

Communication from Public

Name: U

Date Submitted: 07/08/2025 02:03 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Honorable Councilmembers, On behalf of UNITE-LA – a nonprofit co-founded by, and with a 27-year history of partnering with, the City of Los Angeles to advance economic mobility and well-being for our rising workforce—we extend our gratitude for your leadership in approving the FY 2025-26 City Budget during a challenging year marked by an unprecedented fiscal crisis. We recognize the gravity of the fiscal decisions you face and value your ongoing commitment to economic equity despite difficult trade-offs. As valued partners in the City’s efforts to serve youth and working families, we write to express our ongoing concerns regarding the consolidation of the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) and Youth Development Department (YDD) into the Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD). We understand and respect the intent behind this proposed realignment, including goals to streamline services and better align city priorities. At the same time, we want to raise concerns that the proposed transition may unintentionally disrupt existing youth services, collaborative planning and implementation. We respectfully ask that your decisions reflect the City's values of opportunity and pathways for all youth, especially those facing the greatest barriers. Thank you for your leadership. We stand ready to collaborate on creative solutions that acknowledge budgetary considerations while advancing equitable economic mobility solutions.



July 8, 2025

Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING THE CONSOLIDATION OF YOUTH-SERVING CITY
DEPARTMENTS**

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

On behalf of UNITE-LA – a nonprofit co-founded by, and with a 27-year history of partnering with, the City of Los Angeles to advance economic mobility and well-being for our rising workforce—we extend our gratitude for your leadership in approving the FY 2025-26 City Budget during a challenging year marked by an unprecedented fiscal crisis. We recognize the gravity of the fiscal decisions you face and value your ongoing commitment to economic equity despite difficult trade-offs.

As valued partners in the City's efforts to serve youth and working families, we write to express our ongoing concerns regarding the consolidation of the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) and Youth Development Department (YDD) into the Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD). We understand and respect the intent behind this proposed realignment, including goals to streamline services and better align city priorities. At the same time, we want to raise concerns that the proposed transition may unintentionally disrupt existing youth services, collaborative planning and implementation.

With CIFD scheduled to report back to the Council by July 15 with further details on the consolidation, we respectfully urge the City Council to:

- 1. Allow additional time for meaningful and robust community engagement and a collaborative planning process before advancing departmental consolidation.** We urge leadership to prioritize a collaborative and comprehensive planning process before implementing the merger of EWDD and YDD into the CIFD. This will help ensure a full understanding of the consolidation's impact and safeguard the essential services, partnerships, and outcomes that young Angelenos depend on.
- 2. Safeguard the infrastructure and funding for youth workforce development programs and engagement of young Angelenos in city decision-making.** Programs such as HIRE LA's Youth,

Angeleno Corps, and other career readiness and employment initiatives administered through EWDD are crucial for providing young Angelenos with early, paid work experiences that drive economic mobility. At the same time, YDD plays an essential role in elevating youth voice in public decision-making, promoting healing-centered practices, and ensuring that youth-focused policies and services respond to the lived experiences of Los Angeles' diverse young people. Youth deserve to be at the table and have a voice in any restructuring of youth services in Los Angeles.

3. Continue momentum in advancing three strategic plans that reinforce the City's long-standing commitment to systemic coordination, youth empowerment, and a future-ready workforce:

- **Los Angeles Five-Year Workforce Development Plan: A Path Forward**, which outlines the City's goal to place 50,000 Angelenos into high-quality, living-wage jobs, registered apprenticeships, paid work experiences, and training as critical pathways to economic stability and success by 2030.
- **Citywide Youth Development Strategic Plan**, which outlines how the City can create and sustain a citywide focus on Positive Youth Development that delivers equitable outcomes for 1.2 million Angelenos aged 0-25 across 26 different City departments.
- **Horizons 32K: Los Angeles' Blueprint for 32,000 Opportunity Youth Dreams**, a collaborative, regional initiative embedded in the City's five-year workforce strategy, that aims to significantly improve economic opportunity for young adults during the critical ages of 16-24.

These strategies are not just documents; they represent years of partnership, investment, and community engagement. It is critical that they remain central to any departmental transition and that critical staffing and contracts are maintained to ensure their implementation is not diluted or delayed.

4. Protect the staffing and operational capacity of YDD and EWDD to preserve youth development goals and service delivery. The success of this collective work relies on a system that is well-resourced and sufficiently staffed and grounded in deep institutional knowledge and trusted community relationships. As the City undergoes transitions, it is critical to retain staff with a proven history of cross-sector collaboration and a nuanced understanding of the complexities involved in serving opportunity youth and other vulnerable communities. The leadership and teams at EWDD and YDD bring the continuity, cultural competence, and community trust necessary to sustain and evolve youth-focused programs that are responsive, equitable, and impactful.



Guided by the principle of trust and the spirit of community collaboration, UNITE-LA is committed to supporting the plan for consolidation through partnership, advocacy, and community input. Recognizing education, workforce, and economic development are interconnected, we urge continued investment in EWDD and YDD for Los Angeles' future economic competitiveness.

We respectfully ask that your decisions reflect the City's values of opportunity and pathways for all youth, especially those facing the greatest barriers. Thank you for your leadership. We stand ready to collaborate on creative solutions that acknowledge budgetary considerations while advancing equitable economic mobility solutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Bell', is positioned above the printed name.

Alysia Bell
President
UNITE-LA

CC: LA City Council President Marqueece Harris Dawson
COUNCILMEMBER EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
COUNCILMEMBER ADRIN NAZARIAN
COUNCILMEMBER BOB BLUMENFIELD
COUNCILMEMBER NITYA RAMAN
COUNCILMEMBER KATY YAROSLAVSKY
COUNCILMEMBER IMELDA PADILLA
COUNCILMEMBER MONICA RODRIGUEZ
COUNCILMEMBER CURREN D. PRICE JR.
COUNCILMEMBER HEATHER HUTT
COUNCILMEMBER TRACI PARK
COUNCILMEMBER JOHN LEE
COUNCILMEMBER HUGO SOTO- MARTINEZ
COUNCILMEMBER YSABEL J. JURADO
COUNCILMEMBER TIM McOSKER

Communication from Public

Name: Arturo Piña

Date Submitted: 07/08/2025 11:27 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: RE: : Council Report_CF 25-0600 Meter Zone Rates, Parking Facility Rates, and PPD Permit Fees Honorable Councilmembers, It is regrettable that the Board of Commissioners approved this report without any discussion. It is important to recognize that the ultimate authority resides with our City Council, understanding that Council Members rely on our commissioners and city departments to communicate overall impacts. This includes not only budgetary issues but also potential effects on the community. Unfortunately, this report fails to mention how the proposal made by the department and sanctioned by our commissioners could affect the surrounding neighborhoods and the patrons who use lot 634. The Department of Transportation has made it abundantly clear that they have not engaged in any community outreach. I liken this situation to our Public Works department neglecting to conduct outreach if our engineering teams were to recommend the closure of a thoroughfare. That department consistently performs outreach PRIOR to making any recommendations to the Board of Public Works. That initial step was not taken in this instance. This clearly indicates a department failing to fulfill its due diligence, a Commission merely rubber-stamping a report, and relying on our City Council to bear the brunt of community feedback. I would like to highlight that any fee imposed at Lot 634 will place an undue burden on the members we serve. We have a mandate to eliminate any barriers that our stakeholders may encounter in focusing on their health; this recommendation introduces an unnecessary obstacle. We ask that outreach be conducted to our local post office, area businesses, the Park Mesa Heights Community Council, and residents who will be affected if this recommendation is approved by the City Council. Thank you, Arturo Piña, Manager LA Care/Blue Shield Promise Community Resource Center, South Los Angeles (213) 428-1410 (213) 760-4307 apina@lacare.org 5710 Crenshaw Boulevard, Los Angeles, Ca 90043 communityresourcecenterla.org