

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police



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Mayor

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The Honorable Budget and Finance Committee
Office of the City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, California 90012

Honorable Members:

In correspondence dated February 23, 2017, it was requested that each department transmit written comments relative to the Mayor's Proposed Budget and indicate critical changes that should be considered. The Los Angeles Police Department (Department) strives to work within the resources allocated to this Department each year, and we appreciate the funding that we continue to receive in order to carry out our mission to protect and serve the public. We understand that the City is continuing to be faced with budgetary challenges, and that City leaders have consistently placed the highest priority on public safety.

In recent years, the Department has not submitted a letter indicating critical changes that should be considered, but this year, we would like to highlight three areas that, if funding were made available, we believe it would significantly increase our ability to serve the public. Our priority areas for funding consideration this year are for civilian hiring, sworn overtime and technology.

Civilian Hiring: In consideration of the need to deploy more officers to the field, the Department sought the ability to fill 350 of the nearly 500 existing civilian vacancies. The Department was fortunate to gain momentum in 2016-17 in filling critical civilian vacancies; however, the progress made in redeploying sworn officers may be stalled this year, based on the Proposed Budget.

The Department is anticipating attrition of at least 206 civilian personnel in 2017-18. We planned to fill 120 of our critical public safety classifications. The Proposed Budget will allow us to fill 99 civilian positions. If there is any way to increase the number of civilians we could hire this year, to keep up with attrition, it would have an immediate and positive impact on our overall operations. Many of those civilian positions we need to fill contribute directly to public safety by putting sworn officers on the street to work patrol functions.

Sworn Overtime: The Department's Sworn Overtime funding for patrol operations is being reduced. The overall sworn overtime funding increased from \$90 million in 2016-17 to \$120.98 million in 2017-18; however, this includes approximately \$41 million for overtime associated with providing police services to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority's (LACMTA) rail and bus lines located in the City pursuant to an agreement with the LACMTA. In addition, there are two Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) during 2017-18, which increases,

the hourly cost of sworn overtime. As a result, the Department will see a reduction of almost 164,000 hours from 2016-17 to 2017-18 due to the reduction in sworn overtime from \$90 million in 2016-17 to \$80 million in 2017-18. If it would be possible to provide an additional \$10 million in sworn overtime, we will be able to maximize that overtime to positively impact public safety throughout the City.

Technology: This year's budget does not include the approximate \$5.3 million needed to fund the Records Management System (\$1 million), the Microsoft Services Contract (\$1 million), Palantir and TEAMS II funding (\$1.6 million), Replacement life cycle for computer workstations (\$1.1 million) and In-Car Video maintenance and repair to support 1,000 vehicles equipped with the Digital In-Car Video (DICVS) system (\$690,000).

As you know, these are critical computer infrastructure investments that, should funding become available, the Department would use to provide officers with real-time data using mobile field reporting and improve public safety operations; to maintain a secure email and storage system that meets the Federal standards for Criminal Justice Information Services compliance; to provide information that allows Department managers to analyze data and mitigate risk; and to maintain optimal and secure performance of our computer and video systems.

Again, we appreciate the difficult decisions that the Committee must make every year to properly fund the multitude of important projects and services delivered through the City departments and we look forward to the opportunity to discuss these issues with you. Should you have any further questions, please contact Assistant Chief Jorge Villegas, Director, Office of Administrative Services, at (213) 486-8410.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jorge A. Villegas For!". The signature is stylized and cursive.

JORGE A. VILLEGAS, Assistant Chief
Director, Office of Administrative Services