

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to a proposed legal services agreement with Susman Godfrey LLP to provide assistance concerning potential initiation of litigation.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

- 1. AUTHORIZE the City Attorney to retain the law firm, Susman Godfrey LLP, to assist, on a contingency fee basis, in potential litigation the City is deciding whether to initiate.
- 2. AUTHORIZE the City Attorney, or designee, to prepare Controller instructions for any necessary technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO); and, AUTHORIZE the Controller to implement the instructions.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the City Attorney. Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

**[The City Council may recess to Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4), to confer with its legal counsel and discuss approving the retention of outside counsel, on a contingency fee basis and at no cost to the City, to assist with potential claims the City is deciding whether to initiate.]**

SUMMARY

At a Special meeting held on April 13, 2026, your Budget and Finance Committee considered a City Attorney report, dated March 25, 2026, relative to a proposed legal services agreement for the retention of Susman Godfrey LLP to provide assistance in potential litigation that the City is deciding whether to initiate. The legal services will be provided on a contingency fee basis and at no cost to the City. After an opportunity for public comment was held, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations contained in the City Attorney report in Open Session, as detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

| <u>MEMBER</u> | <u>VOTE</u> |
|---------------|-------------|
| YAROSLAVSKY:  | YES         |
| BLUMENFIELD:  | YES         |
| HUTT:         | YES         |
| McOSKER:      | YES         |
| HERNANDEZ:    | ABSENT      |

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**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**