



ERIC GARCETTI
COUNCILMEMBER
PRESIDENT, LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

October 27, 2008

Los Angeles City Council Budget and Finance Committee
Councilmember Bernard Parks, Chair
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilmember Parks and members of the Budget and Finance Committee,

I am writing to urge your support of funding to implement Phase II of the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD) DNA expansion plan. The Committee is considering funding today as part of the Second Financial Status report.

The LAPD has amassed a tremendous backlog of DNA kits, with more than 7,000 kits currently waiting to be tested. The City Administrative Officer and Police Department have proposed a plan that would immediately begin the hiring process for 16 DNA technicians, while reducing the LAPD's overall costs. These positions are a priority for the Mayor, for the Council, for the Police Department, and for the people of this city.

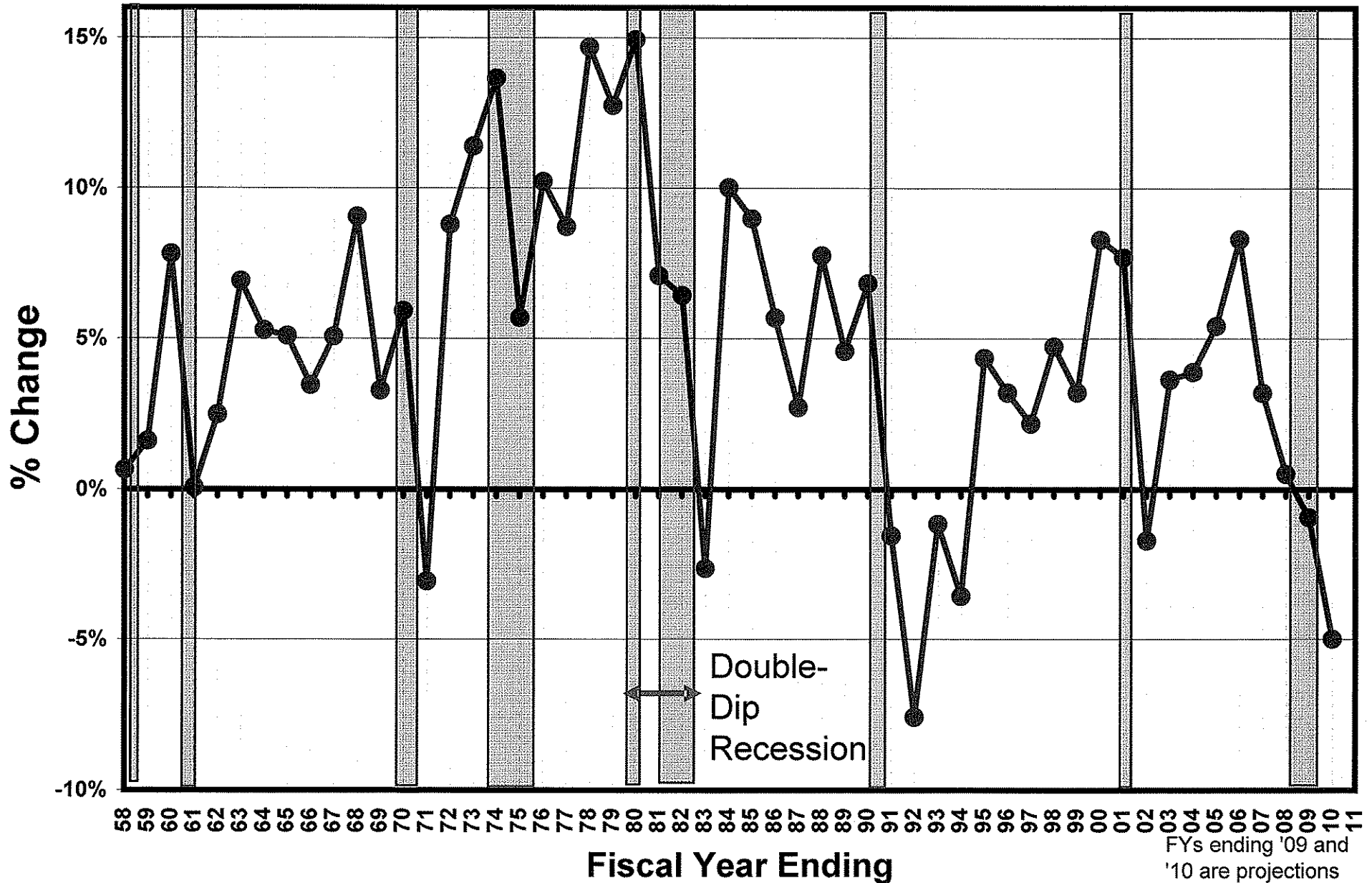
Each of the backlogged DNA kits represents an unsolved crime, with a victim and a family waiting for justice to be served. Today I respectfully ask for this committee's support in authorizing these positions immediately.

Sincerely,

ERIC GARCETTI
President, Los Angeles City Council
Councilmember 13th District

Date: 10/27/08
Submitted in B+F Committee
Council File No: 08-0600-527
Item No. 8
Deputy: L. Brantwade

Recessions and City Sales Tax



City sales tax (blue line) typically declines in the FY following a recession (red shadow). The recession in the early 1990s was more like a depression in Southern California; sales tax declined for four years and did not return to its pre-recession level for nine years. This recession may not be as severe as that one, but could be worse than our typical experience. Among the paths the local economy could take, a 5% decline next FY is most likely.