

14-1151

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION

The City of Los Angeles is taking steps to ensure that our department's decisions are data-driven. This is reflected in Mayor Garcetti's Executive Order establishing an Open Data Initiative to ensure public data is accessible. Accurate data collection and categorization by the departments of the City of Los Angeles is essential for ensuring that resources are not wasted, that public policy decisions are correct, and that no harm comes to our communities.

Council has also taken action to move the City towards using metrics to better understand the services provided by its departments. Two such initiatives are the creation of FireStatLA, a CompStat like system for the Los Angeles Fire Department (Council File: 12-0240) and the institution of Performance Based Budgeting (Council File: 11-1702-S1) a process by which funds are allocated based on expected results.

The Los Angeles Police Department's model for data-driven policing has led the department to a consistent reduction in crime rates over the last decade. The CompStat crime mapping system is the foundation of this data-driven model informing decisions on the deployment of resources. It is critical that the CompStat system continually strive to reduce human error and provide the most accurate data possible to keep our streets safe.

Recently, the Los Angeles Times reported that the Los Angeles Police Department incorrectly categorized 1,200 serious violent crimes as minor offenses during a one year period ending in September of 2013.

In response, the Inspector General announced the launch of an analysis of CompStat to include obtaining documents, conducting interviews, and critiquing crime measures used by the Department. The findings will be included in a public document and reported to the Police Commission.

While the media reports that the 1,200 potentially misfiled cases represents roughly one percent of cases and crime remains at all-time lows, accurate data is essential in allocating police resources and as such, the Inspector General's report should be reviewed by the Council.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the Inspector General's report regarding CompStat, following its completion and consideration by the Police Commission, be forwarded to the Public Safety Committee of the City of Los Angeles for its review.

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