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July 17, 2015

Honorable Paul Krekorian
Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
Office of the City Clerk
200 N. Main Street, Room 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilmember Krekorian:

On June 1, 2015, during Budget and Finance Committee consideration of the City Administrative Officer Fiscal Year 2014-15 Year-End Financial Status Report (C.F. 14-0600-S260), the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) was instructed to report on its request to purchase 17 electric vehicles for the Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB). The purchase is through uncommitted FY 2012-13 MICLA Fire Fleet Replacement Program funds. Because these 17 vehicles were not included on the MICLA equipment list for FY 2014-15, the CAO report stated that this is a "new MICLA equipment request."

The LAFD has approximately 355 non-emergency light vehicles (trucks/sedans) in its fleet. Due to the City's fiscal challenges, MICLA funding has been insufficient to maintain an adequate replacement program for LAFD's emergency and non-emergency vehicles. Therefore, the relatively limited MICLA funding over the past several years has been directed toward replacement of emergency vehicles. The purchase of non-emergency light vehicles has not been included as part of the annual MICLA budget since FY 2008-09 when 33 sedans were purchased. Of the light vehicles in service, the average number of years is approximately 11.5, with 23 years for the oldest model. The average mileage is approximately 105,000 miles, with the highest mileage at over 308,000 miles. The availability of uncommitted prior year MICLA funding provided the opportunity for the LAFD to purchase 17 electric vehicles for the Fire Prevention Bureau.

The following provides information requested by the Committee regarding the vehicles assigned to the FPB:

- The Bureau has approximately 150 vehicles assigned to Inspectors. The vehicles to be purchased are not being added to the LAFD fleet, but are replacements of 17 vehicles in FPB that will be salvaged due to extremely high mileage (up to 263,000 miles) or cannot be repaired. Electric vehicles will be purchased to comply with the City's sustainability initiative.

- The sedans in FPB are not assigned as take-home vehicles, with the exception of those assigned to 17 Inspectors who are members of Incident Management Teams who are on-call to respond to emergency incidents (e.g., major fires; major accidents such as train derailments; natural disasters; events requiring large commitment of LAFD resources).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph M. Terrazas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ralph" being the most prominent.

RALPH M. TERRAZAS
Fire Chief