

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT



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April 23, 2018

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 26, 2018, 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 the 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 continues to be faced with budgetary challenges, and that City leaders have consistently placed the highest priority on public safety. Recruitment is a top priority for the City and the Department. As such, we are appreciative of the funding for the recruitment diversity initiative included in the Mayor's Proposed Budget to enhance the Department's ability to recruit qualified and diverse sworn candidates.

We would like to highlight four areas that, if funding were made available, we believe would significantly increase our ability to serve the public. Our priority areas for funding consideration for Fiscal Year 2018-19 are civilian hiring, technology, sworn overtime, and fleet.

Civilian Hiring: The Department continues to make redeploying sworn officers to patrol a top priority. In conjunction with managed attrition, nearly 350 sworn personnel from specialized and administrative divisions have been redeployed to patrol assignments within the Office of Operations in 2017-18. In an effort to maintain this patrol deployment, the Department sought the ability to fill 380 civilian vacancies in 2018-19. The Department gained momentum in 2017-18 in filling critical civilian vacancies; however, the continued success in redeploying sworn officers will be stalled in 2018-19 based on the Proposed Budget. The Department anticipates attrition of approximately 230 civilian personnel in 2018-19. We planned to fill 97 critical public safety classifications, such as Police Service Representatives and Detention Officers and other critical civilian vacancies; however, the Proposed Budget will allow us to fill a total of 30 civilian positions. The loss of 200 civilian employees in 2018-19 will hamper the redeployment of officers to patrol achieved in the current fiscal year. Any increase in civilian salaries would have an immediate and positive impact on overall operations.

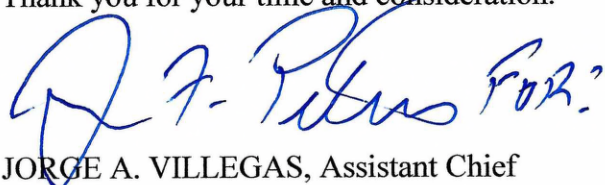
Technology: The Department's request for the next phase of the Records Management System (RMS) (\$4 million) continues to be a top priority. In addition, life-cycle replacement of the Department's computer workstations (\$3.9 million), Microsoft software licensing contractual commitment (\$1 million), and Palantir data retrieval and analysis licensing contractual commitment (\$3.3 million) are critical technology infrastructure investments that the Department needs to improve critical public safety operations and to maintain optimal and secure performance of our computer and video systems. The current platform for consolidated crime analysis and network communications is hosted on mainframe computers and applications that are almost 40-years old. In addition, approximately 40% of the Department's nearly 8,000 workstations are 9-years old, and more than half of the workstations do not fully support current LAPD applications such as the Body Worn Video and Digital In-Car Video systems.

Sworn Overtime: \$80 million is provided in the Department's Sworn Overtime Account for patrol operations and an additional \$38 million is allocated to 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. Based on the two percent Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in July 2018, which increases the hourly cost of sworn overtime, and additional carveouts from the Department's Sworn Overtime allocation of more than \$4 million, including funding for illegal cannabis enforcement, the Department will see a reduction of more than 71,000 hours of overtime, which is a reduction of approximately nine percent from 2017-18 to 2018-19. Should funding become available 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.

Fleet: The Department's fleet is one of the largest law-enforcement fleets in the nation with over 5,000 units. Unfortunately, the 2018-19 budget will not allow for the timely replacement of over 1,300 vehicles that are beyond the replacement criterion thresholds. The Department fleet has sustained vehicle replacement funding shortages for much of the past decade. As such, over 600 non-black-and-white emergency response vehicles used for crime suppression and 700 non-emergency vehicles are in need of replacement. The fleet replacement program is vital to reduce risk, increase cost efficiency, and keep up with technological advancements. In addition, as proposed, it will be more challenging to meet the Department's green initiatives and sustainability goals.

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 "J. A. Villegas FOR?". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

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