El Grito de Dolores marks the beginning of the Mexican War of Independence and is celebrated on September 15th of each year. For over 25 years the Comite Civico Patriotico, Mexican Consulate and the City of Los Angeles has annually sponsored the celebration of El Grito. This celebration entertains residents and television viewers with an event that includes a reenactment of the historic cry and bell ringing (the "official portion"). The attendance for this event has grown tremendously with every passing year and last year drew approximately 8,000 people. Accordingly, Council District 13 is preparing for a large-scale event that will continue in this tradition.

There is an immediate need to provide \$3,500 to the General Services Department to secure services for this event. Such funds will be reimbursed to the extent private donations can be secured. There is a reimbursement available to the General Fund at this time in the amount of \$75,000 from the Furtherance of International Earthquake Conference Goals Fund for a prior advance, of which \$3,500 would be available to advance to for the El Grito event. The CAO advises that this advance of funds will not impact the 2008-09 Budget, inasmuch as this reimbursement was not included in the Adopted Budget.

I THEREFORE MOVE that \$75,000 be transferred from Fund 441/14 (Furtherance of International Earthquake Conference Goals) Account 001C, General to Fund 100/62 (Non Dept. General) Acct. 4552 (Reimbursement of Expenditures).

I FURTHER MOVE that \$3,500 be transferred from Fund 100/62 (Non Dept. General) Account 4552 (Reimbursement of Expenditures) to the General Services Trust Fund No. 843, Account No. 280X to secure services for the El Grito event. Such funds will be reimbursed to the Reserve Fund to the extent that donations for this event are secured.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of General Services be authorized to solicit and accept monetary donations for this event, to deposit any such individual donations not exceeding \$5,000 into the General Services Trust Fund No. 843, Account No. 280X and to expend these funds to defray the on-going costs associated with this annual event; any individual donations exceeding \$5,000 shall be submitted to the Council for acceptance.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of General Services be allowed to make corrections and technical adjustments to this motion as needed to implement the Council's intent.

PRESENTED BY

Eric Garcetti

Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY

February 27, 2009

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