File No. 15-1118

T19/27

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the surge in homicides in the 77th, Southeast and Newton divisions of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).

Recommendation for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Harris-Dawson – Price – Wesson):

- DIRECT the LAPD, the Mayor's Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD), the City Attorney, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and the Los Angeles Fire Department to report with recommendations for establishing a comprehensive response to the surge in homicides in the 77th, Southeast and Newton Divisions of the LAPD.
- 2. INSTRUCT all City-funded intervention agencies to convene monthly meetings with each Council District that they work in to provide progress reports and discuss additional strategies to be employed.
- 3. DIRECT the LAPD to report on how to create a program that builds on successful programs such as Community Safety Partnership to be implemented in the LAPD divisions listed above.
- 4. DIRECT the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to report with recommendations to establish a cooperative effort between the City Council, Mayor's Office, LAPD, and the City's intervention contractors addressing the problem of homicides on a long-term basis, including a reevaluation of the budgets for intervention workers.

<u>Fiscal Impact Statement</u>: Neither the CAO nor the CLA has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

On September 16, 2015, Council considered Motion (Harris-Dawson – Price – Wesson) relative to the surge in homicides in LAPD's 77th, Southeast, and Newton Divisions. Motion states that the City of Los Angeles has experienced an increase in homicides this year with 191 people being killed. South Los Angeles has disproportionately suffered from this violent surge. Of the 39 people killed in the month of August, over half were residents of South Los Angeles—victims of gang violence, whether gang-associated or not.

Motion goes on to state that these shootings have occurred at private residences, Recreation and Parks facilities, and businesses along busy corridors. Residents no longer feel safe and specifically worry about the safety of their children in public spaces. This violence has negatively impacted residents, their neighborhoods, and their confidence in the current public safety measures of LAPD and GRYD.

Motion further states that over the past few years there has been a recurrence of gang violence in South Los Angeles. Motion movers believe that a collaborative, coordinated effort is needed, using the resources and talents of the City, the Mayor's office, and community and nonprofit

organizations to analyze and reevaluate the current public safety approach. By harnessing the resources and expertise of these partners, the City can address these recurring problems and create a new culture of cooperation and support for all aspects of intervention/prevention and policing policies. Council referred Motion to the Public Safety Committee for consideration.

At its meeting held October 20, 2015, the Public Safety Committee discussed this matter with representatives of GRYD and the Department of Recreation and Parks. Councilmember Harris-Dawson was in attendance to support the Motion. The Councilmember discussed the increase in homicides in South Los Angeles, as well as the strong community response to the violence. Councilmember Harris-Dawson and Public Safety Committee members praised the work of community members, gang intervention workers, and City Departments. It was stated that greater communication and collaboration amongst these groups is needed. The Committee recommended that Council approve Motion's recommendations as shown above.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MEMBER

VOTE

ENGLANDER: YES

BUSCAINO: YES

BONIN:

ABSENT

O'FARRELL: YES

MARTINEZ:

YES

iaw

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-