

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
MEMBERS

KEVIN JAMES
PRESIDENT

CECILIA CABELLO
VICE PRESIDENT

DR. MICHAEL R. DAVIS
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

AURA GARCIA
COMMISSIONER

JESSICA CALOZA
COMMISSIONER

DR. FERNANDO CAMPOS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

BUREAU OF
STREET LIGHTING
1149 S. BROADWAY, STE. 200
LOS ANGELES, CA 90015

NORMA ISAHAKIAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(213) 847-2090
(213) 847-1860 Fax

E-mail: bsl.streetlighting@lacity.org
<http://bsl.lacity.org>

April 23, 2019

Honorable Members of the Budget and Finance Committee
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Room 395 City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 PROPOSED BUDGET- BUREAU OF STREET LIGHTING

In accordance with your instructions and after careful review of the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (FY 19-20) Proposed Budget for the Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL), I am confident that the resources allocated will continue to provide for the operation and maintenance of the City's street lighting system and associated programs. Nevertheless, I respectfully submit three budget requests for additional consideration that I feel are extremely critical for increased productivity and revenue as well as efficiency of BSL programs. These budget requests, if approved, will require additional funding of \$380,936 to be reallocated within Schedule 19 as outlined below.

BSL is Requesting Resolution Authority and funding for the following:

- One (1) Street Ltg Construction & Maintenance Superintendent I - *nine(9) months: \$143,994*
- One (1) Street Lighting Electrician Supervisor I - *nine (9) months: \$131,835*
- One (1) Senior Systems Analyst II - *six (6) months: \$105,107*

TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED: \$380,936 (Salaries and Related Costs)

DELETION/ADJUSTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE 19 LINE ITEMS:

Pole Painting	\$300,000
Strategic Plan /FUSE Fellow	\$ 75,000
County Collection Charges	\$ 5,936
TOTAL	\$380,936

The funding specified in these line items are not required due to the following reasons: 1) BSL has a pole painting crew as part of BSL staff and is no longer contracting out this work; 2) the FUSE Fellow for BSL is starting this FY with half of the funding already allocated therefore only \$75,000 is needed in FY 19-20, and 3) the County Collection Charges are typically less than \$10,000 as seen in the last two years.

SUMMARY OF BUDGET REQUESTS

CO-LOCATION OF SMALL CELL COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS

BSL is requesting resolution authority and funding for:

- One (1) Street Lighting Construction and Maintenance Superintendent I (\$143,994)

BSL has been working with communication carriers to provide co-location opportunities on streetlights throughout the City. The workload has substantially increased in FY 18-19 to 2,080 sites and in FY 19-20 the workload is expected to be 3,100 sites. The program provides significant benefits to the City that will not only strengthen the communication coverage for all residents and travelers but provide a robust communication system during a City crisis. In addition, the opportunity to co-locate on streetlights decreases additional cabinets and monopoles within the sidewalk areas.

In FY 19-20, the program will start installing "Integrated Streetlights" that places the antennas and equipment inside the pole. The work to prepare these poles requires a great deal of labor to install stronger foundations, rewiring of circuits and replacement with stronger poles. The ability of the City/BSL to prepare co-location poles quickly incentivizes the carriers to continue to co-locate instead of requesting stand-alone monopoles. The St. Lighting Construction & Maintenance Superintendent position requested will oversee the program which has 5 supervisors and 15 crews; the preparation of 30 to 40 foundations per week; the BSL Construction Warehouse, and the support staff. I strongly feel that the position is required to continue to efficiently run the program and to meet all safety protocols that meet the demand of the requests. Without this position, BSL may have difficulty in the delivery of co-location sites. This may discourage the communication carriers to co-locate and result in more monopoles installed as well as a reduction in the revenue from this program. Additional information and pictures of the work involved are shown in the attachment.

COPPER WIRE THEFT CONSTRUCTION TASK FORCE – PUBLIC SAFETY

BSL is requesting resolution authority and funding for:

- One (1) Street Lighting Electrician Supervisor I (\$131,835)

Copper wire/power theft is an issue that has affected BSL for many years, but was not widespread until 2006. BSL has taken several steps to address the contributing factors including legal changes to the Penal Code, community awareness and installing lockable vandal resistant pullboxes. This problem that has plagued the City has left large areas of communities without lighting for extended periods of time that has negatively impacted public safety and increased liability for the City.

In FY 17-18, the incidents of wire/power theft affected 2,387 streetlights and in this FY 18-19, the trend shows an increase by 43% affecting 3,422 streetlights. The repair of copper/power theft will

include damaged pullboxes and conduits that need to be repaired, as well as the need to bury the pullboxes and encase them in concrete. Due to the fact that these repairs are significantly different than the typical street light outage requests and that there is significant coordination with communities, Council Offices and other Departments, BSL requested a dedicated crew in FY 17-18.

Due to the significant increase and challenges in handling the repairs, BSL is recommending that a Street Lighting Electrician Supervisor oversee the program to efficiently construct and oversee all repairs and authorize non-standard solutions which will lower the chance of repeat incidents affecting the same locations. This supervisory position is critical for the following reasons: 1) it will provide the oversight for specialized training to address these incidents, 2) coordinate with LAPD and other Departments, 3) be the field representation on BSL's Copper Wire Theft Task Force, 4) ensure proper documentation for all liability claims, 5) oversee the testing and evaluation of new SMART CITY theft products and 6) be responsible for the identification of additional new preventive measures.

This FY, BSL has implemented new measures including a dedicated force to re-attach missing handhole doors that will involve epoxy and tack welding and attaching signs/labels on streetlights on how to report theft and the hazards of wire theft. BSL strongly feels that the addition of this position is extremely critical to provide additional focus and efficiency in repairs and preventive measures. Without this position, the repair duties will be split among the maintenance crews and due to the heavy level of repair and coordination for these sites, it is foreseen that this will result in longer turnaround times for repairs and multiple visits to the sites. The position will help the Bureau to efficiently be proactive and not just reactive.

SMART CITY/IT CLOUD BASED SERVER BACKUP/RESILIENCY INITIATIVE

BSL is requesting resolution authority and six (6) months funding for:

- One (1) Senior Systems Analyst II (\$105,107)

BSL is responsible for maintaining approximately 221,000 streetlights, ensuring public safety. This system is the second largest system in the nation and a great deal of other cities look to LA for new initiatives as well as how we run operations, track repairs and coordinate various programs that interact with the City's street lighting system. Many computer based resources and systems are in place to support BSL with this effort. Mission critical data such as assessment districts that collect \$50 Million annually are stored in the BSL's Information Technology (IT) environment. In addition, BSL's SMART CITY initiatives are placed and run in BSL's IT Division.

Due to the significant increase and responsibilities of the IT Division and growth of BSL and other programs, I strongly feel that an additional level of management and supervision at the level of Senior Systems Analyst II is warranted. This is extremely critical to continue to properly manage BSL's robust GIS systems, oversee the preparation of BSL's Disaster Recovery programs, and maintain the in-house program that provides daily dispatch of BSL crews to respond to maintenance needs as well as support the BSL's computer network at various locations.

Historically, as programs are added there is a workload increase (mission creep) in our support systems that is not addressed until it becomes apparent that levels of management are missing that decrease efficiency of staff and allows for waste of City resources due to misdirection and lack of coordination. This is the reason that I strongly feel this request is extremely critical due to this mission creep and the new programs that have been added to the IT Division as the new emerging world of SMART CITY around streetlights is taking storm. Without this position the leadership in our GIS and development of our systems has resulted in misdirection and redundant efforts. This position will provide coordination among programs for the IT side of the Division while the SMART CITY new programs are being developed.

In summary, these three (3) requests are extremely critical to ensure efficient delivery of services, increase revenue for BSL, and the safety of all residents and visitors to our City. These requests do not impact the General Fund and are all borne by the Street Lighting Assessment Fund utilizing allocations no longer required. They support various programs that reflect our commitment to public safety, reduction of risk and liability, and our work towards a SMART, Sustainable and Resilient infrastructure that improves the lives of all Angelinos.

I greatly appreciate your consideration of this request. Should you have questions or require additional information, please contact me at (213) 847-2090.

Sincerely,


Norma Isahakian, Executive Director
Bureau of Street Lighting

NMI:cm

C: Diana Mangioglu, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor
Miquel Sangalang, Deputy Mayor
Richard H. Llewellyn Jr., CAO
Kevin James, President, Board of Public Works.

Attachment: CO-LOCATION PROGRAM

Attachment

CO- LOCATION PROGRAM

Fiscal Years	Co-Location Sites with attachment on new upgraded foundations	Co-Location Sites with attachments on existing foundations	TOTAL
FY 16-17	260	210	470
FY 17-18	640	110	750
FY 18-19	1,780	300	2,080
FY 19-20	2,500	600	3,100

