

Communication from Public

Name: Joshua Geller

Date Submitted: 03/17/2020 08:28 AM

Council File No: 20-0147

Comments for Public Posting: City leadership should be doing everything in its power to adopt policies and programs that support and encourage social distancing and other recommendations for controlling the spread of covid-19. LACAA urges the City Council and Mayor to adopt a response that maximizes participation in telecommuting and reduces the financial impact of staying home from work. To that end, the City should adopt the most permissive policies for providing paid administrative leave to any employee that cannot perform work at home, for whatever reason. The same should be true for newly hired employees who do not have sufficient sick time, vacation, or other paid leave to stay home for the duration of this crisis. Further, measures should be implemented to protect the benefits of employees who may not otherwise have sufficient time on payroll to maintain their benefits. All of this should apply retroactively to the date of the City's initial recognition of the public health threats posted by covid-19, and any employee who took responsive action to protect the public health and had to use other payroll codes to receive compensation should be retroactively awarded paid admin leave and have their other paid leave restored. For employees who must remain at work, the City should ensure that workspaces are completely sanitized as frequently as possible and that disinfectant wipes, sprays, etc are readily available on every floor of every building where City employees are working.