




KAREN BASS  
MAYOR

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** The Honorable Members of the City Council  
c/o City Clerk

**From:** Karen Bass, Mayor 

**Subject:** EXEMPTION REQUEST –DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS -  
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING, (1) DEPUTY CITY ENGINEER (9490)

**Date:** October 14, 2025

The Department of Public Works – Bureau of Engineering (BOE) requested an exemption of one (1) position of Deputy City Engineer, Class Code 9490, in accordance with Charter Section 1001(b), from civil service as management, professional, scientific, or expert services exemptions.

Charter Section 1001(b) allows up to 150 persons to be exempt, of which 121 are approved, and an additional 3 are pending approval. Approval of this request will increase the count. As of the date of this letter, this request will be in the 122nd position of the additional 150 exemptions. There are an additional 50 exempt positions added by the City Council pursuant to Charter Section 1001(b)(4), of which 18 are filled.

The Deputy City Engineer will serve as the Project Executive for the delivery of the \$2.6 billion Los Angeles Convention Center Expansion and Modernization Project (LACC Project) and oversee a combined staff of Bureau of Engineering employees and consultants, which is anticipated to peak at 38 staff. This position will also be the lead for all required reporting to City Hall and the community, which includes my Office, City Council, the Board of Public Works, and the Municipal Facilities Oversight Committee. To effectively manage this significant and fast-moving project, the BOE's goal is to fill the position no later than mid-October 2025. The first Notice to Proceed to the design/build contractor is anticipated to be released on September 30, 2025.

The Deputy City Engineer position requires a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and current registration with the California State Board as a Professional Engineer. The Deputy City Engineer position also requires at least two years of professional engineering experience at the level of a Principal Civil Engineer.

The exemption of this position will allow the Department of Public Works - Bureau of Engineering the flexibility to recruit and select the best qualified candidate who possesses the necessary specialized experience, talent, and expertise for the position. The duties and requirements as described are appropriate to the class of Deputy City Engineer.

Based on my review of the Bureau of Engineering's request, as well as the review of the Personnel Department, I hereby approve the request for the exemption of the Deputy City Engineer and transmit my action to the City Council, pursuant to City Charter Section 1001(b)(1). If the exempt position is not filled within six months, my approval for the department to fill the position may expire.

cc: Mitch Kamin, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor  
Lidia Manzanares, Office of the Mayor  
Thomas Arechiga, Office of the Mayor  
Alfred Mata, Interim City Engineer  
Robert Kadomatsu, Chief Management Analyst  
Deborah Weintraub, Bureau of Engineering  
Valeria Amy, Bureau of Engineering  
Steve Kang, President, Board of Public Works  
Benjamin Ceja, Office of the City Administrative Officer  
Malaika Billups, General Manager, Personnel Department