A fundamental responsibility of the City is to ensure the cleanliness of public spaces and the public right-of-way. While this responsibility is a significant challenge in an urban environment as large as Los Angeles, the pervasiveness of trash, litter, and debris on streets, sidewalks, medians, and alleys is a continuing, if not growing problem that needs to be addressed immediately.

While the City engages in a variety of actions to clean the public right-of-way, including street sweeping, bulky item pick-up, performing and/or regulating residential and commercial trash pick-up, and deploying the Comprehensive Cleaning and Rapid Engagement Teams, also known as CARE and CARE+, there is a need for additional interventions.

One such program the City should establish is a litter abatement program, (Council File 17-1121), that would employ homeless individuals. This program would assist homeless individuals by providing paid employment, job training, career development services, and a pipeline to full-time, City employment as well as housing and other supportive services as needed.

Given that this proposal is currently being reviewed by Council Committees, and was previously waitlisted in the City Administrative Officer’s Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding recommendation report, but lacks an identified funding source, the anticipated State Homeless, Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program grant should be used to fund this program.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst be instructed to submit to the Homeless Strategy Committee for review a funding request of up to $2.95M using the State’s Homeless, Housing Assistance, and Prevention program grant to establish a Loose Litter Program; and

I FURTHER MOVE that if this program is not funded by the Homeless, Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program grant, the City Administrative Officer report to Council with an alternative funding source(s) at the time grant funding is committed.

CO-PRESENTED BY: JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

CO-PRESENTED BY: BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY: DEC 04 2019