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> REQUESTS FOR SERVICE 3-1-1 ~or~ (800) 996-CITY Email: BSS.BOSS@lacity.org TDD: (213) 473-3231 FAX: (213) 473-4150

April 22, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian, Chairperson Honorable Budget and Finance Committee Members

Attention: Erika Pulst, Legislative Assistant I

Office of the City Clerk

200 North Spring Street, Room 395

Los Angeles, CA 90012

FY 2014-15 PROPOSED BUDGET

The Mayor's FY 2014-15 Proposed Budget for the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) provides funding of approximately \$164.7 million. In addition, there is \$27.0 million included within the Unappropriated Balance (UB) for Pavement Preservation (\$7.0 million) and Sidewalk Repairs (\$20.0 million). The Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and BSS are currently working together to procure the necessary resources to expend the sidewalk repair funding.

The Proposed Budget provides funding for 2,200 lane-miles of Pavement Preservation and establishes a goal of achieving 2,400 lane-miles. The extended goal of 2,400 lane-miles is feasible with the continuing use of Hiring Hall personnel to supplement City staff, allowing hiring of critical positions (e.g., Equipment Operators, Motor Sweeper Operators and Asphalt Plant Operators) and continuing support for maintenance of heavy equipment. The Proposed Budget also continues funding to maintain small asphalt repairs (i.e., potholes) at 350,000.

Funding in the amount of \$4.0 million is provided for tree trimming in the Proposed Budget. Maintenance of median islands is not funded. In FY 2013-14, median island maintenance was funded at \$2.1 million.

Given the on-going financial challenges of the City, BSS recognizes that funding availability to fill current vacancies and to restore position authorities is constrained in order to present a balanced City Budget for FY 2014-15. The Proposed Budget includes elimination of five (5) vacancies within the Engineering Division and continues funding for a minimal Weed Abatement Program with 24 position authorities, including seven (7) field personnel that were authorized in FY 2013-14. Prior to FY 2013-14, the Weed Abatement Program was staffed with 52 position authorities.

The limited Weed Abatement Program implemented in FY 2013-14 resulted in service eliminations. The service eliminations experienced in FY 2013-14 are not restored in FY 2014-15; therefore, the following functions cannot be performed by BSS:

- Cleaning of unimproved streets, median islands, grade separations, and other right-of-way locations;
- Homeless Encampment Cleaning;
- Debris removal and cleaning of alleys; and,
- Illegal Dumping.

We look forward to discussing with you the Proposed Budget in the coming deliberations. If you require any additional information, please contact Victoria Villa-Agustin at 213-847-2815.

Very truly yours,

NAZARIO SAUCEDA, Director Bureau of Street Services

c: Kevin James, President, Board of Public Works Greg Good, Director, Infrastructure Services Gerry F. Miller, Chief Legislative Analyst Miguel Santana, City Administrative Officer

NS:JFC:jfc