



CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

May 16, 2019

Honorable Paul Krekorian, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee
City of Los Angeles
200 N.Spring Street, Room 435
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: PROJECT SAVE EXPANSION TO COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

Dear Chairman Krekorian and Committee Members:

We write this letter to request the Committee's consideration of allocating \$500,000 dollars to the Project SAVE line item to provide for an expansion of services into Council District 15 and the Watts community. Watts and its neighboring communities have been experiencing higher than normal violence in recent months, and the Project SAVE program is the perfect fit to enhance the resources necessary to help curb violence and help our youth grow into productive adults.

Project SAVE was created in 2006 by Council District 10 to handle the overwhelming violence and rash of murders in the Baldwin Village neighborhood. The program's success became a pioneer and model, along with the work of the Watts Gang Task Force, for what eventually became the GRYD program and Summer Night Lights. With the creation and implementation of the GRYD Program and Summer Night Lights, some neighborhoods continue to need enhanced services to create health and safe communities. Over the last few years, the success of Project SAVE has been expanded into Council Districts 8 and 9, and the results have helped those neighborhoods get back on the right track.

At this critical time, it is important that we provide the necessary enhanced gang prevention and intervention resources and programming for Council District 15 and the Watts community. Once again, we request your consideration of funding for an expansion of Project SAVE as described. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Chief of Staff Jenny Chavez in CD 15 or Assistant Chief Deputy Andrew Westall in CD 10.

Sincerely,

JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

HERB J. WEISSON, JR.
President, Los Angeles City Council
Councilmember, 10th District