



**Joe Buscaino**  
Councilmember, 15th District

May 1, 2019

Hon. Paul Krekorian  
Chair, Budget & Finance Committee  
City Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilmember Krekorian:

I write in strong support of the Los Angeles Fire Department's request for additional funding, as detailed in the Fire Chief's letter, dated April 23, 2019.

While the department's requests will help strengthen and enhance public safety citywide, some will have a specific and unique impact for my district, including the request for funding for a Marine Battalion Chief and an additional Oil Well Safety inspector.

The Port of Los Angeles is the busiest container port in the nation, encompassing 7,500 acres of land and water along 43 miles of waterfront. LAFD is responsible for responding to vessel fires and medical emergencies through the Port, and the addition of a Marine Battalion Chief will reduce the span of control, allow for closer supervision of personnel, and provide for singular focus to all matters related to marine resources. This position will also serve as a dedicated, high-level liaison to the Harbor Department.

Aside from being home to the Port, my district is also unique in that nearly half of all active oil wells in the City are located here; more than any other council district. Ensuring the safety of residents in close proximity to these wells is my top priority. I strongly urge the committee to fund the additional Oil Well Fire Safety Inspector to ensure these wells are operating in full compliance with State regulations.

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

**JOE BUSCAINO**  
Councilmember, 15th District

CC: Ralph Terrazas - *Chief, LAFD*  
Gene Seroka - *Executive Director, Harbor Department*  
Uduak-Joe Ntuk - *Petroleum Administrator, Board of Public Works*