

MOTION

BUDGET & FINANCE
PUBLIC SAFETY

On November 3, 2026, Los Angeles voters will consider Measure FD, the Los Angeles Fire and Emergency Preparedness and Response Ordinance, which would establish a one-half percent sales tax dedicated to supporting and expanding the core functions of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD).

For decades, the City has underinvested in LAFD staffing, facilities, apparatus, equipment, emergency medical services, communications, and wildfire preparedness. Today in 2026, the LAFD has essentially the same number of sworn firefighters as they had in the 1960s, with six fewer fire stations and five times the emergency call load. Aging infrastructure, insufficient staffing, increasing EMS demand, growing wildfire risk, and unacceptable response times demonstrate the need for sustained investment in the Department.

During consideration of the Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027 budget, the City Council adopted, as part of Exhibit H, an instruction to the Fire Department to report to the Mayor and Council with recommendations for unfunded budget requests subject to the adoption of Measure FD by voters. While a good starting point for discussions, further analysis is needed.

The City must also ensure that Measure FD revenues supplement, rather than supplant existing General Fund support for the LAFD, and ensure that all new revenue is spent on core LAFD services. While the outcome of Measure FD will not be known until after the November 3, 2026, General Election, it is incumbent upon city leaders to be prepared in the event of its passage.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), Personnel Department and other departments as necessary, to report to Council prior to November 3, 2026, with initial recommendations regarding a Measure FD Implementation and LAFD Expansion Plan, including:

1. Prioritization of investments that measurably increase operational capacity and reduce emergency response times, including expanding sworn and civilian staffing, replacing aging apparatus, repairing and modernizing existing stations, constructing new stations in areas where most needed, strengthening air operations and wildland firefighting capabilities, and improving technology and communications systems. The report should speak to investments that can begin within 30, 60, 90, and 180 days, in addition to establishing priorities, timelines, funding requirements, and responsible departments for major projects and initiatives.
2. Identification of procurement and hiring barriers and strategies to accelerate delivery; and identifying available federal, State, regional, and other funding that can leverage Measure FD revenues.
3. An operational and workforce plan establishing a baseline of LAFD staffing, deployable personnel, apparatus and ambulance availability, facilities, response times, EMS demand, wildfire resources, and other measures of operational capacity; identification of gaps through recent Standards of Coverage analysis; hiring, training, retention and deployment targets to


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increase the number of firefighters, paramedics, civilian employees, dispatch personnel, mechanics, inspectors, pilots, and other personnel needed to expand operational capacity.

4. A capital and emergency preparedness plan prioritizing fire station construction and modernization, apparatus and vehicle replacement, fleet maintenance, EMS resources, wildfire preparedness, air operations, communications and technology, and other critical infrastructure and equipment, incorporating applicable after-action recommendations, including those from the January 2025 Pacific Palisades Fire.
5. An accountability and reporting framework establishing measurable goals for staffing, response times, EMS and apparatus availability, capital project delivery, wildfire preparedness, and other operational outcomes; maintaining a separate accounting of Measure FD revenues and expenditures to ensure compliance with maintenance-of-effort requirements; creating a publicly accessible implementation dashboard; and requiring quarterly Council reporting and periodic audits of Measure FD revenues and expenditures.

I FURTHER MOVE that the preliminary Measure FD Implementation and LAFD Expansion Plan recommendations be updated and presented to the City Council within 60 days of the passage of Measure FD, if applicable.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Measure FD Implementation and LAFD Expansion Plan be updated annually, as necessary, to reflect actual revenues, expenditures, staffing, project delivery, emergency demand, operational performance, and updated City planning and Standards of Coverage findings.

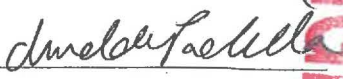
PRESENTED BY:



TRACI PARK

Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



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