

F
6/20

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the feasibility of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) utilizing drones, or unmanned aerial systems (UAS) to assess significant incidents.

Recommendation for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Englander - Wesson):

APPROVE the LAFD's report of June 14, 2017 allowing the LAFD to apply for participation in the process to obtain a certificate of authorization to operate UAS as part of its initial action hazard mitigation and response matrix; and, formalizing operations within the LAFD to ensure full functionality and operational effectiveness relative to UAS.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the LAFD. 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 the meeting held on June 20, 2017, your Public Safety Committee considered an LAFD report relative to the feasibility of the LAPD utilizing drones, or UAS to assess significant incidents. The LAFD reports that the Department is seeking to be one of the first major metropolitan departments to obtain a Certificate of Waiver/Authorization (COA) to operate UAS as part of its initial action hazard mitigation and response matrix. For Departmental purposes, any UAS that may be used by LAFD personnel are operational tools to be used in a variety of scenarios, including, but not limited to operational pre-planning, hazard and damage assessment, hazardous material identifications, confined space search operations and victim rescue, i.e. river rescue and hiker incidents. Procuring a COA from the Federal Aviation Administration would allow the LAFD to operate a UAS but only in the most restrictive sense. After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to approve the LAFD report, as detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
ENGLANDER:	YES
BUSCAINO:	YES
BONIN:	ABSENT
O'FARRELL:	YES
MARTINEZ:	YES
ME	

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-