

BUDGET AND FINANCE AND HOUSING COMMITTEES REPORT relative to creation of a panel of outside legal counsel to provide litigation support, at no cost to the City, for the Office of City Attorney Receivership Program.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. APPROVE creation of a panel of outside legal counsel consisting of the law firms Jones & Mayer and Silver & Wright, LLP to provide litigation support to the Office of the City Attorney Receivership Program.
2. AUTHORIZE the City Attorney to negotiate and enter into contracts with the above-named firms on an as-needed basis.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the City Attorney. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

#### SUMMARY

At a regular meeting held on August 24, 2015, the Budget and Finance Committee considered a report from the City Attorney dated August 12, 2015 relative to approval for the City attorney to create a panel of outside legal counsel to provide litigation support to the Office of the City Attorney Receivership Program, and authorization for the City Attorney to negotiate and enter into contracts with selected law firms on an as-needed basis for receivership services.

The City Attorney reports that the purpose of the Receivership Program is to abate vacant nuisance properties by seeking appointment of receivers to rehabilitate these properties when property owners are unwilling or unable to do so. The receiverships allow a court-appointed receiver to take control of a nuisance property and abate nuisance conditions. The City Attorney issued a Request for Proposals for outside counsel to assist with the Program and selected the law firms of Jones & Mayer and Silver & Wright, LLP; both firms have expertise in bringing receivership actions on behalf of municipalities. These firms will be responsible for bringing receivership actions against bank-owned vacant nuisance properties under the supervision of the City Attorney, and will perform the work at no cost to the City (the firms will recover their fees through the receiverships).

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Budget and Finance Committee recommended that Council approve the creation of the Receivership Program panel and authorize the City Attorney to execute contracts with the selected law firms to provide receivership services. At its regular meeting held on December 2, 2015, the Housing Committee also considered the matter and concurred with the action taken by the Budget and Finance Committee. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE



**MEMBER**      **VOTE**

KREKORIAN:    YES

ENGLANDER:   YES

KORETZ:

BLUMENFIELD:

BONIN:



HOUSING COMMITTEE

**MEMBER**      **VOTE**

CEDILLO:      YES

FUENTES:      YES

HUIZAR:        YES

PRICE:         ABSENT

HARRIS-DAWSON: YES

REW  
12/3/15  
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**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**