



NURY MARTINEZ
COUNCILWOMAN, SIXTH DISTRICT

May 1, 2019

Paul Krekorian
Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
c/o Andres Choi (Legislative Assistant)

RE: Mayor's 2019-20 Proposed Budget

Dear Councilmember Krekorian:

I would like to highlight five key areas that I would like for the Budget and Finance Committee to examine as they evaluate the Mayor's 2019-20 Proposed Budget.

In partnership with you, we introduced CF 17-1286-s1 (City Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Complain Procedures/Harassment and Discrimination Working Group Recommendations) to address the city's efforts at combatting and preventing sexual harassment in the workforce. As you are aware, the City's Harassment and Discrimination Working Group convened last year to enhance the City of Los Angeles' harassment and discrimination policies, processes, trainings and technology. As part of that effort, the working group recently released their report that included a number of recommendations that would update the city's policies and procedures.

I applaud the Mayor for continuing funding in the Personnel Department's Contractual Services account in order to conduct online and in-person sexual harassment prevention training for City employees as well as continued funding and authority for staff to investigate and review incidents of harassment and discrimination citywide. This coupled with the investment in MyVoiceLA and the creation of an independent review of investigations, are critical first steps in ensuring that we as a city are equipped to address these incidents.

As we are updating our policies and procedures, there will be a period when incident reporting will be on the rise, and therefore, we should consider whether Personnel Department is adequately staffed to receive and investigate the increased number of reports. I request that the Budget and Finance Committee review whether the staffing provided in the Mayor's proposed budget ensures that the Personnel Department is able to adequately and efficiently process and investigate reports related to sexual harassment and discrimination so that we ensure that 100% of reports filed are contacted within 10 days of their submission.

In addition, I would like to ensure that our commitment to addressing the homeless problem in Los Angeles also focuses on the rise in families experiencing homelessness. I would like to request a report

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back from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) on what the agency is doing to address family homelessness including providing an overview of the specific programming focusing on families. How is the Authority moving towards encouraging families to be moved out of motels and into more stable housing? What efforts has LAHSA made to develop a strategy focusing on addressing homeless families' needs? I would like to also recommend that the Budget Committee request a report back on recommendations for funding to implement innovative models specific to families with children living in motels, such as LA Family Housing's "It Takes A Village" proposal (CF 19-0411).

In addition, I would like to write in support of the Los Angeles Fire Department's request for the following items:

- BLS Rescue Ambulances- \$481,901. The addition of ambulance resources is expected to improve response times 58 seconds from the current average of 4:20 for fire Station 39.
- Operations Valley Bureau (OVV) Facilities Package- \$1.5 million Phase II. The funding will assist with design, fees for plan check and permitting, and initial construction costs to Old Fire Station 39 to co-locate and enhance the OVB office with the existing Chief Officer Command Team 42 currently housed at Fire Station 88.
- Oil Well Fire Safety Inspections- \$64,425. The addition of a Fire Inspector I position to comply with the inspection of oil wells will enable the Department to achieve full compliance with State mandated regulations.
- Organizational Study- \$250,000. Over the last 12 years, LAFD has paid out at least \$8.4 million in settlements for lawsuits related to workplace issues, including discrimination and retaliation. This funding will enable an assessment of current workplace issues of concern to the department in order to facilitate a respectful work environment. This funding is necessary to allow the department to continue their mission of aligning the culture of the LAFD with the goals of our city where everyone has a right to feel safe in their workplace.

Lastly, as you are aware, human trafficking has been an issue of great concern to me. Over the last five years, I have been working on augmenting our city's human trafficking fighting efforts. I would like to thank Mayor Garcetti for allocating \$1.5 million in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget for the Human Trafficking and Prostitution Detail. I request that the Budget and Finance Committee allocate the \$1.5 million as follows:

- Operations Valley Bureau: \$500,000
- Operations South Bureau: \$500,000
- Operations West Bureau: \$500,000

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District