

MOTION

The War on Drugs has exacted a punishing burden on communities of color, both within the City of Los Angeles and across the country. With the legalization of recreational marijuana in California in November 2016, we celebrate the opportunity to move the target of enforcing drug laws to more appropriate and beneficial ends. The support of Proposition M on March 7, 2017 grants the City authority to regulate and tax all aspects of commercial cannabis activity.

While we expect the majority of the 7% Cannabis Systems Development Surcharge revenue to be directed toward the administration of cannabis regulation--including in the Finance, ITA, City Attorney, Police and Fire Departments, City Administrator, Building and Safety offices--it is equally important to improve the health outcomes of our minority communities as they recover from pernicious drug laws.

Through the new cannabis tax revenue, the City should create a **Neighborhood Health Fund** that offers small grants to programs that (1) improve resident life outcomes and (2) address the roots of prevention and healthy communities in Tier 1 and Tier 2 zones. These programs can include youth leadership and civic engagement, after-school, and educational opportunities, as well as improved local health services. The Neighborhood Health Fund should incentivize the participation of Community Benefit Organizations (CBO) in outreach programs, and give partners matching grants that can be used toward broader Neighborhood Health efforts, such as youth leadership and development. This program should explicitly target Tier 1 and 2 zones as a strategy to revitalize communities damaged by the war on drugs.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst, the City Attorney and other appropriate departments be directed to report on the financial feasibility of establishing a Neighborhood Health Fund and other Community Benefit type programming to combat the effects of the War on Drugs and improve the health outcomes for our communities of color.

PRESENTED BY:



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SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

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