



# BOB BLUMENFIELD

Councilmember, Third District

Date: 6/24/15

Submitted in Housing Committee

Council File No: 15-0697

Item No.: 2

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Communication from  
Councilmember  
Blumenfield

June 24, 2015

Councilmember Gil Cedillo  
Housing Committee  
200 N Spring Street, Room 1060  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Housing Committee Colleagues,

The FamilySource System is key to keeping Los Angeles moving forward without leaving behind low-income families. Providing services that create economic opportunities for needy families will benefit all residents in the City.

I am extremely concerned with the potential loss of the Canoga Park FamilySource Center and urge you to maintain the funding for all 16 FamilySource Centers, including Canoga Park. While many of the other centers in the City are in close proximity to each other and even share target area boundaries, the Canoga Park FamilySource Center is the only one in the West Valley. The loss of the center would cause extreme hardships for the hard working families of the West Valley that desperately need these services. If the Canoga Park FamilySource Center closes its doors, the closest center for the target area will be 10 miles away in Van Nuys. For low income families with limited transportation options, it may not be feasible to make the trip.

Canoga Park residents need services. One of the goals of the FamilySource System is to increase graduation rates. Thirty-five percent of Canoga Park residents have less than a high school education which greatly diminishes earning potential. This correlates with fifty-two percent of households having an income of \$40,000 or less.

The report before you states that current funding would allow 15 centers to be funded in Program Year 42. The report also states that 225,000 City residents have taken advantage of FamilySource Center. We should be looking for ways in increase the number of centers instead of decreasing the number of centers. While I understand funding recommendations will not be presented for City Council and Mayor approval until the Fall, now is the time to start looking for creative ideas on how to maintain the current level of FamilySource System services.

Sincerely,

BOB BLUMENFIELD  
Councilmember  
City of Los Angeles

BB:cc

