

Communication from Public

Name: Barbara Hensleigh
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 05:28 PM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Although we recognize that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have had an unforeseen effect on the City's budget planning, we oppose cuts to climate change programs. The City of Los Angeles can provide leadership in the near-term health crisis as well as the longer-term climate crisis. We should restore funding for the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization (\$500k), including the Climate Emergency Commission (\$200k), and the Community Assemblies and pilot projects (\$300k) for a total of \$1 million to the proposed budget. The Climate Emergency Department is critical to engaging our City's frontline communities to shape a just and sustainable recovery that builds a healthier and more resilient future for Angelenos. In addition, please reinstate the four staffers working on the Planning Department's Wildlife Connectivity project. These portions of the overall budget can bring enormous short and long-term benefits to the people of Los Angeles, particularly to low income communities of color that are being disproportionately impacted by climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic. Respectfully,
Barbara Hensleigh Chair, Central Group Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club

Communication from Public

Name: Peter Horton

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 05:31 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I want to echo the many callers today who asked for a delay in the budget vote and a reorganized budget that does not prioritize the police while cutting services. In particular, I agree with the person who said that "the money should be used to support the essential workers that keep this city running, not the cops." Direct aid, especially to undocumented residents who cannot receive federal aid and for whom the mayor's brief initiative was not sufficient, is a much better use of the city budget than the continued inflation of LAPD's budget. Why would the council move forward with such an unpopular giveaway that doesn't serve the best interests of the city? If the police want to protect and serve the city right now, they accept furloughs — that would be a way for them to share the burden that's hitting the people they're supposed to be working for.

Communication from Public

Name: Valerie Albicker

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 05:41 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: In regards to 5/20/2020 City council meeting, agenda #1 Mayor Garcetti's proposed budget: it is a failure to the community to fund the LAPD at 53 percent of the city's budget. It is not the value of the police that is in question, but how are this money allocation is being spent and accounted for. Services for the community are lacking and under funded in the areas of health and mental health , housing development, and employment development.

Communication from Public

Name: Cynthia Juarez

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 05:45 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a long time angeleno I've seen the improvements in our city when public schools and other social programs are funded. Constant policing and choosing to provide more funding to police departments instead of our future, children, will only stop the progression of what LA was starting to create. I plead with you to reconsider your budget decisions.

Communication from Public

Name: nelly a.

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 05:51 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: There is no reason why the lapd needs funding. They never need more funding. Fund the ppl who actually need.

Communication from Public

Name: Penny Elia

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 06:14 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unforeseen effect on the City's budget planning, this does not equate, or should not equate to, cuts to the climate change programs. The City of Los Angeles can provide leadership in the near-term health crisis as well as the longer-term climate crisis. Please restore funding for the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization (\$500k), including the Climate Emergency Commission (\$200k), and the Community Assemblies and pilot projects (\$300k) for a total of \$1 million to the proposed budget. The Climate Emergency Department is critical to engaging our City's frontline communities to shape a just and sustainable recovery that builds a healthier and more resilient future for Angelenos. Again, provide the leadership that will move this forward. In addition, please reinstate the four staffers working on the Planning Department's Wildlife Connectivity project. These portions of the overall budget can bring enormous short and long-term benefits to the people of Los Angeles, particularly to low income communities of color that are being disproportionately impacted by climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Communication from Public

Name: G Rowley

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 06:14 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We need funding for the people of Los Angeles, NOT for the police. Fund services who will help those most hurt by covid. The police have brutalized communicate of color. The police need oversight not more funding.

Communication from Public

Name: Benjamin Hagerty

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 06:33 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Although I recognize that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have had an unforeseen effect on the City's budget planning, I oppose cuts to climate change programs. The City of Los Angeles can provide leadership in the near-term health crisis as well as the longer-term climate crisis. We should restore funding for the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization (\$500k), including the Climate Emergency Commission (\$200k), and the Community Assemblies and pilot projects (\$300k) for a total of \$1 million to the proposed budget. The Climate Emergency Department is critical to engaging our City's frontline communities to shape a just and sustainable recovery that builds a healthier and more resilient future for Angelenos. In addition, please reinstate the four staffers working on the Planning Department's Wildlife Connectivity project. These portions of the overall budget can bring enormous short and long-term benefits to the people of Los Angeles, particularly to low income communities of color that are being disproportionately impacted by climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Communication from Public

Name: Chase Engelhardt

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 06:36 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello My name is Chase Engelhardt and I'm a resident of CD 11. I volunteer with 350.org and Sierra Club, and work for Climate Resolve. Although we recognize that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have had an unforeseen effect on the City's budget planning, we oppose cuts to climate change programs. The City of Los Angeles can provide leadership in the near-term health crisis as well as the longer-term climate crisis. We should restore funding for the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization (\$500k), including the Climate Emergency Commission (\$200k), and the Community Assemblies and pilot projects (\$300k) for a total of \$1 million to the proposed budget. The Climate Emergency Department is critical to engaging our City's frontline communities to shape a just and sustainable recovery that builds a healthier and more resilient future for Angelenos. In addition, please reinstate the four staffers working on the Planning Department's Wildlife Connectivity project. These portions of the overall budget can bring enormous short and long-term benefits to the people of Los Angeles, particularly to low income communities of color that are being disproportionately impacted by climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you,
Chase

Communication from Public

Name: Patricia McPherson

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 07:26 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Grassroots Coalition supports comments made by the senior director, Morgan Goodwin, of the Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club pertaining to maintaining/restoring \$500k for the Climate Emergency Mobilization, including the Climate Emergency Commission -\$200k , and the Community Assemblies and pilot projects -\$300k for a total of \$1million to the proposed budget. Grassroots Coalition also supports reinstating the four staffers working on the Planning Dept.'s Wildlife Connectivity Project. Energy issues and climate issues are key to a positive future and environmental health. In the midst of coping with the Covid emergency, the public can be seen online working strongly to promote a healthier, safer global environment--both built and natural. Please continue to support these efforts and vote to ensure funding for a continuing Climate Emergency Mobilization Office. Patricia McPherson, President, Grassroots Coalition Than Pl

Communication from Public

Name: Eduardo Pajarito

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 02:13 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: IN REGARDS TO THE PROPOSAL ABOUT MAYOR GARCETTI'S BUDGET ALLOCATING 53.8% OF ITS \$5.4 BILLION BUDGET TO LAPD FUNDING: I disagree with this pitch entirely, as there are so many services elsewhere that need upheaval and updating, and would benefit deeply from such financial support. PARTICULARLY CONSIDERING THE CURRENT SITUATION WE FIND OURSELVES IN WITH THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC, while Los Angeles is doing better than most out there at combatting and curbing the disease, many facets of our societal infrastructure are suffering, and will continue to suffer, and could easily utilize this money, and help make recovery and growth from this downturn healthy for any and all Los Angeles citizens; it would set a shining example for how we could rebuild from these troubling and intense times. I do not believe giving this much money to the LAPD will do so, and will instead set a dark precedent for how little support it seems certain systems and branches would "need". Please consider spreading more of this chunk of money out to other systems, such as IHSS, who could use more employees, and better pay for personal care assistants of disabled folks who need help surviving while staying at home, which would keep us all sane and save us all. That's just one example of how a lot of this money could be used for the betterment of so many lives in need. Please consider other facets in which you can allocate this money to help save lives and pave a path for a brighter, healthier future for all of us. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Jaclyn Hoffmann

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 02:18 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Re: the proposed budget I vehemently disagree with 53% of the budget going towards LAPD. That money would be better used by other services. For example, I am an IHSS recipient and it is an absolute nightmare to navigate the program. Instead of CUTTING 7% of the IHSS hours, a portion of that 53% going to LAPD should be used towards the care needed to keep recipients living in their homes, safely. The rate for IHSS providers a.k.a. essential workers should be higher; it's difficult for me to find reliable providers who will work for such low pay. There should be more employees hired at the IHSS offices so they're not always so overwhelmed and backed up. This is just one example, from my own experience, of how the proposed budget is negligent of its city's needs. I beg you to please reconsider the allocations.

Communication from Public

Name: Olga Aguilar

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 01:31 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Care NOT cops. Please do not pass this budget plan that lets cops have more funding when citizens are in more need. It's ridiculous that during a pandemic, the council would even propose such a budget to be passed when citizens are suffering through extreme hardships. Please do not pass this budget. CARE NOT COPS.

Communication from Public

Name: alex l carcieri

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 03:48 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is alex carcieri and I live in echo park. I am asking you to delay the budget vote and give the community the opportunity to give meaningful input into the document, which is crucial to the wellbeing of Angelenos. A budget is a reflection of our city's values. Right now, we have a moral imperative to provide non-punitive SERVICES that keep people housed and healthy, that strengthen small businesses and help people thrive. We don't need more police and we can't afford to pass another budget overwhelmingly devoted to police over people. We need Los Angeles to prioritize housing, health services, food programs, and other services—not to fill police coffers.

Communication from Public

Name: Camille

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 03:57 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE change the budget to reflect the needs of LA constituents. We DO NOT need more money for cops. Please divert that money to health and human services, using the guidelines laid out by People's Budget LA (peoplesbudgetla.com). People were struggling to get by before Covid-19 and now it is clear that the LA City Council is happy to sit by and do nothing but watch people die in the face of the pandemic. Please redo the budget! Please reallocate the police funding. We could use that money to provide widely available food programming, medical support for homeless folks, and for a whole number of other things lined out in the people's budget. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Carlos Montes
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 04:16 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: We need a budget with funding for human needs and services and less money for LAPD, please.

Communication from Public

Name: Gwen Creighton

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 04:32 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We need housing. We need healthcare. We need healthy food. We need good jobs. We need educational enrichment. We need small business resources. We need mental healthcare. We need free public transit. We don't need more police. The \$8.4M designated SOELY to ensure tents are down near Bridge Shelters is...?? More than double the budget for the Emergency Management Department (\$3.4M) More than ENTIRE budget for Sworn OT for our brave @LAFD firefighters (\$6.5M) More than the LAFD's entire budget for Sworn Bonuses (\$5.8M) More than the entire budget for contracted brush clearance to prevent wildfires (\$3.5M) More than ALL of the LAFD's Field Equipment (\$4.7M) More than ALL of the LAFD Rescue Supplies (\$3.6M) More than the ENTIRE Office of Public Accountability (which oversees the scandal-ridden DWP) (\$3.1M) More than the ENTIRE budget for the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (\$2.8M) More than the ENTIRE budget for the city's Civil and Human Rights Commission (\$400K) More than The City's ENTIRE Department on Disability (\$4.5M) More than the Bureau of Engineering's ENTIRE budget for sidewalks and complete streets (\$4M) More than the Transportation Department's budget for Sustainable Transportation (\$6.5M) More than the Transportation Department's budget for Planning & Land Use (\$7.1M) More than the Transportation Department's budget for Emergency Management (\$3.6M) More than the Transportation Department's budget for Crossing Guards (\$8.3M) More than the city's Bikeshare Operations & Maintenance (\$5M) More than the entire budget for the Department of Convention and Tourism Development (\$1.6M) More than the total budget for litigation in the City Attorney's Office (\$5.2M) More than the budget for city's Economic Development Programs (\$7.7M) More than the entire budget for Public Art funded through the Cultural Affairs Department (\$2.5M) More than the Cultural Affairs Department's entire Grant Program (\$5.7M)

Communication from Public

Name: Morgan Goodwin
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 04:39 PM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Although we recognize that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have had an unforeseen effect on the City's budget planning, we oppose cuts to climate change programs. The City of Los Angeles can provide leadership in the near-term health crisis as well as the longer-term climate crisis. ? We should restore funding for the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization (\$500k), including the Climate Emergency Commission (\$200k), and the Community Assemblies and pilot projects (\$300k) for a total of \$1 million to the proposed budget.? The Climate Emergency Department is critical to engaging our City's frontline communities to shape a just and sustainable recovery that builds a healthier and more resilient future for Angelenos. ? In addition, please reinstate the four staffers working on the Planning Department's Wildlife Connectivity project. ? These portions of the overall budget can bring enormous short and long-term benefits to the people of Los Angeles, particularly to low income communities of color that are being disproportionately impacted by climate change and the COVID-18 pandemic.

Communication from Public

Name: Nakia Cornish

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 04:50 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. My name is Nakia Cornish and I am a member of Community Coalition as well as a constituent of CD9. I am writing into today to oppose the proposed budget increase for the LAPD. The funding is needed in our communities not in over policing. The City's budget is a moral document that reflects an institution's values and vision for the people. During these unprecedented times of desperation and economic instability, the proposed budget clearly shows a lack of regard for poor and working-class communities that are in dire need of housing, mental health, substance abuse, family care, and other services that will help our people thrive.

Communication from Public

Name: Linda Gomez

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 04:51 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Linda Gomez and I would like to speak on Item #1. I'm a Civic Engagement Specialist at the Community Coalition and a constituent in City Council District 8. I'm speaking in strong opposition of the proposed proposteroused budget to increase funding for LAPD. LA has experienced a 30% decline in crime, yet Mayor Garcetti is proposing to increase LAPD's budget towards the upwards of \$123 million, a 7% increase from last year. LAPD has a long history of terror and criminalizing Black and Brown folks, yet receives over 53% of the City's general fund. Marginalized and underserved communities need quality education, housing, jobs, food resources, and reentry services that improve the quality of life for historically oppressed communities. I know people that are coming home from jail/prison and do not have access to housing, jobs, proper medical, financial assistance and so many other necessities to ensure a healthy transition. I served 18 ½ years in prison and upon my release went to A New Way of Life ReEntry project. At A New Way of Life I was able to receive support in housing, employment, food and emotional support. Which were essential in my transition. These are the types of services needed in our communities today, not more policing. I am asking to delay, rethink and redistribute allocation of these funds and prioritize the community needs rather than the LAPD wants. I am fed up because my community has been plagued by criminalization and police violence for far too long. An increase to law enforcement funding, while gutting other critical services for communities most impacted by the pandemic, is a complete disappointment in the current leadership. We are asking that you prioritize funding for critical services for communities largely impacted by the global pandemic and support a humane budget that reflects the priorities and needs of Black, Brown, and poor Angelenos. To cut much needed services is unjust, especially during the current health crisis. Many people in my community have already been suffering from a lack of supportive services prior to the pandemic and we do not want more resources going towards police and criminalization.

Communication from Public

Name: Monica Embrey
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 05:04 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: While there are serious effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the City's budget planning, I must write to oppose cuts to climate change programs. The City of Los Angeles can provide leadership in the near-term health crisis as well as the longer-term climate crisis. We should restore funding for the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization (\$500k), including the Climate Emergency Commission (\$200k), and the Community Assemblies and pilot projects (\$300k) for a total of \$1 million to the proposed budget. The Climate Emergency Department is critical to engaging our City's frontline communities to shape a just and sustainable recovery that builds a healthier and more resilient future for Angelenos. In addition, please reinstate the four staffers working on the Planning Department's Wildlife Connectivity project. These portions of the overall budget can bring enormous short and long-term benefits to the people of Los Angeles, particularly to low income communities of color that are being disproportionately impacted by climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Communication from Public

Name: Seth Pierson

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 05:13 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The LA Mayor's proposed budget is galling to all LA residents who know that we already live in a barely-functioning society on the brink of collapse. The budget proposal on offer here is a threat to every Angeleno: that the devolution of LA into a feudal state lorded by a few dozen billionaires and bought-off politicians is indeed THE PLAN, and that that plan will be enforced at automatic gunpoint and from the comfort of repurposed military vehicles and tanks. This budget proposal is a manifesto of the priorities and values of Los Angeles' ruling class: to starve every single social program that exists to heal suffering and violence caused by unearned power and unequal wealth, while spending all public trust and public money repressing opposition to the suffering and violence caused by unearned power and unequal wealth. This will feed every single negative cycle and social feedback loop that was used to justify the LAPD's outrageous budgets up until now. This would, in fact, be the only way of guaranteeing the sort of rioting and violence that our city's so-called leaders claim they fear. What that suggests to me is that this is exactly how our politicians plan to lead, and that that is the response that they hope to stoke so they can justify even further crackdowns. No intent to empower us to self-govern and survive through collective action exists anywhere here, but instead we get the promise that instead our rulers will govern us through repression and violence indefinitely with no plan to ever draw their forces down. The clear plan here renders Los Angeles nothing less than an occupied prison colony in a police state. We are not here to be broken for profit. We are not here to be made expendable. We will NOT be target practice for bored cops parking their repurposed MRAPs outside Fred 62 so they can pay for their brunches on our tab. (And that last one is literally a thing I've seen multiple times.) Rescind this budget measure. Create a people's budget immediately or the people will seek our own paths to power that do not and will not involve asking the permission of you and your donor-owners ever again. We will become ungovernable when we must.

Communication from Public

Name: Miriam Faugno

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 07:44 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I cannot fathom the reasoning behind the proposal to eliminate the Climate Emergency Mobilization office. This entire Corona Virus Pandemic IS a CLIMATE EMERGENCY !!! It is a direct Result of ignoring the world's Climate. When we destroy our own "habitat" we harm Everyone and Everything alive. This is absolutely the utterly LAST thing we should be doing now. It is like drilling holes in our only Life Boat. Miriam Faugno Playa del Rey Vice-Chair, AMG Sierra Club

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:09 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am commenting on the budget proposal for tomorrow's meeting, specifically regarding the massive increase in funding for LAPD. The people of LA do not want, need, or desire for LAPD to be more funded. LA needs to stop contributing to the prison industrial complex and invest resources into social supports that make our communities healthier, happier, and SAFER. By choosing to invest in police over the needs of Angelenos you are perpetuating crime and cycles of inequity. If you were serious about making our communities safer you would instead invest in the communities themselves. It is incumbent upon you to support the people of LA rather than the organization that is tearing our communities apart, especially during the global pandemic we are currently facing. I urge you to reconsider this and choose education, health care, public transportation, and PEOPLE.

Communication from Public

Name: Scott W Doyle
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:43 PM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: 1. In broad terms, I urge you to follow the recommendations of the HealthyLA Coalition to ensure a humane and inclusive response to the COVID crisis. 2. Because immigrants rights are a particular concern, I ask that you support the Mayor's allocation of \$1 million for the LA Justice Fund to provide deportation defense for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in the Los Angeles area. 3. I am very concerned about the disproportionate share of the budget devoted to LAPD. This crisis has shone a bright spotlight on our overcrowded jails, on how we have for years approached social problems like poverty, homelessness, and mental health (all of which require compassionate and nuanced policy responses) with the hammer of law enforcement. Simply put, we need less law enforcement, more social equity. This has been the case for years, and is even more true going forward. Please make room for a real and open conversation about priorities, and do not fast-track the Mayor's LAPD-heavy budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Patrick Ioakimedes

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:15 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The idea that the budget for the LAPD is to be increased in the face of enormous cuts to all kinds of services and employees in our communities is outrageous. Whose priorities are at work in such a proposal, because they are not the priorities aimed to serve the majority of the people in our communities?!?
#PeoplesBudgetLA #CareNotCops

Communication from Public

Name: nancy schneider
Date Submitted: 05/19/2020 06:09 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: I urge the city council to reinstate the funding for the pilot wildlife study. This is important to keep wildlife corridors open and help our local wildlife. The mountain lions need our protection as they are endangered.

Communication from Public

Name: Anna Cummins

Date Submitted: 05/11/2020 11:09 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Subject: Support to protect funding for CEMO (CF #20-0600) We know you face difficult choices every day that impact the well-being of Angelenos, including how to manage a budget deficit provoked by pandemic-induced economic shutdown. We must prepare our city for inevitable crises of the future -- both other pandemics predicted to be more common and the impacts of climate change, which in the long term could be more severe than COVID-19. I urge you to protect funding for the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO), the Climate Emergency Commission (CEC), and Community Assemblies be fully protected in the 2020-21 budget. In solidarity, Anna Cummins, The 5 Gyres Institute The LEAP LA Coalition

Communication from Public

Name: karlene johnson
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 08:36 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Kalene Johnson and I'm a member of the Community Coalition and a constituent in City Council District 8. I'm asking you to vote against the proposed budget to increase funding for LAPD and support a humane budget that reflects the priorities and needs of people of color and low income communities that have been greatly affected by the coronavirus outbreak. To cut much needed services is unjust, especially during the current health crisis. Many people in my community have already been suffering from a lack of supportive services prior to the pandemic and we do not want more resources going towards police and criminalization. I'm concerned not only for myself but also for the people in my community not having the ability to pay their rent or mortgage, due to less hours or not having employment entirely. Most people in my area already live paycheck to paycheck and giving them a year to pay back thousands of dollars in back rent (when they were already struggling before this crisis) is absurd. I am fed up because my community has been plagued by criminalization and police violence for far too long. An increase to law enforcement funding, while denying other critical services for communities most impacted by the pandemic, is a complete disappointment in the current leadership. We are asking that you prioritize funding for critical services for communities largely impacted by the global pandemic.

Communication from Public

Name: Heidi MacKay

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 08:36 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I URGE you go CONTINUE to fund The Wildlife Pilot Study in LA's emergency budget. Los Angeles has more endemic and imperiled plant and animal species than any other ecoregion IN THE NATION. These natural regions are essential habitat for threatened and diminishing wildlife. A MUCH HIGHER RISK of WILDFIRES is possible if the Wildlife Pilot Study is dropped from the budget. Protected "wildlife corridors" serve to broaden and mitigate with buffer zones to help protect hillside homes from wildfires while also protecting connective habitat for our local fauna. Please...practice what you preach. Los Angeles boasts of being supportive of the environment and supports the science of Climate Change. However, cutting environmental protections from LA's budget is NOT SUPPORTIVE and can set us back decades on our advances that we've made to protect those species with home we SHARE OUR LAND.

Communication from Public

Name: Latia Suttle

Date Submitted: 05/19/2020 11:54 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a member of Community Coalition. I am concerned about more than half of the cities budget going to police. Los Angeles needs more care and resources and not an increase in police. The global pandemic has largely impacted Black and Brown communities like South Los Angeles. Local government is proposing major cuts to critical services, homeless programs, youth programs, and furloughs of city employees (many of whom are Black and Brown essential workers on the frontlines). Meanwhile, you are entertaining a budget increase of \$123 million for LAPD (7% increase from last year). Our communities have been terrorized by police brutality for far too long. We oppose this budget. We are asking for you to prioritize funding for critical resources for communities largely impacted by this global pandemic. #CARENOTCOPS

Communication from Public

Name: Rickeyna Fields
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 02:54 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Rickeyna Fields and I'm a member of Community Coalition and a constituent in City Council District. I'm asking you to vote against the proposed budget to increase funding for the LAPD and support the human budget that reflects the priorities and needs of Black, Brown, and poor Angelenos. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, I am out of work as well as my mother meaning we have no income coming in. As a student and claimed dependent of my mother I did not receive a stimulus check. With no income coming in I am concerned about how we will pay for our bills and rent during this time. We are asking that you prioritize funding for services this community needs because of the global pandemic.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Russin

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:14 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Council Members, please do everything in your power to protect the arts in Los Angeles. Critical, is to keep in place or devise new streams of revenue to ensure that support for the Department of Cultural Affairs doesn't slip below current funding levels. Los Angeles has long struggled to have comparable per capita funding for the arts as other cities such as San Francisco and New York. DCA is one of the most important mechanisms to support the organizations and artists that bring art to the people of our city. We are the Creative Capital of the World. Thank you. Sarah Russin, Executive Director, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, 6522 Hollywood Blvd.

Communication from Public

Name: Kishi Hundley

Date Submitted: 05/19/2020 08:26 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The City's budget is a moral document that reflects an institution's values and vision for the people. During these unprecedented times of desperation and economic instability, the proposed budget clearly shows a lack of regard for poor and working-class communities that are in dire need of housing, mental health, substance abuse, family care, and other services that will help our people thrive.

Communication from Public

Name: Dalia Cruz

Date Submitted: 05/19/2020 10:45 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Office of the City Clerk, My name is Dalia Cruz and I'm a member of the Community Coalition and a constituent in City Council District 8. I'm asking you to vote against the proposed budget to increase funding for LAPD and instead support a humane budget that reflects the priorities and needs of Black, Brown, and low-income Angelenos. To cut much needed services is unjust, especially during the current health crisis. Many people in my community have already been suffering from a lack of supportive services prior to the pandemic and we do not want more resources going towards police and criminalization. At this moment, I am concerned about my ability to pay for rent the following months due to COVID-19. I was laid off from my job, because of COVID-19 and no longer have a financial income to pay my essential bills and rent. I applied for government assistance, but I have not received help yet, due to pandemic and the increase in demand for government assistance. Moreover, I am also a community college student currently enrolled at Los Angeles Community College and before COVID-19 I had resources like public libraries on campus and off campus, and my job that was helping me achieve my educational goal, to transfer to a four-year university. I am fed up because my community has been plagued by criminalization and police violence for far too long. An increase to law enforcement funding, while removing other critical services for communities most impacted by the pandemic, is a complete disappointment in the current leadership. We are asking that you prioritize funding for critical services for communities largely impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic. Sincerely, Dalia Cruz

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Valentino

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: In my opinion, the LA budget is racist. I lived in Hyde Park for over 18 months. I've heard developers say, "Don't say South Central anymore. We say, South LA now" I think this is because the city doesn't want to invest in fixing what they broke. They don't feel black people are worth the investment. This is clearly racist. Choosing a football stadium for a team that went 9 and 7 last year over feeding black people is disgusting. When people hear, "South Central" They think of crime. At one time, I probably did too. It's because that image has been forced into our fucking minds. Now I think of beautiful people that our Mayor forgot. I'm white, and I didn't have a clear understanding of white privilege until moving to South Central. I do now. It's crystal fucking clear. The people of South Central have been forgotten by our local government. Where are the white social justice warriors when we need them? The whole thing is gross and it's time to call this out for what it is; Slavery. Step up, Garcetti.

Communication from Public

Name: Donna Perkins

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:49 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm a homeowner and taxpayer in District 10 and a parent. I'm also a member of Black Lives Matter and the National Council of Negro Women. I'm demanding that the City Council delay voting on the mayor's proposed budget until the public has time to appropriately comment on it. We need a budget that gives people what they need, during this pandemic and beyond it. Instead of cutting money for those needs, I'm demanding that my taxes go toward the things that actually make us more safe: physical and mental health care, affordable housing, green jobs and help for small businesses, not more money for policing that does not make us more safe. We need more care for our communities, not more cops and more overtime for them.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica CRaven

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:52 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, I live in CD1. I am asking you to delay the budget vote and give the community the opportunity to give meaningful input into the document, which is crucial to the wellbeing of Angelenos. A budget is a reflection of our city's values. Right now, we have a moral imperative to provide services that keep people housed and healthy, that strengthen small businesses and help people thrive. We don't need more police and we can't afford to pass another budget overwhelmingly devoted to police over people. We need Los Angeles to prioritize housing, health services, food programs, and other services—not to fill police coffers. Thanks.

Communication from Public

Name: Cherise

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:11 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am speaking in regards to Mayor Garcetti's new budget proposal and I am concerned about the amount of money being considered given to LAPD. We need a budget process that engages the public... a budget that centers humanity not policing. We do not need a spending increase for LAPD. What we do need is LAPD reform. We need to focus on training LAPD the proper ways of handling people with mental illness. Which is why we need more funding toward mental illness to make people more aware. We need more mental health hospitals and less prisons. We need to train LAPD to treat black and brown people the same way as they treat white people. LAPD should not be able to justify the killing of innocent unarmed civilians by saying they feared for their lives when in all actuality, its the citizens who fear for their lives when approached by LAPD. The police brutality needs to stop and by increasing their spending will only aid in the brutality and continued abuse. We need housing, education, mental healthcare especially and small business support ! We need someone who will speak up against the police brutality against black and brown not someone who gives them more money and more power. We as black and brown are not to be feared... we are to be treated equal!

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Romann

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:26 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Along with my colleagues in the LEAP-LA, I am requesting the Council restore funding in the Budget for for the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office and Commission, including by carrying over unused funds from the FY19-20 budget. We fully understand the fiscal challenges facing the city in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis. As Mayor Garcetti has said himself, the recovery and rebuilding of the economy under COVID will not return to the "pre-COVID" normal but instead will lead to a new normal. We also know that this relatively small investment to create this Office and Commission and some public engagement will bear significant fruit for the city in multiple related ways :1) these will be permanent institutions not dependent on Mayoral discretion that will allow the City to continue its focus on addressing the climate crisis; 2) ensuring mechanisms for the most vulnerable communities, frontline communities, to have an important hand in shaping climate and environmental policy (something the city has not done well so far, where unintended negative consequences have fallen on these communities;) 3) facilitate the development of a COVID recovery plan that is linked to just transition off of our fossil fuel economy, and to ensure that frontline communities can shape this plan -- following the model outlined in the People's Bailout platform that the Council recently endorsed. Please restore these funds!

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew Hunter

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:58 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: This budget is inappropriate for the time at hand and is rushed! Please open this process up and get more stakeholders involved. The proposed budget does NOT meet the need of the majority, instead it focus on the police and the wealthy few they protect. Currently, over half the adult population in the city of Los Angeles is unemployed, and economists speculate that 42 percent of the positions that were lost will be permanent. The city of Los Angeles is also going through a housing shortage, and with the bleak outlook for jobs, we may have a significant rise in homelessness (this budget only contains a 1 percent increases in homeless assistance). We need a budget based on humanity for the masses of Los Angeles. We need to invest in transportation, housing, jobs and job training, education, and mental health! The proposed budget as it stands now does not demonstrate the ideals of our city, nor does it reflect the words our Mayor has conveyed since the beginning of the outbreak. Again, please open up the budgeting discussions to more stakeholders so we can have a truly democratic process.

Communication from Public

Name: Renee Garcia

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:05 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Renee Garcia with Immigrant Defenders Law Center. We urge your support to renew the LA Justice Fund (LAJF), especially as Mayor Garcetti has already earmarked this in the Mayor's budget. Additionally, we urge your support for an amendment to the CLA report, when it goes to the full City Council, that ensures that the funds can be used for all cases. Today, in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic, LAJF attorneys continue doing the work. Despite our call to the federal government to free all individuals from detention, that has not been the case. In fact, in opposition to our demands, detention centers like Adelanto are actually still considering expanding their number of beds. As a result, we write to respectfully urge your support for the funding allocated for the LAJF to ensure the protection of non-citizen Angelenos caught in the deportation machine. It is important to note that the LAJF has been critical in responding and spearheading efforts to mitigate the draconian and inhumane policies of the Trump Administration. LAJF attorneys and advocates have provided and can continue to provide support and respite, as they are on the ground, in detention centers, and in immigration courts tracking cases, seeing the changing policies, and developing real-time solutions that can be best-practice models for others facing similar circumstances. So, again, we write to respectfully urge your support for the funding that the Mayor has allocated and for the amendment to ensure the protection of ALL non-citizen Angelenos caught in the deportation machine.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Hart

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:23 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: After waiting for two hours May 20 to make a public comment, I was cut off. I know that virtual city council meetings are new for all of us; just as we are working to give our City leaders the benefit of the doubt, I would hope that our leaders would do the same for us and let us speak, or, barring that, at least not waste our time. I don't know how many people were in the queue, but the people managing the meeting certainly should have known, and should have communicated that to those of us waiting. This is what I was going to say: My name is Lisa Hart, and I am with the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance. Our board is concerned that the proposed budget appears to be penny-wise and pound-foolish, cutting programs such as the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization, which could help rebuild our economy while also helping communities that have been hit hardest by the pandemic. Unfortunately, we cannot afford to continue postponing efforts to address the climate crisis, which won't wait for the coronavirus to go away. And, as you know, now, more than ever, we need to invest in our communities, which includes our environment. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Grace McCullough

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:33 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I hope you are hearing all of your constituents taking their time today to speak about the budget of the city we care so much about. I am a teacher, a born and raised Angeleno, and I have been working to improve my city my entire life, just like many of you. City Council President Nury Martinez, please refuse to vote today on this proposed budget from our Mayor. How can we cut education right now? How can we cut healthcare right now? 55% of Angelenos are currently unemployed. And yet 54% of our current discretionary spending budget ALREADY goes to LAPD- not schools specifically, not pot holes in the hood, not more street lights, and health clinics in low income and no income neighborhoods, but more than half of our city's money goes to the Police forces. And we wonder why LAPD is consider one of the most deadly police departments in the nation. How can we justify these facts? You say, City Council President Martinez, that you understand, at least on twitter, the needs of our most vulnerable, marginalized communities here in LA. Please prioritize these communities who need us the most and DELAY THE VOTE on this proposed budget until you get MORE PEOPLES input and make a budget that supports the people most in need in our city. It is unthinkable that housing will receive 9.4% less money, the workforce will receive 8.9% less money, and the police will receive 7.1% more money in this currently proposed budget. Please do NOT APPROVE THIS BUDGET. Please stand for us. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Noemi
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:40 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Noemi. I urge your support to renew the LA Justice Fund (LJF), especially as Mayor Garcetti has already earmarked this in the Mayor's budget. Additionally, I urge your support for an amendment to the CLA report, when it goes to the full City Council, that ensures that the funds can be used for all cases. Today, in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic, LJF attorneys continue doing the work. Despite the call to the federal government to free all individuals from detention, that has not been the case. In fact, in opposition to our demands, detention centers like Adelanto are actually still considering expanding their number of beds. As a result, I write to respectfully urge your support for the funding allocated for the LJF to ensure the protection of non-citizen Angelenos caught in the deportation machine. It is important to note that the LJF has been critical in responding and spearheading efforts to mitigate the draconian and inhumane policies of the Trump Administration. LJF attorneys and advocates have provided and can continue to provide support and respite, as they are on the ground, in detention centers, and in immigration courts tracking cases, seeing the changing policies, and developing real-time solutions that can be best-practice models for others facing similar circumstances. So, again, I write to respectfully urge your support for the funding that the Mayor has allocated and for the amendment to ensure the protection of ALL non-citizen Angelenos caught in the deportation machine. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Alexandra Morales

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 11:59 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good afternoon council, My name is Alexandra Morales commenting on behalf of CARECEN - On the budget, we support the Mayor's proposed budget as it pertains to the Los Angeles Justice Fund. These times of crisis more than ever have highlighted the disparities that exist among our most vulnerable including our immigrant community. We must continue to be a leading city to ensure that our immigrant community is represented and supported and not left behind especially in the worst of times. For our immigrants that is when they find themselves in need of deportation defense in order to not fall victim to being stripped away of due process and separated from their families in Los Angeles as we have seen happen for many years. The Los Angeles Justice Fund is a prime example of how we must continue to be committed and work together to defend our most vulnerable. Even if one member of our community is lost a whole family and community is impacted . The LAJF has helped hundreds of our immigrant community members remain with their families in Los Angeles. We must continue to be ready to respond to deportations. Especially as we see on the horizon TPS holders and DACA recipients vulnerable to being part of this group as they both await court decisions this year —we must be ready. Members of your committee said it best last year during the first budget hearing then- the LA justice fund is part of the DNA of our city to support our immigrant community. For these reasons and more we thank you for your commitment to our immigrants and we look forward to continue working with LA City and County.

January 9, 2020

To: Los Angeles City Council and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti

RE: Renewing the Los Angeles Justice Fund (LAJF) and addressing current funding gap

Dear Honorable Mayor Eric Garcetti and Honorable City Council Members,

We, the undersigned 85 legal, policy, educational, and community-based organizations, advocates, and direct service providers -- spanning immigrant rights, LGBT, housing, health, equitable development, environmental justice, labor, faith, and grass-roots organizing advocates -- strongly urge you to renew funding for the Los Angeles Justice Fund (LAJF) and immediately address the current funding gap lapse which, as of mid-November, has begun to limit access to legal representation services for Los Angeles immigrant communities facing removal proceedings under the Trump Administration. We have three requests of you, all of which are further outlined in the letter:

1. Increased, multi-year, dedicated funding by June 2020.
2. Advance the Universal Representation Model.
3. Meet with LAJF coalition members and community members.

While we are thankful that the City took a meaningful and powerful step in 2017 to fund the creation of the LAJF alongside the County of Los Angeles and Philanthropy, we are deeply concerned regarding the current lack of an official commitment from the city of Los Angeles to ensure continuity of services and collaboration to build a stronger and more inclusive model for the LA Justice Fund. That is why, as we continue to celebrate the Mayor and City Council's ongoing expressions of solidarity, we call on you to once again take a concrete step to protect our immigrant families by renewing the Los Angeles Justice Fund in 2020.

The Los Angeles Justice Fund is the epitome of what the City can and must do for its immigrant community. In the past two years the LA Justice Fund has kept families together, saved lives, and provided support for the most vulnerable in our community. It has also validated everything we predicted back in 2017 and more:

- It has demonstrated that the city can create tangible and effective resources that foster a sense of safety and belonging for the immigrant community.
- It has demonstrated with proven statistics the pressing need for due-process and legal representation services for an immigrant community that is now affected by what is clearly a detention and deportation machine into full effect.
- It has positioned the City as one of the nation's primary leaders in responding to ongoing

attacks to immigrant communities, a reality that is far from over and only intensifies day by day.

In 2017, when the Los Angeles Justice Fund was created, we anticipated the dangers that would come with the Trump Administration. Since then, the Administration has advanced its mass deportation agenda with three Executive Orders targeting immigrants, increasing interior enforcement, and further militarizing the border. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has morphed into an enforcement branch that fuels Trump's detention and deportation machine.¹ Furthermore, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has targeted Los Angeles by carrying out multiple removal operations in Los Angeles County.¹ Today's dangerous reality also includes the fact that this administration changes the rules on an almost-daily basis, leaving immigrant families even more vulnerable.

The Justice Fund is critical to responding and spearheading efforts to mitigate the draconian and inhumane policies of the Trump Administration. LAJF attorneys and advocates have provided and can continue to provide support and respite, as they are on the ground, in detention centers, and in immigration courts tracking cases, seeing the changing policies, and developing real-time solutions that can be best-practice models for others facing similar circumstances.

Based on the experience of Los Angeles community members, legal service providers, and advocates, we also know that renewal of the LA Justice Fund must include the following in order to build on its accomplishments and expand its impact:

1. Increased, Multi-year, Dedicated Funding by June 2020

The effects of immigration enforcement, and alternately, the benefits of legal representation through LAJF, have extended beyond clients to their families and social networks, expanding the impact of the Fund to local residents and communities.

There are nearly 3.5 million immigrants in Los Angeles County², comprising 35% of the population, the largest number of any region. Studies show that 70% of unauthorized residents are living with at least one citizen, and 34% are living with their own citizen children³. A majority of mixed immigration status families directly and indirectly experience the fear of immigrant families being targeted, torn apart & children being left behind as deportation raids in Los Angeles and across the country.

In response, LAJF has successfully laid the foundation for a robust and collaborative deportation

¹ *Counties Where ICE Arrests Concentrate October 2018*, trac.syr.edu/immigration/reports/533/.

² <https://law.yale.edu/system/files/area/center/liman/document/access-to-counsel-calif-coalition-report-201>

³ https://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/731/docs/LOSANGELES_web.pdf

defense network across Los Angeles that has provided legal representation and a sense of hope to the Angeleno immigrant community. LAJF is now serving clients who are vulnerable community members with deep ties to Los Angeles and the United States. LAJF clients have resided in the United States for an average of 15 years, with more than 60 percent of clients having lived in the country for over a decade. Forty-eight percent of LAJF clients were parents to children in the United States. Seventy-five children, including 71 U.S. citizens, have a parent represented by LAJF. Among these children, 95 percent are U.S. citizens, as such the program’s impact extends beyond its clients to families and children throughout Los Angeles.

The fund is providing critical services to clients that have been identified as having a vulnerability. Nine out of 10 clients had experienced crime victimization, domestic violence, human trafficking, or homelessness, among others.⁴ Forty-two percent of clients were already detained at the time when LAJF grantees took on their cases and 16 percent of clients were children or former unaccompanied children at the time representation began. As of October 2019, 9 percent of clients were LGBT immigrants facing deportation procedures while experiencing homelessness or near homelessness in Los Angeles⁵. In total, 92% of clients served by the LAJF experienced at least one, but usually multiple vulnerabilities.

2. Advance the Universal Representation Model

To be truly grounded in due-process principles, we continue to seek a fully inclusive, universal legal representation program for immigrants in Los Angeles. Every person in removal proceedings deserves an attorney. Our position is guided by core values of dignity, fairness, and justice for all.

The immigration system—which pits unrepresented, often non-English speaking immigrants against trained prosecutors, and in which the chances of winning your case are based less on the merits of your claims than on your ability to pay for an attorney—is not fair. We continue to believe that broader access to counsel for immigrants in removal proceeding is possible and cost-effective when primarily focused on representation of detained immigrants in removal proceedings.

Additionally, we remain firm and united in our conviction that legal representation for individuals in removal proceedings should be truly universal, and must avoid excluding categories of people. This means that the criminal carve-outs and residency requirements must be removed. As stated in the Vera Report⁶, these requirements negatively impact the most vulnerable individuals who are also those who remain most in need of help. This includes those persons who are “in detention

⁴ Los Angeles Justice Fund: Year 1 Implementation Evaluation, Vera Institute of Justice for the California Community Foundation. Updated June 18, 2019

⁵ As reported by the Los Angeles LGBT Center, an LAJF grantee.

⁶ Los Angeles Justice Fund: Year 1 Implementation Evaluation, Vera Institute of Justice for the California Community Foundation. Updated June 18, 2019

with no access to their documents, unaccompanied children, people who are seeking protections through asylum after having recently arrived to the United States, and local area residents who are homeless. [Such carve-outs] have also meant that the Fund is not flexible enough to respond to acute needs such as those arising from the 2018 family separations, as separated families still failed to meet the residency eligibility requirements.

Unlike in criminal proceedings, individuals in the immigration system are not provided court-appointed counsel to assist and represent them in their case. Whereas unrepresented detained immigrants succeed only 6% of the time, those who have lawyers succeed more than five times as often. Given the statistic that representation increases the chances of success by a proportion of 5 times as much, we cannot emphasize enough the importance of the LAJF model that has universal representation.

As attorneys and advocates, those of us working to free Angelenos in ICE detention facilities, such as Adelanto, are seeing, firsthand, that which news reports have told the rest of us: the facilities are run under substandard and inhumane conditions; children are being held in cages; HIV positive individuals are denied life-saving care; people, including children are dying. Since 1996, the average daily population of detained immigrants has ballooned from around 9,000 to more than 52,000 projected by the end of 2019.

The most recent report released by the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General⁷, itself, identified various deficiencies at Adelanto, in violation of the 2011 Performance-Based National Detention Standards. This report expressed concern over nooses in detainee's cells, improper and overly restrictive segregation, and untimely and inadequate detainee medical care.⁸ Since its very inception there have been seven documented deaths in Adelanto.

What we see at the Adelanto Detention Center is a stark reflection of a systemic failure at detention centers across the country, reminding us all that LAJF is about the very real stories of those who have been helped by the fund and those that have not. As of June 2018, according to the Vera Institute report, the fund has saved 345 families, a number that continues to grow. Each one of these LAJF families and their community networks matter and should not be minimized. Here are just some stories that have emerged from LAJF's work:

- **Daniela.** She is a trans rights activist from El Salvador who was tortured in her country of origin because of her gender identity and leadership as a community organizer. She was then detained for more than 7 months without access to HIV care, misdiagnosed with TB medications and almost lost her life in detention. Thanks to the Los Angeles Justice Fund, she was paroled out of detention, won her asylum case, connected with Los Angeles LGBT

⁷ *Management Alert – Issues Requiring Action at the Adelanto ICE Processing Center in Adelanto, California*

⁸ <https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2018-10/OIG-18-86-Sep18.pd>

community resources, and now works and lives with her Los Angeles based family. In September of 2019 she spoke in Washington DC at a Congressional Briefing and at a Press Conference hosted by Congressional representatives in support of the Dignity for Detained Immigrants bill. She reminds us of Roxsana Hernandez, a trans woman from Honduras, and Johana Medina, a trans woman from El Salvador, who died in 2018 and 2019 respectively, both due to lack of access to HIV care while in detention.

- **Pablo.** He is a lawful permanent resident who has lived for nearly four decades in Los Angeles, won his case for cancellation of removal and was released from ICE detention in August 2019. Pablo's U.S. Citizen children, particularly his young daughter, were devastated by his unexpected detention by ICE related to a year-old conviction. After Pablo was detained by ICE, his family was evicted from their apartment due to the sudden loss of Pablo's income. Pablo is a critical economic support for his family, and his sudden inability to work threatened his older daughter's plans to be the first member of her family to earn a college degree as she could no longer afford tuition. When his LAJF Attorney first met with Pablo, he was unable to provide a complete personal history because of memory loss related to a stroke he suffered. As a result of having an LAJF attorney, Pablo was able to provide clear and complete testimony. Because he was specifically articulate regarding the impacts his deportation would have on his children, the judge granted him cancellation of removal at the end of his hearing and he was released the same day from ICE detention. Pedro's family is now back together.
- **Lupe.** He is the father of three U.S. Citizen children and 6 U.S. Citizen grandchildren and has lived in the Los Angeles area for over 40 years. Lupe, a lawful permanent resident, was detained and placed in removal proceedings based on a single, decade-old simple drug possession conviction. Because of this conviction, Lupe was also subject to mandatory detention and separated him from his family for over five months. His only chance of reuniting with his family was to win his case. After suffering a devastating tragedy just a few years ago when Lupe's son was murdered in Los Angeles, the victim of a drive-by shooting, Lupe's family could not have withstood his deportation. Working with Lupe's life partner, his LAJF Attorney was able to gather extensive evidence to show the impact Lupe's deportation would have on his family, including his six U.S. Citizen grandchildren. Today Lupe is back home with his grandchildren.

If we are to learn anything from our experience, it is that we cannot afford to wait and watch. Action is needed now. Our immigrant communities, who are among the most vulnerable among us, need us now. You have seen the data that immigrants make up the vast majority of our City's residents, and you have seen proof that this administration is clearly targeting them -- the words have been spoken, the policies passed, the raids are happening. The fear on the ground is palpable and the detention and deportation forces threatening to tear apart families and communities are at

work, intensifying its cruelty on an almost-daily basis. We have had to watch as families have been separated and detainees have lost their lives to this cruel system. LAJF attorneys, more often than not, are the last hope for immigrant families who have a loved one in the deportation process.

This city took a bold step in establishing the LAJF. It can do even more by renewing LAJF with increased dedicated multi-year funding and with a commitment to advance the model of universal representation. Therefore, we urge you recommit to, renew, and expand the LAJF urgently, before the Los Angeles immigrant community is left unprotected from the Trump Administration's ever-increasing attacks.

We would like to schedule a meeting in the second week of January with each of your offices to discuss how we can work together to ensure due process for all, prevent ICE from operating in our city with impunity, and keep families together. Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please contact Rabeya Sen, Director of Policy at Esperanza Community Housing Corporation, at rabeya@esperanzacommunityhousing.org.

Respectfully,

Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) Action

ACLU of Southern California

ACLU of Southern California, Immigrants' Rights

ACT-LA (Alliance for Community Transit LA)

AF3IRM Los Angeles

Alliance for A Better Community (ABC)

Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON)

Bend the Arc: Jewish Action

Bienestar Human Services

CADRE (Community Asset Development Redefining Education)

California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC)

California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance (CIYJA)

Californians for Progress

Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)

Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE)

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)

Communities for a Better Environment (CBE)

Community Development Technologies (CDTech)

Day Worker Center of Mountain View

Dignity and Power Now

Downtown Women's Center

DREAM Team Los Angeles

East LA Community Corporation (ELACC)

Educators for Immigrant Rights
Equality California
Esperanza Community Housing Corporation
Esperanza Immigrants' Rights Project
Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement
Filipino Migrant Center
Freedom for Immigrants
Gender Justice LA
Ground Game LA
Holman United Methodist Church
Human Rights First
Human Rights Watch
Immigrant Defenders Law Center
Inclusive Action for the City
International Rescue Committee
Investing in Place
JusticeceLA Coalition
JustLeadershipUSA
Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance (KIWA)
La Comadre
LA Forward
LA Voice
Latin American Studies Program, CalStateLA
Latino Equality Alliance (LEA)
League of Women Voters of Los Angeles
Long Beach Sacred Resistance
Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE)
Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice
Los Angeles LGBT Center
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust (LANLT)
Los Angeles Renters' Right to Counsel Coalition
Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic
LTSC Community Development Corporation
National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE)
National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON)
National Immigration Law Center (NILC)
National Lawyers Guild of Los Angeles (NLG-LA)
Natural Resources Defense Council
Organization for Refuge, Asylum and Migration (ORAM)
Our Gov LA

Parent Revolution
Pars Equality Center
Physicians for Social Responsibility -Los Angeles
Public Counsel
Represent.US: L.A.-San Gabriel Valley Chapter
Resilience Orange County
Secure Justice
Southeast Asian Community Alliance (SEACA)
Southern California Providers for Health Equity
**Southwestern Law School Legal Clinics (Removal Defense Clinic, Immigration Law Clinic,
Community Lawyering Clinic)**
Stand Together Against Neighborhood Drilling (STAND-LA Coalition)
Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE)
Strength United
T.R.U.S.T. South LA
Thai Community Development Center
UCLA Criminal Defense Clinic
UCLA Labor Center
United Neighbors In Defense Against Displacement (UNIDAD) Coalition
Unrig LA
Urban Peace Institute
Women Organizing Resources, Knowledge and Services (WORKS)
Youth Justice Coalition

Communication from Public

Name: Laura Gracia

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:04 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Greetings Council, My name is Laura, I'm with Communities for a Better Environment, an environmental justice organization working to build people power in low-income communities of color. I am disappointed in the budget proposed by our "Climate Mayor" which includes a ridiculous amount to the LAPD and zero for the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO). The CEMO is the intersectional office we need at this moment to ensure people's health and the city space to discuss a community-led Just Recovery. Black, Brown, Indigenous, low-income, communities of color are disproportionately impacted year-round by environmental racism, they also have limited resources during this pandemic. The proposed budget reinforces the lack of prioritization of those most vulnerable. I urge the city council to slow down the budget process and pass a motion to include the original \$500k for the CEMO assemblies and commission. Additionally, I urge the city council to keep the LA Justice Fund Renewal IN the budget. I support an amendment to the CLA Report that ensures funds can be used for everyone, rather than be restricted to only existing cases. Our immigrant communities face a daily barrage of attacks from this administration. This is not the time for the City to decide that only some immigrants will be eligible for their own City's protection and that others are not. We need to stand strongly and fully in solidarity with all immigrants in LA. Thank you,

Communication from Public

Name: Whitney Skauge

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:07 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: It is completely unacceptable that the Los Angeles County budget has 54% of its funds allocated to LAPD. Despite the fact that we are in a global pandemic, Los Angeles has been in desperate need of compassionate politics for decades. How can anyone walk outside and not be alarmed by the homelessness crisis? How can you be aware of the housing crisis and not work towards fixing that? It is completely shameful, disrespectful, and unethical to ignore the increasing growing problems that affect regular Angelenos every single day. I strongly advocate for a review of the proposed 2020-2021 budget. We need to take care of the most vulnerable among us. Please reallocate funds to social services that can provide safety and security to every single citizen in this beautiful city. It is your job. Please take this seriously. People are dying. This is the time for bold progressive action. The LAPD doesn't need more money -- the people of Los Angeles demand your support.

Communication from Public

Name: Grace C

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 01:26 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am asking the council to prioritize the health and safety of their constituents by rejecting the proposed 2020-2021 budget that allocated billions of dollars to the LAPD. I am asking the council to redirect funds to prioritize housing the homeless, free public transportation, mental healthcare, school resources, access to healthy food, small business and tenant protections - services that have proven to increase the economic and overall strength of communities. More policing has never been and will never be a viable or just solution to the rampant homelessness and economic inequality this city faces. The LAPD continually targets, harasses, and disproportionately jails people of color and the poor. It is unconscionable to increase the budget of an organization that endangers the safety and health of the people they are supposed to protect and serve. Unlike the officers of the LAPD, the citizens of Los Angeles have chosen you, the council, to facilitate and advocate for the strength and vibrancy of our communities. We have chosen you to make decisions that benefit us all, including and especially, the marginalized and vulnerable. I am asking the council to make the decision to treat their constituents with the respect and dignity they deserve, to focus resources on ending mass incarceration, mass homelessness, mass hunger, and mass inequality. Thank you for your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Carla Lopez-Valdes

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 01:24 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Los Angeles City Council, My name is Carla Lopez, and I am the Associate Director of Civic Engagement from Alliance for a Better Community. ABC is an advocacy organization focused on promoting the economic prosperity of the Latino community and the Los Angeles region, inclusive of an improved quality of life for Latinos in education, health and civic participation. For over 20 years, ABC has advocated for Latinos and immigrants in Los Angeles as we know that they shape and strengthen for our cities and counties throughout the United States. We urge your support to renew the LA Justice Fund (LAJF), especially as Mayor Garcetti has already earmarked this in the Mayor's budget. We ask for your commitment to support immigrants and their families. We need to stand strongly and fully in solidarity with all immigrants in LA. As families deal with the challenges that come with a pandemic, legal representation should not be another challenge they need to worry about when they are just looking to feed their families and put a roof over their heads. With the current climate, separating families and disrupting whole communities will have a negative impact for years and decades to come. More than ever before, this fund reinforces a safety net that is pro-family, pro-economic growth and pro-civil and human rights. This fund is essential to provide legal representation for people whose only crime was looking to create a better life for their family. ABC respectfully urges your support for the funding allocated for the LAJF to ensure the protection of non-citizen Angelenos. Sincerely, Carla Lopez-Valdes

Alliance *for* A Better Community

Dear Los Angeles City Council,

My name is Carla Lopez, and I am the Associate Director of Civic Engagement from Alliance for a Better Community.

ABC is an advocacy organization focused on promoting the economic prosperity of the Latino community and the Los Angeles region, inclusive of an improved quality of life for Latinos in education, health and civic participation. For over 20 years, ABC has advocated for Latinos and immigrants in Los Angeles as we know that they shape and strengthen for our cities and counties throughout the United States.

We urge your support to renew the LA Justice Fund (LAJF), especially as Mayor Garcetti has already earmarked this in the Mayor's budget. We ask for your commitment to support immigrants and their families. We need to stand strongly and fully in solidarity with all immigrants in LA.

As families deal with the challenges that come with a pandemic, legal representation should not be another challenge they need to worry about when they are just looking to feed their families and put a roof over their heads. With the current climate, separating families and disrupting whole communities will have a negative impact for years and decades to come.

More than ever before, this fund reinforces a safety net that is pro-family, pro-economic growth and pro-civil and human rights. This fund is essential to provide legal representation for people whose only crime was looking to create a better life for their family.

ABC respectfully urges your support for the funding allocated for the LAJF to ensure the protection of non-citizen Angelenos.

Sincerely,
Carla Lopez-Valdes

Communication from Public

Name: Alyssa McLean
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 01:12 PM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a constituent in Studio City, and I want to express my concern and outrage regarding the mayor's proposed budget. We demand and deserve a budget that reflects the values and needs of our city. As someone who has worked with the unhoused and as a mental health professional, I can definitively say that increasing the LAPD budget will not address the many challenges we face in this city. We need adequate services to help improve the lives of all residents, and policing does not address a single one of those needs. We need to decrease the overspending on policing and start to truly invest in the health and wellness of our city. If this budget is approved, then that will make it clear that our city council does not serve the needs of the people. In creating an effective budget, the concerns and ideas of the people need to be heard and taken into account. There needs to be more transparency. Again, the budget should reflect our priorities, and as the budget proposal stands now, it is clear that the wellness of LA residents is not a priority. Please, ensure that the people are the priority. Please prioritize care over policing, and make decisions that would directly and positively impact the people in this city.

Communication from Public

Name: Anisha Hingorani
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 01:07 PM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose the proposed allocations in the city's FY 21 Budget, which allocates 54% of general funds to cops during an acute public health crisis. The city's priorities are disconnected from the majority of Angelenos, who are working class Black, Indigenous, people of color, who struggle to make ends meet to provide food, shelter, and affordable health care to themselves and their families. People are sick, dying, being kicked out of their homes, and having their belongings trashed, and it's incredibly inhumane for the Mayor to put forth a proposal that continues to fund status-quo biased policing instead of investing in community health, economic opportunity, and well-being. We need bold leadership in times of crisis that can act swiftly to protect the most impacted communities, and I'm not seeing that from my representatives. We cannot police our way out this. I urge you to divest from policing and invest in care now.

Communication from Public

Name: Tabatha Yelos

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:40 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: It is absurd to be expediting a budget during these times. We need more SERVICES NOT COPS. Crime is down right now and everyone is struggling. Why are the cops getting a budget increase while the rest of us are left to suffer? We need housing, support for small businesses, rental aid, street maintenance, and so much more. Please cut the LAPD budget and instead use the money to increase all the other budgets. Please! Our lives depend on it!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:42 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Agenda Item #1 I'm asking the City Council to block Garcetti's proposed budget and to reallocate the excessive and wasteful police funding toward services the people of LA actually need. This need was also prior to the pandemic. We need more funds for: -Affordable housing (NOT just building luxury housing that most people cannot afford. My neighborhood CD13, is being destroyed by these developments) -Immediate housing for all the unhoused -Affordable physical and mental health services -Accessible and affordable transportation -Funding for education -Assistance for small businesses -Assistance for parks, recreation, and wildlife as some of the callers mentioned -Rent cancellation and/or forgiveness for renters and small businesses If the mayor genuinely wants to improve the city, he would invest in people and social programs, not increase the LAPD budget when crime is down. This budget demonstrates Garcetti rewarding the police for abusive and racist conduct during a pandemic, when social services are most desperately needed. We need the People's Budget for LA!

Communication from Public

Name: Andres Kwon

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:43 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Especially as we face an unprecedented pandemic and public health crisis, we need a budget that divests from criminalization and invests in community. Mayor Garcetti's proposed \$10.5 billion budget for Los Angeles for this most crucial year reduces services, furloughs city workers, and cuts the budget of all city departments with one big exception: the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). In fact, Mayor Garcetti is proposing to increase LAPD's budget (an additional \$47 million dollars in overtime pay). The LAPD already receives 53-54% of Los Angeles's discretionary spending budget. The community needs an opportunity to give meaningful input into the budget process. A budget is a reflection of our values. Right now, we have a moral imperative to provide services that keep people housed and healthy, that strengthen small businesses and help people thrive. We need Los Angeles to prioritize providing housing, strengthening small business, and building health services, food programs, and other services that help our city thrive—not to fill police coffers. In this context, we also urge your support to renew the LA Justice Fund (LAJF) as well as an amendment to the CLA report, when it goes to the full City Council, that ensures that the funds can be used for all cases. The LAJF is vital in ensuring the protection of non-citizen Angelenos caught in Trump's deportation machine.

Communication from Public

Name: Lindsay Herz

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:43 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed budget is not representative of the actual human needs in LA County and I urge you to: 1. DELAY THE VOTE 2. REALLOCATE FUNDING FROM CORRECTIONS & POLICE TO SERVICES I am a teacher in LAUSD, and we are already facing proposed budget cuts. I can already anticipate cuts to the arts, counseling and social work, and other essential components to a quality education. It is absurd to think that the best way to serve the community is by investing in police. We need to address the ROOT CAUSES of our problems. Investing in education, healthcare, mental health services, and housing actually meet people's basic needs and are all proven to decrease violence in our communities When people have what they need to survive and thrive, they do not need to break laws. Investing in police is NOT addressing the roots; it is a band-aid that only further imbalances our system and will lead to further violence and inequity in the long run. PLEASE consider the needs of ALL of your constituents and act now to reallocate funds away from police.

Communication from Public

Name: Ian Henderson

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:43 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: To the office of the Mayor and the city council members, I am writing as a resident of Los Angeles urging you to deny this atrocious budget proposed by the mayor. Cutting or eliminating budgets to underfunded environmental and social programs, while simultaneously overfunding the LAPD is a key reason as to why the citizens of this city do not trust our local governing body to do what is right for its residents. I hope that the council will have the foresight to see the long-term damage these cuts will have on the city, and the courage to vote no until it is corrected. You have a duty to do right by us as Angelenos and we would like to see that duty performed.

Communication from Public

Name: Yvette Lopez-Ledesma

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:49 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good afternoon Council President Martinez and members of the council. I'm writing from my residence in CD6, where for the last three months LAPD has been flying an increased number of helicopters multiple times throughout the day and night. Pre-stay at home orders, the sound of helicopters were usually followed by the sounds of sirens, but not lately. I wonder what the need for so much surveillance from above is when crime is down, and the silent killer among us that can't be spotted from the sky, domestic violence is on the rise. We are living through what many say is the most stressful time in our collective history and yet the increased presence of police does not bring comfort or security. Cops can not stop a virus. It seems fiscally irresponsible to me to provide the LAPD with such a significant amount of public resources when they repeatedly fail to meet the needs of the public at-large. In the middle of a public health crisis we need public health solutions. Safe housing, food, mental health resources, places for respite such as parks and access to financial support resources. If our public budgeting processes do not prioritize those with the least of said resources during this time, we are failing. I say "we" because if I and other residents of the city don't have access to and don't take time to comment on these decisions we have all failed. Please take the recommendations of Black Lives Matter to heart. This is the time where we show up to do our best work as a collective of people who believe in the power of a public process. Let's do better for the people who make our neighborhoods so great. Thank you for your time and dedication to public service. Sincerely, Yvette Lopez-Ledesma

Communication from Public

Name: Mary

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 01:00 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote AGAINST the proposed budget, which allocates over half of the budget to LAPD. We do not need to put more funds towards increased funds for police when crime has gone down. Please instead invest these funds into the community; towards housing the homeless, education, emergency planning, and relief plans for low income individuals and families. If you approve the budget as is, you are showing that you value greed, violence, and power over your own community.

Communication from Public

Name: Eboni P

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:32 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am in total opposition with the mayor's proposed budget for the city. I agree with the demands that the mayor should: 1. Delay the vote and engage in meaningful deliberation. 2. Cut LAPD spending. 3. Invest in housing, healthcare & jobs.

Communication from Public

Name: T

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:34 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: LA City Council We need you to fund services, not police. Black, Brown, and Indigenous people need quality housing, health care, food resources, better conditions and opportunities in communities, not more policing, where Black people are regularly harassed, arrested, jailed, and killed. Please Do Not Pass this budget for police. Put the money in communities that are already underserved and marginalized, not in police that already receive over \$1 Billion (that is 53% of the cities General Fund) to terrorize our communities. Also last week and this week I called to make comment waited way over an hour each time only to get kicked out of cue. Your system is terribly flawed. Also when I called even though meeting started it kept saying meeting not in session yet even though it was! You are the City of LA dont you have proper IT people? Terrible! Here is a screen shot of my wait time which was actually 1:40 min when it cut me off. 20 min after this screen shot! Block The LA Budget! Fund Services Not Police! btw it wont lwt me attach picture from my phone , your system only takes PDF file ????

Communication from Public

Name: Rodrigo M.

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:08 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We are in an unprecedented public health crisis, one that has interrupted life as we know it. City council and budget/finance committee: the future of the city of Los Angeles is in your hands today with this budget. You will decide what kind of a foundation we will be laying down for the kind of society and Los Angeles we will breathe into life after this crisis is over. The decision before you is: in the face of a crisis, when Los Angelenos (especially Black and Brown) were facing loss of income, homelessness, constant traumatization for being overcriminalized, insecurity about the future, who will you support? Will it be business as usual, law enforcement? Or will it be protecting the most vulnerable? What kind of city are you going to leave behind to the children of the city, to the young folks who will have to deal with the consequences of today's vote?

Communication from Public

Name: Samantha Honowitz
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:08 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We know that the City is facing budget challenges due to the pandemic-induced economic downturn, and we appreciate the leadership that the City Council's has taken during the health crisis. Before the pandemic shut down the City, hundreds of thousands of Angelenos were already extremely vulnerable to both the health impacts of the coronavirus, and the economic impacts of emergency stay at home orders. With the unemployment rate surging to 24% in the City of LA, hundreds of thousands of Angelenos have lost their income and livelihood and are now closer than ever to facing eviction or becoming homeless. While the City Council has already adopted policies to protect tenants from eviction or halt rent increases, the proposed city budget for 2020-2021 also needs to include the funding required to fully implement and enforce these and other renter relief and protection programs now and after the crisis. We must focus on administering programs to keep people housed in the wake of the nearly inevitable wave of displacement that will happen once protections for tenants are lifted. Additionally, the City budget must scale up Project RoomKey and include sufficient funds to provide shelter for everyone experiencing homelessness. Ensuring the priority is getting and keeping people housed will be key to a successful recovery post COVID-19. The city budget must reflect our values, and the safety of the public will depend on the City's ability to protect residents through housing and services, rather than the policing of communities. The best way to keep someone safe is to help them get and keep their homes and jobs, and provide necessary social services to help stabilize community members. With crime rates being down 23% since the start of the health crisis, the City budget must include cuts to law enforcement. Instead, we want to see investments in housing, education, jobs, and other social programs that can make communities safer while improving life outcomes for all. We support developing new revenue streams that would allow the City to expand its resources to support struggling Angelenos. LA City Council must continue to show bold leadership and take this opportunity to adopt a budget that protects homeless individuals and struggling communities during the public health crisis and beyond.

Communication from Public

Name: Rabeya Sen

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:09 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Honorable City Council Members, I am Rabeya Sen with Esperanza Community Housing Corporation. We work alongside the communities of South Central Los Angeles – low-income communities and communities of color, including immigrant and mixed status families – who bear the brunt of not only the economic fallout from this pandemic, but also of the climate crisis that was already here, as well as the housing & homelessness crisis, and who are also the main targets of this administration’s racist anti-immigrant policies. We know that the City is facing budget challenges due to the pandemic-induced economic downturn, and we appreciate the leadership you have taken. At the same time, we need a budget that works for the people and ensures a just and sustainable recovery for all. Therefore, we are urging you to support the following 3 pieces: 1. Please protect our immigrant communities and support the renewal of the LA Justice Fund, especially as Mayor Garcetti has already earmarked this in the Mayor’s budget. Additionally, we urge your support for an amendment to the CLA report to ensure that the funds can be used for all cases. Please don’t forget that, even during this pandemic, the administration's detention and deportation machine is disrupting lives, tearing apart families, and destabilizing entire communities. Still, LAJF attorneys continue the work & we urge you to support it’s renewal. It is key to keeping families together and helping to stabilize our communities at this time. 2. As members of the Healthy LA Coalition -- While the City Council has already adopted policies to protect tenants from eviction or halt rent increases, the proposed city budget for 2020-2021 also needs to include the funding required to fully implement and enforce these and other renter relief and protection programs now and after the crisis. We must focus on administering programs to keep people housed in the wake of the nearly inevitable wave of displacement that will happen once protections for tenants are lifted. Additionally, the City budget must scale up Project RoomKey and include sufficient funds to provide shelter for everyone experiencing homelessness. Ensuring the priority is getting and keeping people housed will be key to a successful recovery post COVID-19. The city budget must reflect our values, and the safety of the public will depend on the City’s ability to protect residents through housing and services, rather

than the policing of communities. The best way to keep someone safe is to help them get and keep their homes. 3. Third: To truly ensure a just recovery, we cannot forget the need to build climate resilience and restorative practices for frontline communities. As members of the Leap LA Coalition, calling for a just and sustainable transition to build climate resilient communities, we noticed that the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office was not included in the budget. We urge you to please support restoring the funding for this, a critical part of the City's ability to respond effectively to the needs of our frontline communities. Our frontline communities live at the intersection of & bear the brunt of the harm from multiple crises – the housing and homelessness crisis, the attack on immigrants, the climate crisis, and now, the pandemic. We need you to stand with them and ensure that the budget is a true people's budget, one done in an equitable way and that ensures a just and sustainable recovery for all Angelenos. Thank you, Rabeya

Communication from Public

Name: Ellen Evans

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:21 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please provide funding for the Wildlife Pilot Study in the Planning Department which has been de-funded in the current budget. Many environmental initiatives have been folded into this project, and de-funding it will surely lead to environmental degradation of our hillsides. The loss of habitat will have repercussions for generations to come. We urge providing full funding to all initiatives that protect our environment even in the face of this current budget crisis.

Communication from Public

Name: Vanessa Luna

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:22 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Mayor Garcetti, Council President Martinez, and Members of the Budget & Finance Committee: The City of Los Angeles is in the midst of a housing and homelessness crisis that is being exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis. The most vulnerable residents of our City, those without homes, those with mental illness, and those with very limited incomes have also been most impacted by the current health crisis. We have unprecedented levels of unemployment and renters at risk of losing homes due to the crisis. Given this situation and the existing crisis, I oppose the proposed budget in its current form, which allocates more funding to police services while decreasing funding for services and housing. This is the opposite of what our City needs. During this crisis, black and brown Angelinos have been targeted disproportionate to their share of the population for "violations" of social distancing, etc. as is reflective of the systemic inequities in our police system. These communities don't need more policing; rather, services and housing are needed. I ask that the budget proposal be delayed to gather further public comment on this matter and to reallocate funding to reflect the priorities of Angelinos. Sincerely, Vanessa Luna

Communication from Public

Name: Kim Isaacs

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:24 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: 1. Delay the vote 2. Reallocate funding from police to services Los Angeles to needs prioritize providing housing, strengthening small business, and building health services, food programs, and other services that help our city thrive.

Communication from Public

Name: Phillip Jackson

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:28 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We can't be wasting more money on the police force. The community needs that money, from our over stressed public school systems to our growing houseless population. Giving the police more money fixes non of that.

Communication from Public

Name: Sheila

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:29 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Item 1. I demand that you do what is just and D democratic, delay the vote. I demand that you reallocate funding from police to services. Approximately 53% of the city's budget already goes to the police and at a time when crime is down, needs are high and policy brutality is ever present, we need to prioritize the people. We need to ensure that we as a community get the care and services they deserve in a civilized society, not cut the budget of every other department and then increase the budget for the police. Los Angeles needs to prioritize providing housing, strengthening small business, and building health services, food programs, and other services that help our city thrive.

Communication from Public

Name: Sierra Marcelius
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:29 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Sierra Marcelius and I am a law student at UCLA School of Law and a resident of Brentwood. I am here to speak on Agenda Item #1. I called in today because I am appalled at the proposed budget's allocation of 53% of the general fund to the LAPD. Our City is currently facing several crises: the COVID19 pandemic, the homelessness crisis, an affordable housing crisis, and global warming. The LAPD does absolutely nothing to address any of those crises, and in fact, the LAPD works to exacerbate them. The LAPD routinely harasses and arrests homeless people, poor people, and people of color for no reason at all or for very low-level offenses. This contributes to the spread of COVID19 and exacerbates the homelessness crisis by stripping homeless people of the few items they do have and saddling them with more fines and fees. The lack of affordable housing is a crisis in and of itself but it also contributes to the spread of COVID19 and the homelessness crisis by forcing many onto the streets and into homeless shelters where they are unable to self-isolate. Finally, the pandemic has given us the opportunity to see how healthy the LA air could be if we drastically improved our public transportation and got cars off the road. I urge the Council to consider greatly reducing the LAPD's budget and instead using mine and my fellow Angelenos' tax dollars to fund solutions to the COVID19 pandemic, the homelessness crisis, the affordable housing crisis, and global warming.

Communication from Public

Name: Cedering Fox, WordTheatre Artistic Director

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:34 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council: WordTheatre® is a small non-profit literary organization with an international reach. We wouldn't be where we are with the support we have received over the years from Los Angeles County in the form of the Organizational Grant Program and the Internship Program. I am a native New Yorker who moved to Los Angeles in my early twenties. I have witnessed Los Angeles become a world-class city that has given the other great cities of the world a run for their money when it comes to the Arts. All over the world, we have become recognized as a leader in the Arts and it is imperative that the support for the arts be maintained. Please do not make changes to the Transient Occupancy Tax! Please eliminate the recommendations in Exhibit H. Many thanks, Cedering Fox

Communication from Public

Name: Julia Meltzer

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:38 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am the Director of Clockshop, a nonprofit art organization based in Elysian Valley. We have received funding from DCA for a number of years. This funding has enabled us to support artists and bring new commissions directly to our community. Without this funding we would not have grown as an organization, we would not have been able to support under-represented artists whose careers have blossomed, we would not have been able to keep our employees working in the arts. This funding is crucial to the livelihood of many. Please do not reduce DCA's budget.
Thank you, Julia Meltzer

Communication from Public

Name: Christopher Heiser

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:41 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We respectfully ask that City Council not make changes to the Transient Occupancy Tax which will negatively impact arts and culture funding in Los Angeles. Please eliminate the recommendations in Exhibit H. As a long-time member of the arts community in Los Angeles, I've worked for, collaborated with, and supported many literary and arts organizations who not only benefit, but really on, a fully funded DCA. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Lara

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:41 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed \$10.5B budget for Los Angeles reduces services, furloughs city workers, and cuts the budget of many city departments with a glaring exception: the Los Angeles Police Department, which is slated to see a \$123 million increase to its budget!! People need financial support to stay in their homes, healthcare, healthy food and groceries, education resources, small business support, mental healthcare, and free public transit. They have not asked for more police!! In fact, many of our youth members have said that the increased police presence in their neighborhoods is stopping them from going outside to enjoy the limited recreational opportunities they have which is having a negative impact on their wellness. Especially during and post-COVID, we need to be investing all that we can into our communities. It's disgraceful to bolster the police during this time.

Communication from Public

Name: Silver Lake Wildlife Sanctuary

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:47 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, We urge you to consider that wildlife is an essential part of human life, not a luxury. We urge you to restore funding for the Wildlife Pilot Study, to continue and complete its groundbreaking work. As we move forward into a post-pandemic life, we must ensure that the awareness that has emerged during the quarantine - the awareness that the health of people, our wildlife and our environment are all linked together - moves forward with us. And that requires study and planning. The Wildlife Pilot Study was funded in 2018 and is close to a draft ordinance. Rather than waste the efforts and data already collected, we urge you to continue this landmark project and restore funding, or seek alternative private or grant funding, even during this difficult time of budget restraints. Go forward, LA, not backward. Thank you for considering our request and for all your work on behalf of our community. Sincerely, Silver Lake Wildlife Sanctuary Board Jane Cook, Mike Krose, Freda Shen, Janis Purins

Communication from Public

Name: Jairi Sanchez

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:52 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Jairi Sanchez and I'm a member of the Community Coalition and a constituent in City Council District 8. I'm asking you to vote against the proposed budget to increase funding for LAPD and support a humane budget that reflects the priorities and needs of Black, Brown, and poor Angelenos. To cut much needed services is unjust, especially during the current health crisis. Many people in my community have already been suffering from a lack of supportive services prior to the pandemic and we do not want more resources going towards police and criminalization. I have heard from too many community members say how they lack the proper access to food during this pandemic. The lack of food options in South Los Angeles is devastating. This is not even taking into account healthy food options that we need and deserve as other Angelenos in more affluent neighborhoods have access daily. The City's budget is a moral document that reflects an institution's values and vision for the people. During these unprecedented times of desperation and economic instability, the proposed budget clearly shows a lack of regard for poor and working-class communities that are in dire need of housing, mental health, substance abuse, family care, and other services that will help our people thrive.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Centeno

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:52 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs has been provided much critical support for our organization, Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural over the past 15 years. This support has enabled us to offer free to low-cost cultural arts programming for the residents of District 7 and beyond. City Council must not make changes to the Transient Occupancy Tax that will adversely impact arts and culture funding in Los Angeles. Please eliminate the recommendations in Exhibit H.

Communication from Public

Name: Umi Hsu
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:55 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I worked at the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, first as a fellow, then as a civil servant for over six years. When I was there, I had the opportunity to bear witness of the impact that publicly funded arts programs had on the lives of the people of Los Angeles. I saw many instances where youth from low income family took arts classes and were able to transition into a creative profession later on. I saw how high profile arts exhibitions -- on par of the Getty and the Hammer Museum — were made freely available to the public. I saw that the cultural grants programs supported a thriving artist community. This community is leading the art world nationally/internationally, especially from the artists of color and queer artists. Since I left DCA, I've been working at a not-for-profit cultural organization with its lifeline dependent on the availability of public arts funding. The pandemic has halted our fundraising activities and private funders are weary of the pandemic's impact on their own investment and endowment. Public funds for arts and culture are the only resources left within the current climate. If the TOT ordinance rewriting as proposed in Exhibition H were approved today, Los Angeles will lose its status as an arts and cultural leader in the world. This loss will manifest across the board, and trickle down into the lives of people, especially those who are socioeconomically disadvantaged. It will negatively impact the wellness of all residents, artists, and nonprofit arts professionals in LA. Not only is this a large part of the local economy, it is the strength and heart of the city. I ask you to seriously reconsider measures of defunding arts proposed in Exhibition H. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Jake Crammer

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:57 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: It makes no sense to raise the police budget by millions of dollars while cutting essential services and placing workers on furlough. There is a decrease in crime yet an increase in police budgeting for overtime? This is outrageously stupid. We need Los Angeles to prioritize providing housing, strengthening small business, and building health services, food programs, and other services that help our city thrive- not to fill police coffers. Directing resources towards these programs will help us survive this crisis

Communication from Public

Name: Caleb Morgan

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:58 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The city council has a duty to the people of Los Angeles to unequivocally REJECT Mayor Garcetti's budget. There is no just reason to be handing over such a huge portion of our dollars to the LAPD while other services are being cut and so many Angelenos can't pay for food or rent. This is absolute insanity and you must put a stop to this handover of the budget to the LAPD. Frankly, we could slash the LAPD budget by half and you would probably not notice any difference. Help people with this money, not the LAPD.

Communication from Public

Name: Wendi Gladstone SSMPA

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:59 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please see the Attached Letter from the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association: Santa Susana Mountain Park Association Dedicated to the Preservation of the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains P.O. Box 4831 Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831 ssmpta.com mail@ssmpa.com May 20,2020 Mayor Eric Garcetti City of Los Angeles 200 N. Spring St. Los Angeles, CA 90012 Re Opposition to the 2019/20 Open Budget Termination of the Wildlife Pilot Study (CF200600) Dear Mayor Garcetti, The Santa Susana Mountain Park Association (SSMPA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting wildlife and wild land resources. We strive to preserve and protect habitats for plants and animals native to our area, preserve unique geological formations and sites of ethnological, archaeological, and historic interest, particularly in the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains of southern California. We understand the necessity of budget restraint under the current world crisis. However, the Wildlife Pilot Study is an imperative whose interruption will have dire consequences negating the long-term goals of the City of Los Angeles and the passionate support for wildlife demonstrated by its citizens. The Wildlife Pilot Study has supported the long-term goals of sustainability for the City of Los Angeles, including the protection of habitat for wildlife, threatened species such as the California mountain lion, and the health of local ecosystems for the well-being of Angelenos and beyond. We were participants in the effort led by the Center for Biological Diversity and the Mountain Lion Foundation to list mountain lions in six sensitive regions as endangered. It just recently succeeded in obtaining the approval of the California Fish & Game Commission and the Department of Fish & Wildlife to initiate the process. The Santa Monica mountain range to Griffith Park is one of the six sensitive regions! Conserving open space from development, establishing wildlife routes and corridors, and protecting wildlife from rodenticides are needed now. The petition that the Center for Biological Diversity submitted to support the endangered species request documents in great detail the threats to all wildlife, not just mountain lions, encountered in and near urban environments. The SSMPA is based in CD-12 and the combined pressures of development, drought, wildfires and invasive pests are a continuing threat to our backyard, the Simi Hills. The Simi Hills

are the most important habitat linkage in Southern California. ALL the genetic bio diversity that travels into the Santa Monica Mountains Passes through this narrow mile wide corridor. The SSMPAs constituency here in the Chatsworth area, is VERY concerned about losing this irreplaceable resource! We side with Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife who have been a prime mover in protecting wildlife in the City. Please continue to work with CLAW, with its more than 5,000 supporters, and support the overwhelming enthusiastic support of Los Angeles citizens for the wildlife it is dedicated to conserve and protect. Sincerely, Wendi Gladstone President, Santa Susana Mountain Park Association P. O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831 About Santa Susana Mountain Park Association: Santa Susana Mountain Park Association is a 49 year-old non-profit organization based in Chatsworth, Los Angeles, California. We represent approximately 700 members and concerned citizens, and we partner with many organizations to promote ecological and recreational quality in Southern California. SSMPA's mission is to preserve and protect the Simi Hills, Santa Susana Mountains, and regional open space. SSMPA Board of Directors: Wendi Gladstone, John Luker, Teena Takata, Donna Nachtrab, Bob Dager, Darlene Brothers-Wageman, Warren Stone, Tom Nachtrab, Michael Horton, Sharon Shingai, Dean Wageman



Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains

P.O. Box 4831
Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831
ssmpa.com mail@ssmpa.com

May 20, 2020

Mayor Eric Garcetti
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re Opposition to the 2019/20 Open Budget Termination of the Wildlife Pilot Study (CF200600)

Dear Mayor Garcetti,

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Sincerely,

Wendi Gladstone

Wendi Gladstone
President, Santa Susana Mountain Park Association
P. O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831

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SSMPA's mission is to preserve and protect the Simi Hills, Santa Susana Mountains, and regional open space.

SSMPA Board of Directors:
Wendi Gladstone, John Luker, Teena Takata, Donna Nachtrab, Bob Dager, Darlene Brothers-Wageman,
Warren Stone, Tom Nachtrab, Michael Horton, Sharon Shingai, Dean Wageman

Communication from Public

Name: David Kipen
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:00 AM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: With an underfunded Cultural Affairs Department, L.A. (and my Libros Schmibros Lending Library) would suffer. My piece last weekend suggested what writers are up against nationally. The same problems and solutions apply right here in town:
<https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/books/story/2020-05-06/post-coronavirus-federal-writers-project>

Communication from Public

Name: Carlos Leon

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:00 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good morning, I'm an organizer with Community Coalition, and a South LA native. We grew up on a crisis asking and demanding for public services and a stronger safety net,. Today during a pandemic the request is the same and the need is higher now. The current budget proposal does not reflect the what residents have shared are needed from their city to be able to endure and be ok once this is over. To give more money to police than housing, than services, than support for our children and elders is embarrassing. Please don't approve this budget and let's look into what the community has been asking, what's really needed to save lives not suppress lives.

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth Fenner

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:49 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge the Council not to defund the Office of Emergency Climate Mobilization in the upcoming budget. With all the growth and development affecting Los Angeles, it's very important that some attention be focussed on the issue of climate, with an eye to a renewable future and to avoid catastrophic damage to our infrastructure, economy, government systems and people because of climate disruption. Keeping this office viable will be an important part of that effort. This is a very small part of the budget, but a crucial issue. Thank you to the LA City Council for your time and all you do for Los Angeles!

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle Suarez
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:46 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Michelle Suarez and I live in Mount Washington. I am speaking on item number 1 on the agenda. I am asking you to delay the budget vote scheduled for the next City Council meeting and give the community an opportunity to give meaningful input into the document that is crucial to the well-being of all Angelenos in the coming year. A budget is a reflection of our city's values. Right now, we have a moral imperative to provide services that keep people housed and healthy, that strengthen small businesses and help people thrive. We don't need more police and we can't afford to pass another budget overwhelmingly devoted to police over people. We need Los Angeles to prioritize providing housing, strengthening small businesses, and building health services, food programs, and other services that help our city thrive. We need housing, healthcare, and things that people ACTUALLY need. It is up to you to do something.

Communication from Public

Name: Khansa Jones

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: City Council should take a look at the current police budget and as a society decide if criminalization is a tool to penalize or improve society as a whole. COVID has manifested a decrease in crime. Enforcement of gatherings or not wearing of masks has been more visibly enforced in Black Communities. This is a time to reduce the police budget. The discretion of LAPD has come under scrutiny for sworn Officers arbitrarily placing individuals into a gang data base. Now the public is being ask to trust there will not be an abuse of power of New COVID laws. Because the taxpayers of Los Angeles self insure the City's liability, there is a fiduciary responsibility to reduce that liability. Excessive force incurred the largest cost. I have recommended bringing in an independent underwriter to rate officers that are high risk ie high liability. COVID19 creates the perfect opportunity to clean house and reduce the police budget. The profession of policing cannot be a means where one ethnic group literally survives financially and creates a livelihood from criminalizing of another.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Steinborn
Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:48 AM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Delay the vote on the budget. Don't slash funds for services and give police a raise. We need care not cops

Communication from Public

Name: Mindy Mann

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:37 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Mindy Mann. I am writing to you both as a private citizen but I am also writing to you on behalf of the Benedict Canyon Association where I sit on the Executive Board. I would like to address 2 items on your budget - both programs seek to protect our environment and make this city a healthier place for all Angelenos. While I am not officially writing on their behalf, I also sit on the Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighbor Council, and I am a Board Member of TreePeople. Urban Forestry is seeking funding; their funding was slashed years ago due to the recession and our urban trees have suffered as a result. The very air that we breathe depends upon granting them funding. The Mayor has an aggressive Green Plan, but no true environmental plan for a city can exist without a healthy tree canopy. The Wildlife Pilot Study is requesting that you continue to fund their program. This study is almost complete and it will help put regulations in place which will protect our natural resources. Los Angeles is the only major city in the U.S. with a mountain range in its midst. Now, more than ever, the people of this city need wild spaces where they can escape and enjoy hiking and communing with nature. I urge you to protect our mountains and their unique treasures before it's too late. Funding these programs will ensure that we can grow as a city while protecting our trees, our wildlife, and our corridors.

Communication from Public

Name: Laura Muraida

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:05 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of Strategic Concepts in Organizing & Policy Education (SCOPE), a 27-year-old South Los Angeles based organization, we support restoring funds for the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office, which includes establishing a Climate Emergency Commission with frontline and labor representation as well as a series of community assemblies. We realize that difficult decisions must be made; however we believe that the newly created Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO) can and should play a critical role in the community-based design and implementation of a just economic recovery with health, equity and environmental sustainability at its core. This April, we heard from 1,574 South Los Angeles voters who believe that we deserve a recovery plan that puts people, good jobs, and a healthy environment first. That's why we're asking our leaders to protect funds for the CEMO, which, in keeping with The People's Bailout Platform, invests in community health, workers, frontline communities, and a regenerative economy.

Communication from Public

Name: Shiu-Ming Cheer

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 09:25 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Shiu-Ming Cheer and I am the Director of Movement Building & Strategic Partnerships at the National Immigration Law Center. We urge your support to renew the LA Justice Fund (LJF), especially as Mayor Garcetti has already earmarked this in the Mayor's budget. Additionally, we urge your support for an amendment to the CLA report, when it goes to the full City Council, that ensures that the funds can be used for all cases. Even under normal circumstances, immigration detention is cruel. Now, with COVID-19 rapidly spreading in detention centers, immigration detention may become a death sentence for many. Federal immigration enforcement targeting our communities has continued, even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, putting everyone at heightened risk. As more people are needlessly brought into detention, the threat to immigrants, staff, and communities at large will compound, deepening the crisis and further straining our health care system. Today, in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic, LJF attorneys continue doing the work. Despite our call to the federal government to free all individuals from detention, that has not been the case. In fact, in opposition to our demands, detention centers like Adelanto are actually still considering expanding their number of beds. Legal support organizations funded by the LA Justice Fund are on the front lines fighting every day for their clients, who need support now more than ever. They are fighting for the health, freedom, and due process of immigrants in detention. And having a lawyer makes a significant difference. In April, these organizations secured the release of over 20 individuals vulnerable to the disease through a variety of legal avenues. Nearly every day, more people are being released with the help of Justice Fund attorneys in order to protect them from Covid-19. Here is just one of the many stories of a person released with the help of attorneys funded by the LA Justice Fund: Mr. L. is a 40-year-old medically compromised LGBT+ man, suffering from PTSD and anxiety. He had been detained in Adelanto, separated from his family for years. He and his family worried for his well-being due to his medically compromised status, the sparse treatment he was receiving in Adelanto, and the scant precautionary measures staff were taking to safeguard vulnerable people from the risks of COVID-19. Esperanza Immigrants Rights Project's representation and release

services team worked hard in collaboration with other organizations in order to get him released from Adelanto. In the first week of April, he was released and he is now reunited with his family. Support for the LA Justice Fund is needed now more than ever. The Fund has ensured that lawyers are fighting for the rights of immigrants such as Mr. L. We must not leave our most vulnerable neighbors behind now. The City should advance funding for the LA Justice Fund. Our families and communities are stronger, safer and healthier when we come together and stand up for those most in need at times like this. Again, we write to respectfully urge your support for the funding that the Mayor has allocated and for the amendment to ensure the protection of ALL non-citizen Angelenos caught in the deportation machine.