




**LACERS**  
LA CITY EMPLOYEES'  
RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Date: May 1, 2026

To: Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst  
Office of the City Chief Legislative Analyst

Attention: Steve Luu, Legislative Analyst III  
Office of the City Chief Legislative Analyst

From: Todd Bouey, General Manager   
Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS)

**SUBJECT: CHARTER REFORM COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS  
COUNCIL FILE NO: 26-0489**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input as the City Council continues its thoughtful evaluation of potential updates to the City Charter. LACERS deeply values this collaborative process and appreciates the City's commitment to strengthening the structures that support our shared responsibility to City employees. In that spirit, we want to underscore that the recommendations presented under Council File No. 26-0489-S1 originate from the City's own independent Management Audits, and the LACERS Board of Administration fully supports these auditor-driven improvements as practical, well-grounded steps toward a more resilient and effective retirement system.

**Proposed Charter Reform Recommendation:** See Council File No. 26-0489-S1 for details. There are four recommendations summarized as follows:

1. Grant LACERS the exclusive authority to meet staffing needs and set appropriate compensation levels as determined by the Board.
2. Allow LACERS to set the frequency and timing of its Board meetings.
3. Grant the LACERS Board independent authority to select its chief executive (i.e., General Manager) and determine the General Manager's compensation.
4. Grant LACERS the ability to select its own legal counsel if by Board action it is determined that the Los Angeles City Attorneys' Office has an incurable conflict of interest.

**Responding Department:** Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS)

**Administrative Impact(s):**

The proposed Charter updates carry no administrative burden for the City while strengthening the System's ability to fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities.

**Fiscal Impact(s):** N/A

**Administrative or Charter Amendment Required:**

These recommendations cannot be fully achieved through administrative action alone because each proposal modifies authority that is currently established in the City Charter.

**Advantages/Disadvantages of Proposal(s):**

By modernizing staffing authority, meeting flexibility, executive appointment processes, and access to independent legal counsel, the reforms enhance operational efficiency, reduce delays, and better align LACERS with industry's best practices, ultimately supporting more stable, effective administration of retirement benefits for City employees while preserving collaborative alignment with the City as plan sponsor.

**Additional Concerns:** None

**Departmental Liaison Contact:** Todd Bouey, General Manager

TB:bc

c: The Honorable Karen Bass, Mayor  
Matt Hale, Office of the Mayor  
Matt Szabo, City Administrative Officer