

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



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September 23, 2026

REF: EXE-288-26

Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attn: Arts, Parks, and City Facilities

**SUBJECT: COUNCIL FILE NO. 26-1228 - EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF PREVIOUS
LACITYVIEW CONTRACTOR WORKERS**

On September 2, 2026, the Los Angeles City Council considered and adopted an amending motion under Council File No. 26-1228 directing the Information Technology Agency (ITA), with the assistance of the Office of the City Attorney, to report on the employment status of the 41 previous contractor workers and how many transitioned to Squadron.

While former contractors are under no obligation to the City of Los Angeles to disclose their current whereabouts or employment status, the ITA took a good faith effort to obtain this information for the City Council.

In response to the Council's direction, this report provides background regarding the previous Channel 35 contractor pool and its transition to the current contractor pool under Squadron.

Background

To supplement existing ITA employees, LA CityView Channel 35 relies on a pool of as-needed, part-time contractors to fill various production roles based on operations. The contractors provide additional production capacity and specialized skills, while the Channel 35 City employees manage the station, engage elected offices, and oversee the work performed.

For the last 20 years, ITA was responsible for building and maintaining its own pool of individual production contractors. Last year, ITA requested a one-year extension of the 41 separate personal services (with a contract term of March 1, 2023 through February 28, 2026). The City Attorney approved a six-month extension and forbade a further

extension of these contracts, citing the City Charter's competitive contracting requirements and the need to limit sole-sourced extensions. Thus, the new expiration date was set as August 31, 2026. To comply with the City Attorney's requirements, the ITA compiled and initiated an open, public, competitive Request For Proposals (RFP) process in early 2025.

On May 9, 2025, ITA issued a Media Professional Services RFP on RampLA. Nine (9) firms submitted proposals, which were evaluated through the City's standard competitive procurement process, including pre-published scoring criteria, two rounds of proposal review, portfolio evaluation, reference checks, and compliance with the City's contracting requirements. Squadron was unanimously recommended by the panel as the highest scoring proposer. The proposed contract went through the City's standard review and approval process, including by the City Attorney, City Administrative Officer, and the Mayor's Office. The contract was considered and approved by the City Council on June 26, 2026. The contract was subsequently attested by the City Clerk on July 1, 2026.

Transition

Before the end of the original contracts, ITA staff notified all 41 contractors of their option to extend their contracts for an additional six months. Of the original 41 contracts, 34 chose to sign an extension. The reasons why seven (7) contractors did not extend their contract were varied, including moving out of the region and taking on other employment. The 34 extended contracts continued through their full authorized terms and expired on August 31, 2026, in accordance with their contract.

On July 1, 2026, the City Clerk attested ITA's contract with Squadron to establish and manage a contractor pool for LA CityView starting September 1, 2026. As part of the transition, ITA worked with the former contractor pool and Squadron to ensure that all contractors who wished to be considered for Squadron's contractor pool were ensured an opportunity to apply and interview for a subcontractor position.

Squadron independently conducted its interview and selection process and determined which contractors to add to its pool. ITA staff were not participants in the interview process or individual selection decisions in order to stay consistent with the City Charter's competitive contracting requirements for a fair and competitive process.

As of September 1st, twenty-seven (27) contractors chose to interview with Squadron. Squadron reported that, of those 27 contractors:

- Twenty (20) were recommended by Squadron to join their contractor pool (74% of those that applied);
- Two (2) voluntarily withdrew after their interview; and
- Five (5) were not recommended by Squadron to proceed.

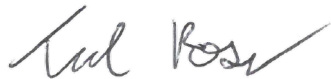
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General reasons provided as to why a contractor would withdraw their application or were not recommended to proceed were varied, including the acquisition of other work, a failed background check or issues found with provided references, the quality of the contractor's provided portfolio, a rejection of Squadron's terms of employment, a rejection of Squadron's rates, the desire to not work as a subcontractor, etc.

Furthermore, Squadron conducted additional interviews beyond former LA CityView 35 contractors across the local Los Angeles area. When Squadron officially assumed responsibility for providing LA CityView 35's contractor pool on September 1, 2026, it provided a contractor pool of 81 production professionals (including 20 former LA CityView 35 contractors) representing a broad range of production disciplines and experience. The new contract both maintains significant continuity with the former contractor workforce while substantially expanding the pool of local production professionals available to LA CityView Channel 35.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ted Ross", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ted Ross
General Manager

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