Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council, I look forward to the passage of the City's first Capital Investment Program (CIP), and taking the next step to turn this important program into law. The CIP is essential to help increase transparency, coordination, and other basic principles of good governance in our infrastructure process and I appreciate you taking this meaningful step in the right direction. While I support passage of the CIP, I urge you to take a look at LA Forward Institute's proposed improvements: 1) Consider additional equity guidelines. I'm concerned that the current scoring criteria doesn't prioritize equity high enough when reviewing and scheduling new projects. While the MADE index is useful, I'm worried that when weighed against the other criteria it will not be sufficient to assure that our most in need neighborhoods receive the infrastructure they desperately need. 2) The CIP itself does not solve the problem of inadequate funding overall despite some efficiency gains from CIP tactics like "Dig Once." I want the CIP to clearly establish the financial needs for all the city's physical assets so that we can make sure the City funds them properly going forward. 3) There needs to be a clearly defined strategy for how the public will engage with the process of creating a CIP. Beyond this touchpoint with the Public Works committee, there is no established plan for ongoing public engagement in the implementation of the report's recommendations. Angelenos deserve transparency and voice in how infrastructure plans are developed. For example, in Council District 6, we need more shade trees, as well as repairs and improved maintenance of public infrastructure. Our city's infrastructure is crumbling and urgently needs significant investment, improvement, and ongoing maintenance. I strongly urge the city to treat this issue as a priority. Overall, the CIP recommendations included in the 2026 report save money through greater efficiency and reduced liability payouts, and bring much-needed transparency to infrastructure investments. I believe the considerations above would make the CIP even stronger. Thank you, Lionel Mares, MPA Council District 6 Stakeholder