House will demonstrate the continued robust participation of Los Angeles and the United States in the World Heritage Program at a time when ICOMOS International, the 107 ICOMOS national committees around the world, and the global public seek such reassurance.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like additional information.

Sincerely,



Douglas C. Comer, Ph.D.
President, ICOMOS-USA

Cc:

Matt Hale, Deputy Mayor for Finance, Operations, and Innovation

Jacqueline Hamilton, Deputy Mayor for Neighborhood Services

Dilpreet Sidhu, Deputy Mayor of International Affairs

Bernyce Hollins, Mayor's Office Budget Chief

Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst

Erin Bromaghim, Chief of Staff, Council District 5

Matthew Szabo, City Administrative Officer

Maria Gutierrez, Office of the City Administrative Officer

Daniela Cuevas, Office of the City Administrative Officer

Daniel Tarica, Department of Cultural Affairs General Manager

Christopher Concepcion, DCA Assistant General Manager

Lisa Davis, DCA Community Arts Director

Carla Fantozzi, DCA Art Center Director III, Barnsdall Park

Abbey Chamberlain Brach, DCA Arts Manager II, Hollyhock House

Misty LeGrande, President, Los Feliz Neighborhood Council

Christopher Martinez, President, East Hollywood Neighborhood Council

Colter Carlisle, Vice President, East Hollywood Neighborhood Council

Justin Gunther, Chair of the Frank Lloyd Wright World Heritage Council, Vice President of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and Director of Fallingwater

Communication from Public

Name: Staci Patino

Date Submitted: 05/19/2025 01:33 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Staci Patino, and I am a proud employee of the City and a dedicated member of the Engineers and Architects Association (EAA) Union. I currently serve as a Management Analyst with the Personnel Department's HRP Project Team. In my role, I support the continued operations of our City by analyzing and configuring the Absence Module within Workday. This critical work involves ensuring that negotiated time-off accruals and various leave types, as outlined in employee MOUs, are correctly implemented and maintained. Without the efforts of myself and my colleagues, City employees would be unable to request and use vacation hours for important life events such as school graduations, utilize sick leave to care for ill children, or access bereavement leave during times of loss. Additionally, proper designation of Family and Medical Leave (FML) due to personal injury or the birth of a child would not be possible. Now, I am being told that my position — and the work I perform — is expendable. Let me be clear: eliminating positions like mine does not just impact me and my family. It directly affects every City employee who relies on the essential services we provide. Our team ensures employees can effectively navigate Workday, the City's new Human Resources and Payroll system. Without our work, employees would not be able to accrue or use their earned vacation, sick leave, personal leave, or holidays. The progress we have made would come to a halt. The proposed layoffs represent a direct threat to public service and to the working families who depend on it. We ask for better — not just for ourselves, but for the employees and residents we serve. Layoffs are not the solution. City employees deserve better.

Communication from Public

Name: M. Ahmanise Sanati Morgan

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 10:43 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Ahmanise and I'm a constituent in CD 11 . Thank you to the Budget, Finance, and Innovation committee for not only approving the Mayor's proposal to continue the Unarmed Model of Crisis Response (UMCR) pilot but also EXPANDING it to 3 additional police divisions. As the Council finalizes the budget, I am asking that you retain the Mayor's proposed budget allocation of \$9.376 million AND approve the \$4.4 million for expansion as recommended by the Budget committee as UMCR not only provides crucial services to assist some of the most vulnerable Angelenos but also saves LA taxpayers money. The average call responded to by a UMCR team only costs the city \$35 whereas a police response to a call of the same type and duration costs \$85. We at LA Forward see UMCR as part of the City's long-term commitment to establishing a 24/7, comprehensive city-wide,unarmed crisis response program. The current proposed funding will allow UMCR to provide critical coverage to almost 43% of the city, and we look forward to the City Council allocating funding to expand the program to cover 100% of the city in the coming years. Sincerely, M. Ahmanise Sanati Morgan, LCSW, PPSC

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Whitman

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 10:54 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Sarah Whitman, and I'm writing as a member of the Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition (DVHSC), which includes over 800 individuals and 244 organizations working to ensure safe housing and support for survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault. We are thrilled that the Budget and Finance Committee voted to restore \$4.4 million in funding for CIFD Survivor Services. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to ensuring survivors have access to life-saving housing and shelter. We now urge the full Council to uphold this restoration in the final budget vote. Programs funded through CIFD provide more than just shelter—they offer wraparound, trauma-informed services including mental health care, legal advocacy, and case management. With 43% of unhoused Angelenos reporting a history of domestic or intimate partner violence, cutting these services would have had devastating consequences. Instead, this restoration sends a clear message: Los Angeles stands with survivors. Please vote to preserve full funding for CIFD Survivor Services in FY 25-26. Let's continue building a survivor-centered system that addresses both safety and housing justice. Sincerely, Sarah Whitman

Communication from Public

Name: Elle Seibert

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 10:48 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council President Harris-Dawson and Council Members, As the City of Los Angeles faces a budget crisis, I face one of my own. You see, I am 1 of 250,000 longhaulers living in Los Angeles and nothing wrecks a budget quite like Long COVID. At the City level, Harvard Economist David Cutler estimates that if no action is taken, Long COVID is projected to cost the City \$12b over the next 5 years. You may be asking yourself how a condition triggered by an infection could possibly affect the City's budget in years to come. Let me tell you. My name is Elle Seibert and I am a 31 year old woman living in Los Angeles. I first came to this city over 10 years ago to study Neuroscience, first at Occidental College and then at USC. When other students were at parties and tailgates, I found myself huddled up, studying at Mudd Hall of Philosophy. I didn't mind working hard because I genuinely love learning and figuring out how things work. After all, I knew that once I graduated, the hard work would be worth it - having grown up in domestic violence and left home at 16, I was committed to building a future I could look forward to. Following college, I landed on a research team at a public health non-profit and later on doing accessibility work at Meta Reality Labs. For the first time, I felt like I was living life on my own terms and proud of how far I had come. And then, one day I got a virus. Long COVID and COVID-triggered ME/CFS has stolen 5 years of my life, but that's not all. Because there was no paid leave during my initial COVID infection, I had to return to work (remotely) on day 6 of my COVID infection. I used all my PTO for the year in about 2 months time, desperately seeking medical care. When American healthcare failed me, I racked up thousands of dollars in credit card debt on effective but expensive out-of-pocket therapies like HBOT, IV Glutathione + Vitamin C and Ozone therapy. These therapies enabled me to hold on to full-time work for as long as I could - about 2 years. When my team got laid off, I applied for unemployment for the first time in my life, only to find that it didn't even cover rent for a studio apartment. So began the agonizing drain on my savings account. I was applying for jobs, but really, how do you interview for a job knowing full well that in 3 or 4 months, you would no longer be able to make it through a work day? After 1.5 years my savings is gone and my consulting work just barely covers rent. To sum it

up, Long COVID increased my medical expenses, decreased my ability to financially support myself, and increased my reliance on the City of LA's non-existent social safety net. Imagine 250,000 longhaulers in Los Angeles, each with a unique story encompassing courage and resilience in the face of tremendous loss. You may be asking yourself - where are they? The short answer is, we are at home, resting in dark rooms, avoiding reinfections that can increase our level of impairment. This sentiment is captured by #MEAAction's Millions Missing Campaign, on behalf of the millions of people with ME/CFS, some of whom had their ME triggered by COVID. Did you know that approximately 50% of people with Long COVID go on to meet the diagnostic criteria for ME/CFS? As horrifying as my own experience has been, I am "lucky" because I am "only" mildly impaired. Generally, people with mild impairment due to Long COVID and ME/CFS can manage full-time work with accommodations but cannot do much of anything else — even small tasks like preparing meals, washing dishes, doing laundry. Then, moderate impairment, where many patients struggle to have the energy to leave the house, with approximately 25% becoming housebound. This is followed by severe impairment, where patients are not even able to physically get out of bed; an estimated 10% of patients fit into this category. At its worst, people with very severe impairment lose the ability to speak or even chew their own food. With these considerations, the City of Los Angeles expects us to stand in line, on a hot day, risking reinfection in an indoor space that probably has no HEPA filters or up-to-date HVAC system? Furthermore, the City's current lack of investment in the Department of Disability is showing, because there is no accessible remote way to join today's meeting. That's BEFORE the projected budget cuts. Council Members, I implore you to face the reality we are in head on. As a community organizer, I speak with people newly disabled by Long COVID every day, even now. We MUST restore funding to the Department of Disability. We MUST re-allocate \$13m in unspent CARES ACT Covid Relief funding to a distinct Long COVID budget line item. We MUST create an Office for Long COVID in Los Angeles, much like the City did for AIDS in the 80's and 90's. Thank you for your consideration, Elle Seibert Founder, The Pidgin Co-Op Organizer, @GotLongCOVID Consultant, NIH RECOVER Advisor, CDC CMSS Long COVID Expert Panel (e): elle@thepidgincoop.com

Communication from Public

Name: Kate Martin Rowe

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 11:47 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Jurado, Thank you for your leadership and commitment to protecting the City of Los Angeles' environmental future by restoring positions critical to parks, brownfields, LA River restoration, and climate initiatives. In the face of increasing climate challenges, these dedicated professionals will help ensure Los Angeles remains safe, resilient, and livable for all residents. Their work to expand green spaces, manage urban heat, and implement climate adaptation strategies is more vital than ever as our city confronts rising temperatures and environmental pressures. Your support for these positions reflects a meaningful investment in both our present quality of life and our future sustainability. We deeply appreciate your foresight and dedication to creating a cooler, greener, and more climate-resilient Los Angeles. Sincerely, Kate Martin Rowe

Communication from Public

Name: Roy S. Chesley

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 10:54 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge the Council to take more time (3months) to reconsider the FY2025-2026 budget. If there is any indication for allocating yourselves and the rest of City leadership time and space to think through our upcoming budget, you need look no further than all of the neighborhood councils who are either neutral or against the current proposal. I believe more time would allow the City to receive more recommendations from the City Controller as to where appropriate budget cuts can be made and the redirection of funds can be allocated. Allowing yourselves a little more time would send a message to us as constituents that you are truly doing everything in your power to tackle a looming deficit and that you are willing to work together, however hard and with all egos present, to fix this. In a time of such dissonance, I urge you go slow. Please take more time, 3 months tops, to reconsider the proposed budget. If this passes with no more forethought, then I fear you will come to regret such rash action.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael MacDonald, The Eagle Rock Association

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 11:05 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Honorable Councilmembers, The Eagle Rock Association (TERA) writes to express our concern regarding the proposed 2025-26 Fiscal Year Budget Proposal. In the face of a \$1 billion budget shortfall, it is understandable that the City of Los Angeles will need to tighten up its budget in order to keep essential services running. TERA is particularly concerned about proposed reductions to the Department of Transportation, LAPD civilian positions, City Planning, the Bureau of Engineering, Animal Services, Street Lighting, Building and Safety, Department on Disability, and the Department of Aging. These departments include those that provide essential assistance in ongoing TERA initiatives that have helped bring millions of dollars of grant funding to provide meaningful improvements for our community. Additionally, the elimination of more economical civilian and junior positions will result in that same workload having to be staffed less efficiently by more expensive personnel. The City Administrative Officer projects that the City will pay out at least \$320 million in settlements and judgments for the current fiscal year, including large liabilities for unsafe streets, housing discrimination, and police misconduct. As it crafts its budget, the City must be proactive in curbing the dramatic rise in liability expenses over the past three years. Significant cuts to departments that have jurisdiction over these areas of liability is counter productive to this goal. TERA appreciates the opportunity to voice our concerns. We request that the City, when possible, continue to engage with community groups like TERA for input on the proposed cuts. TERA is committed to collaborating with the City and Councilmember Jurado on finding a path forward during this challenging period. Sincerely, Michael MacDonald President



May 21, 2025

Los Angeles City Council
c/o City Clerk, Room 395

Re: City of LA Budget (CF 25-0600)

Honorable Councilmembers,

The Eagle Rock Association (TERA) writes to express our concern regarding the proposed 2025-26 Fiscal Year Budget Proposal. In the face of a \$1 billion budget shortfall, it is understandable that the City of Los Angeles will need to tighten up its budget in order to keep essential services running.

TERA is particularly concerned about proposed reductions to the Department of Transportation, LAPD civilian positions, City Planning, the Bureau of Engineering, Animal Services, Street Lighting, Building and Safety, Department on Disability, and the Department of Aging. These departments include those that provide essential assistance in ongoing TERA initiatives that have helped bring millions of dollars of grant funding to provide meaningful improvements for our community. Additionally, the elimination of more economical civilian and junior positions will result in that same workload having to be staffed less efficiently by more expensive personnel.

The City Administrative Officer projects that the City will pay out at least \$320 million in settlements and judgments for the current fiscal year, including large liabilities for unsafe streets, housing discrimination, and police misconduct. As it crafts its budget, the City must be proactive in curbing the dramatic rise in liability expenses over the past three years. Significant cuts to departments that have jurisdiction over these areas of liability is counter productive to this goal.

TERA appreciates the opportunity to voice our concerns. We request that the City, when possible, continue to engage with community groups like TERA for input on the proposed cuts. TERA is committed to collaborating with the City and Councilmember Jurado on finding a path forward during this challenging period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael MacDonald".

Michael MacDonald
President

Communication from Public

Name: Cendy Andrade

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 11:27 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Cendy, and I'm a representative of United Parents and Students, representing multiple council districts. The LA City Council has already approved funding for the public bank feasibility study. I urge the Council to immediately fund the next phase. This plan will show how LA can use its own balance sheet to save money, cut borrowing costs, and reinvest in priorities like affordable housing, green energy, small businesses, and community development. At the same time, we urge the Council to preserve and expand funding for Guaranteed Basic Income programs. GBI is a proven strategy to stabilize families, reduce poverty, and lower the long-term demand on public services — ultimately saving the city money. Both the public bank and GBI are fiscally responsible solutions that move us away from costly band-aids and toward lasting change. As LA faces a \$1 billion deficit, we need bold, community-centered investments that protect our future and serve Angelenos directly.

Communication from Public

Name: Christy Schilling-betterTogether Forever

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 09:22 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good morning, my name is Christy Schilling Co-Founder and Executive Director of betterTogether Forever. Our mission is to preserve the human animal bond for those who are vulnerable, struggling financially, fallen on difficult times, are food and/or housing insecure. We do this through our Unsheltered People with Pets program partnering with LA Family Housing and our Shelter Intervention/Surrender Prevention program where we are onsite at the LAAS North Central Animal Shelter five days per week. We have bilingual Shelter Intervention Coordinators that provide resources, options and support assisting with translation, helping to complete forms and applications for free and/or low-cost services and being able to navigate and utilize those services. In addition, we provide vouchers where we cover the cost of veterinary care, balance vouchers to cover spay/neuter, pet food and supplies through our pet pantry, assistance with licensing, redemption fees, Emotional Support Animal assessments and more so families can stay healthy and safe together, housed and off the streets, and pets out of the overcrowded animal shelters. We could not do this work without generous funders, the vast number of partners that offer discounts and the animal shelters who need a larger budget and increase of spay/neuter vouchers NOT CUTS! We are against any cuts to the animal shelters budget as they are already severely understaffed and underfunded which will ultimately cost more money, cause more emotional distress, and cost more people and pets lives impacting the entire community. We STRONGLY support the long overdue increase to spay/neuter vouchers as we are facing a worsening overpopulation crisis of dogs, cats and rabbits in our city shelters, and our animals and community members need more help, not less. There are so few veterinarians that are accessible and affordable where the voucher is even accepted or covers the entire cost and in cases of a pet being in heat, a larger breed, female there are additional costs that pet parents cannot afford. Spay and neuter are essential to help curb the suffering and pet homelessness problem and needless euthanasia of young, healthy and friendly animals. We need a more robust budget that reflects the community's needs. There are estimated to be about 5.3 million privately-owned dogs and 5.7 million privately-owned cats in Los Angeles County, and we need to recognize and support

that family includes pets! We just had a family come into North Central Animal Shelter with a puppy that was handed to the mom in the grocery store because the person could not care for the pup. Being low income themselves, they brought the puppy to the shelter but with the assistance of the LAAS spay/neuter voucher, as well as our balance voucher for vaccinations and pet food, they were able to keep the puppy. This is just one example of the over 400 requests for assistance we get each month, and this is just being at one animal shelter. Please recognize the needs of the public, the impact animal shelters have and the opportunity for change. Let's make LAAS animal shelters a resource hub, a place where pets simply come through, and not a warehouse where they languish and stay. Let's support families by keeping their beloved pets, making spay/neuter accessible and affordable, stopping the backyard breeders, and making LAAS animal shelters the first place all people think about for adopting pets!



May 21, 2025

Dear Mator Bass and City Council Members,

My name is Christy Schilling Co-Founder and Executive Director of betterTogether Forever. Our mission is to preserve the human animal bond for those who are vulnerable, struggling financially, fallen on difficult times, are food and/or housing insecure. We do this through our Unsheltered People with Pets program partnering with LA Family Housing and our Shelter Intervention/Surrender Prevention program where we are onsite at the LAAS North Central Animal Shelter five days per week. We have bilingual Shelter Intervention Coordinators that provide resources, options and support assisting with translation, helping to complete forms and applications for free and/or low-cost services and being able to navigate and utilize those services. In addition, we provide vouchers where we cover the cost of veterinary care, balance vouchers to cover spay/neuter, pet food and supplies through our pet pantry, assistance with licensing, redemption fees, Emotional Support Animal assessments and more so families can stay healthy and safe together, housed and off the streets, and pets out of the overcrowded animal shelters. We could not do this work without generous funders, the vast number of partners that offer discounts and the animal shelters who need a larger budget and increase of spay/neuter vouchers NOT CUTS!

We are against any cuts to the animal shelters budget as they are already severely understaffed and underfunded which will ultimately cost more money, cause more emotional distress, and cost more people and pets lives impacting the entire community. We STRONGLY support the long overdue increase to spay/neuter vouchers as we are facing a worsening overpopulation crisis of dogs, cats and rabbits in our city shelters, and our animals and community members need more help, not less. There are so few veterinarians that are accessible and affordable where the voucher is even accepted or covers the entire cost and in cases of a pet being in heat, a larger breed, female there are additional costs that pet parents cannot afford. **Spay and neuter are essential** to help curb the suffering and pet homelessness problem and needless euthanasia of young, healthy and friendly animals.

We need a more robust budget that reflects the community's needs. There are estimated to be about 5.3 million privately-owned dogs and 5.7 million privately-owned cats in Los Angeles County, and we need to recognize and support that family includes pets!

We just had a family come into North Central Animal Shelter with a puppy that was handed to the mom in the grocery store because the person could not care for the pup. Being low income themselves, they brought the puppy to the shelter but with the assistance of the LAAS spay/neuter voucher, as well as our balance voucher for vaccinations and pet food, they were able to keep the puppy. This is just one example of the over 400 requests for assistance we get each month, and this is just being at one animal shelter.

Please recognize the needs of the public, the impact animal shelters have and the opportunity for change. Let's make LAAS animal shelters a resource hub, a place where pets simply come through, and not a warehouse where they languish and stay. Let's support families by keeping their beloved pets, making spay/neuter accessible and affordable, stopping the backyard breeders, and making LAAS animal shelters the first place all people think about for adopting pets!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Christy Schilling'.

Christy Schilling

Executive Director and Co-Founder

betterTogether Forever
Peopleandpetsbtf.org
PO. Box 21172, Glendale, CA 91221

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 09:36 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We have resources and pay taxes in order to keep programs like these current.

Communication from Public

Name: David F

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 09:39 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Nowhere in LA has more potential to help fix LA's persistent housing and transportation problems than DTLA. The bones are here. The arts and history are here. 100 thousand residents are here. But the streets need to be clean and safe. If you've walked through just once, you've seen open drug use, people who lookin ready to harm themselves or others, and folks who clearly do not belong on the streets. This is not safe, and we are at a serious turning point for our city. As leases expire, I don't know how much longer we can keep the best of our residents and retail here if we continue with status quo. Everyone knows what the problem is. Please consider the following six priorities to be addressed as though addressing a natural disaster: 1. Redirect Homelessness Spending Based on Community Input 2. Supercharge Mental Health First Responders in DTLA 3. Fund Faster Repairs of DTLA's Street Lights 4. Invest in Overtime Funding for Community-Based Safety Patrols 5. Create a Downtown Innovation Zone: Fuel Downtown's Small Business Comeback 6. Fund a Long-Term Downtown Infrastructure Financing Strategy

Communication from Public

Name: Ross Day

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 09:39 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Members of the City Council, My name is Ross Day . I am a location manager in Los Angeles for the last 30 years. I am writing letter because of my concern over the removal of the Motion Picture and Television Manager position in the Department of Public Works held by Eva Bitar. The last several years location professionals have had Eva Bitar who changed all that when she came into the Motion Picture and Television Location professionals finally had someone to advocate for location managers abroad through the Los Angeles Departments that can be difficult to reach due to there schedule. I could give your many examples but there are so many. Just to tell you Eva Bitar has help on so many matters for the following shows. Since 2017 on the shows " ANIMAL KINGDOM " Warner Bros. and " SEAL TEAM " Paramount Pictures " to current. Eva has guideed me through the City Attorneys office to help not loose the location to get it up to code and has also guided me through the Los Angeles Fire Department for issues with building owners that had not be able to resolve till Eva Bitar was brought into the conversation which she resolved in success. Film L.A. has become more of and issue to filming than help. Permitting turnaround times have become a 3 day permit to a five day permit. . This means permitting locations that aren't required and spending vast amounts of money for no reason, one of the many reasons productions have left the city. Eva is very important to the needs of production to the management at Film L.A. The most important option to help location professionals and therefor productions film in Los Angeles, save money and get the thousands of tax paying industry professionals back to work is to reduce city services cost and keep Eva Bitar as the most helpful resource for location professionals in the Film Industry. Thank you for your time and I hope you will take this info into consideration. Sincerely, Ross Day Location Manager

Communication from Public

Name: Itzel Canada

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 09:57 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fund the Public Bank Feasibility Study. My name is Itzel Canada , and I'm a LA resident and part of the Inclusive Action for the City Organization. The LA City Council has approved funding for the public bank feasibility study. I urge the Council to immediately fund the next phase. This plan will outline how LA can use its own balance sheet to save money, cut borrowing costs, and reinvest in priorities like affordable housing, green energy, small businesses, and community development. As LA faces a \$1 billion budget deficit and thousands of union jobs at risk – this is urgent. Delays will keep costing the city billions in debt service and finance costs. It's time to stop sending public money to Wall Street, reinvest it in our communities, and help prevent future budget deficits.

Communication from Public

Name: Tom Grode

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 10:04 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: In terms of Skid Row and Downtown LA in general, what needs to happen is the collaborative partnership/relationship between the County and City when it comes to the Skid Row Action Plan needs to go to a whole new level.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 10:21 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I realize that today is the last day for public comment on the budget. I sincerely hope that the Council take into account constituent desires about how we would like our hard earned taxpayer dollars to be spent. Please reconsider layoffs for essential services that the public needs and please consider the long term effects of the welfare of the animals in LA City. Please do not close any of our shelters. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Julie Jung

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 10:36 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fund the Public Bank Feasibility Study! My name is Julie, and I'm a LA resident and representative of Inclusive Action for the City. The LA City Council has approved funding for the public bank feasibility study. I urge the Council to immediately fund the next phase. The LA Public Bank, using the city's deposits currently held in Wall Street banks, will drive economic growth for individuals and small businesses. Public banks can leverage their capital up to ten times, amplifying their impact through loans. They can quickly deploy funds for initiatives like low-interest loans to small businesses and reinvest in historically underserved communities. It's time to stop sending public money to Wall Street, reinvest it in our communities, and help prevent future budget deficits.

Communication from Public

Name: Adam Hersko-RonaTas

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 04:12 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi my name is Adam and I live in LA's district 13. I'm in support of much of the Budget and Finance Committee's recommendations like restoring jobs and funding for essential social and municipal services. The amended budget has been seriously improved, though I also hope that the Council will consider further expanding investment in climate, municipal, and social services. The continued pattern of prioritizing police funding at the expense of other offices and programs undermines public safety far more than it helps. We need the police, of course. But neglected infrastructure, polluted neighborhoods, and extreme weather all pose more extreme risks and need further investment at this moment. LAPD paid \$320 Million in liability payouts just within the last fiscal year. Those funds are needed in so many other sectors. The wildfires caused by our warming climate potentially cost the city over \$100 Billion in property and revenue losses, according to UCLA's Anderson Forecast.? Thank you for restoring the Climate Emergency Office, Brownfield Units, Petroleum Safety Team in this amendment. However, we also really need a Climate Justice Office in City Planning and the City Building Decarbonization Program. Funding Day Laborer Centers, a public bank, and supporting the unarmed crisis response teams with expansion into Mission, Rampart, and Harbor City, would be historic! Please advocate for these further investments in climate conservation, education, and social programs! Thank you for defending our future!

Communication from Public

Name: Danielle Davis

Date Submitted: 05/20/2025 05:27 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please keep unarmed response program going! This is what we need.

Communication from Public

Name: Andrea Esparza, Counselor and Teacher

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 12:47 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Re: Opposition to LAPD Helicopter Funding I'm writing in opposition to the proposed allocation of city funds for the purchase of two new LAPD helicopters. This multimillion-dollar investment is not only fiscally irresponsible, it's morally and environmentally unsound, and it fails to reflect the real safety needs of our communities. Helicopters are costly to acquire, maintain, and fuel. They are loud, polluting, and contribute significantly to carbon emissions and environmental stress in neighborhoods already burdened by air and noise pollution. Their operational life span may last years, but the harm they cause is immediate and ongoing. Meanwhile, people on the ground are calling for care. We are experiencing a mental health crisis, a housing crisis, and a crisis of trust between our communities and law enforcement. The answer is not more aircraft, it's more community-based solutions. Instead of new helicopters, I propose the city reinvest this funding into:

- Mental Health Crisis Response Teams that are trained in de-escalation and trauma-informed care, not criminalization.
- Community-Based First Responders who live in, know, and serve the neighborhoods they work in.
- Non-lethal response training for existing public safety personnel to reduce harm and rebuild trust.
- Preventative programs like youth mentorship, violence interruption, and trauma recovery services.
- Care infrastructure, including housing, wellness centers, and family support programs.

By investing in people-first safety, the city can reduce costly lawsuits and settlements related to police brutality, avoid unnecessary use-of-force incidents, and demonstrate a commitment to true public safety. The public wants care, not surveillance. We want healing, not helicopters. We urge you to listen to the people of Los Angeles and align the budget with our values. Reject this proposal for more police helicopters and reinvest those funds into the real needs of our communities. Respectfully, Andrea Esparza

Communication from Public

Name: C. Martinez

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 01:01 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I want to urge the City Council and Mayor to seek alternative solutions to layoffs to address our City's budget deficit. The proposed layoffs would further strain under funded services and resources that keep our City functioning. It also stalls important initiatives such as Zero Emissions and Sustainability goals in a time when Wildfires are a real threat from climate change. It is contrary to the stated goals of a comprehensive approach to the housing crisis when the unemployment rate is increased and the people serving VULNERABLE communities are eliminated. Furthermore, the layoff process affects the LOWEST paid City employees who are often not yet vested and left without retirement. The Council and Mayor's Office need to work with Chief McDonald to get Sworn moved from administrative positions and back to utilizing their training to ensure public safety. This action alone would solve two issues: saving jobs and filling field vacancies to better serve the public. Why has this not happened, yet? Backfilling Civilian jobs with Sworn exacerbates the problem two fold since it results in less response time and overtime Sworn pay, eliminating any budget savings and making our City less safe. Overall, the approach to balancing the budget is a huge step backwards, and doesn't help us reach our goals.

Communication from Public

Name: Sharon Senko

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 08:08 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fund the Public Bank Feasibility Study. My name is Sharon and I am a resident of Council District 1. The LA City Council has approved funding for the public bank feasibility study. I urge the Council to immediately fund the next phase. This plan will outline how LA can use its own balance sheet to save money, cut borrowing costs, and reinvest in priorities like affordable housing, green energy, small businesses, and community development. As LA faces a \$1 billion budget deficit and thousands of union jobs at risk – this is urgent. Delays will keep costing the city billions in debt service and finance costs. It's time to stop sending public money to Wall Street, reinvest it in our communities, and help prevent future budget deficits.

Communication from Public

Name: Paul Zappia

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 11:45 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Paul, and I'm a member of the Democratic Socialists of America, Los Angeles and a resident of Council District 1. I urge the Council to immediately fund the next phase of the Public Bank feasibility study. This plan will outline how LA can use its own balance sheet to save money, cut borrowing costs, and reinvest in priorities like affordable housing, green energy, small businesses, and community development. As LA faces a \$1 billion budget deficit and thousands of union jobs at risk – this is urgent. Delays will keep costing the city billions in debt service and finance costs. It's time to stop sending public money to Wall Street, reinvest it in our communities, and help prevent future budget deficits!

Communication from Public

Name: Paxcely Marquez

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 04:20 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Paxcely Marquez, and my family lives in Los Angeles Council District 9. Thank you to the Budget, Finance, and Innovation committee for not only approving the Mayor's proposal to continue the Unarmed Model of Crisis Response (UMCR) pilot but also EXPANDING it to 3 additional police divisions. As the Council finalizes the budget, I am asking that you retain the Mayor's proposed budget allocation of \$9.376 million AND approve the \$4.4 million for expansion as recommended by the Budget committee as UMCR not only provides crucial services to assist some of the most vulnerable Angelenos but also saves LA taxpayers money. The average call responded to by a UMCR team only costs the city \$35 whereas a police response to a call of the same type and duration costs \$85. We at LA Forward see UMCR as part of the City's long-term commitment to establishing a 24/7, comprehensive city-wide,unarmed crisis response program. The current proposed funding will allow UMCR to provide critical coverage to almost 43% of the city, and we look forward to the City Council allocating funding to expand the program to cover 100% of the city in the coming years. Sincerely, Paxcely

Communication from Public

Name: James Finney-Conlon

Date Submitted: 05/21/2025 09:16 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good afternoon City Councilmembers. My name is James Finney-Conlon and I am here on behalf of the business members of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber commends the Budget and Finance Committee's efforts over the last several weeks to balance the budget while prioritizing core services business owners rely on, such as maintaining street lights and trimming trees outside storefronts. Today, the Chamber calls on the full Council to support the business community by voting to 1.) restore core city jobs that interact with and support businesses, 2.) prioritize revenue-generating initiatives for departments to promote fiscal stability, and 3.) invest funding in technology and operations reform to streamline city front-end services for businesses. During this budget crisis, making these important calls can help the city's businesses better run in a cleaner, brighter community. Thank you for your consideration.