

Communication from Public

Name: Patricia Garcia

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:11 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge Nury Martinez and the City Council District Leadership to oppose this proposed budget to the LAPD. This is not what we need during a pandemic, we need increase in budgets that increase help for Health resources to those who are the most vulnerable.

Communication from Public

Name: Angel Aleman

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:43 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm appalled that the city Budget for LAPD has been increased at the cost of the City's social services! LAPD already makes up 53% of LA's general fund and Mayor Garcetti has proposed increasing police overtime funds 47% (\$200M) at a time when crime is down 30%. LAPD makes up 30% of the entire 2021 proposed budget, while spending on homelessness is being cut by \$28M. For comparison, the police department makes up 6.3% of NYC's budget and 15.3% in Chicago. In response, BLM-LA and other groups have been advocating for a #PeoplesBudgetLA that increases funding for services. I really hope a reconsideration is looked at, especially with homelessness expected to be on the rise in the coming year from Covid-19.

Communication from Public

Name: Ana Mateo

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:52 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: In these difficult times, the government should be funding services for the community. Not funding the police department! The police cant put food on our tables. They can't provide diapers for families. Families need to be able to go to a community center and find resources to help them in there hour of need. My mother had to spend her last check feeding other families because there are not a lot of resources in our community. We need to be able to rely on the government and passing a bill to fund the police department doesn't help us at all. We are not at war but going hungry and unable to pay our rent and bills.

Communication from Public

Name: Sierra Marcelius
Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 12:16 PM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Sierra Marcelius and I'm a law student at UCLA school of law and a resident of Brentwood. I called in today (but was kicked off) because I am very, very concerned about the proposed budget. Specifically I am appalled that the City is proposing we give 53% of the entire budget to the LAPD. During this time of fiscal emergency and a global pandemic, we should be cutting the LAPD budget and increasing the budgets of City departments that provide care and services to our most vulnerable neighbors. A budget that prioritizes care over cops is one that prioritizes our entire community's safety. Cops are always a danger to our community, but the danger they pose has increased with COVID19. Their constant interaction with people means they are at high risk for catching and spreading the virus. Their role in policing homeless communities and communities of color adds an extra threat to those communities, when those communities are already being disproportionately effected by COVID19. Our City is currently facing several crisis: the COVID19 pandemic, a homelessness crisis, an affordable housing crisis, and global warming. We are not facing a crime rate crisis - in fact, crime has decreased. There is absolutely no reason the Council should vote to increase the LAPD's budget for this fiscal year. What our city needs is to provide more services to the homeless, to the elderly, to our youth, to the poor, to our communities of color who face institutional racism everyday, to our neighbors with mental illness, and to the planet. We have a moral imperative to do this, yes, but it's also just good public policy. Because if COVID19 has taught us anything, it's that when we care for each other and lift each other up, we are all happier and safer. For these reasons I encourage the Council to not cut any funding to City Departments that provide affordable housing, job training, mental health services, education, or any other social service, but especially those services that support our homeless neighbors.

Communication from Public

Name: Lionel Mares

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 01:18 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, My name is Lionel Mares. I am commenting for Agenda 1 and 2. I am a strong advocate for Social and Community Services. I don't believe that this is the time to increase funding for the Los Angeles Police Department at a time when the City of Los Angeles is facing major budget cuts due to little or no revenue from taxes. There are other important, essential city services that need the funding in order to provide services for the city residents. I am asking that the Los Angeles City Council take a step back and reconsider their budget for upcoming fiscal year 2020-21. Think of the unintended consequences that your actions may have in the future. I would also like to add that unions representing the City Police and Firefighters have too much influence and power. I would like for the City Council to break away from such undue influence. Thank you for your consideration. Regards, Lionel Mares (CD-6)

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 01:25 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I can't believe this is even up for discussion. Any individual with common courtesy and common sense would agree that funding the police by reducing other resources does not, I repeat, DOES NOT HELP THE COMMUNITY. We are depriving our youth of healthy opportunities by defunding housing support, educational opportunities, accessible health care, affordable public transportation, and the list goes on of all the resources we are taking away from OUR YOUTH when we fund the police. The police are set in place to terrorize our communities of color and continue the cycle of school-to-prison pipeline for our black and brown students, children, babies, relatives, future generations and community members. We do not want the police, we do not like the police, WE DO NOT NEED THE POLICE. As a tax payer, I say I want MY money being invested in support for youth not the LA gang known as LAPD that has convicted more crimes than any other "gang" and served no justice for it. Police don't protect communities, the community protects their community. Give us our rightfully owned resources so that we can take care of ourselves.

Communication from Public

Name: Raheem Williams

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 02:15 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a front line worker and a lifetime Angeleno, I'm convinced that any more money granted to law enforcement during this current pandemic will only be used to further justify the severe mistreatment of black and brown people and serve to further perpetuate the systemic racism that permeates the organization like an insidious plague. Not to mention their years of gross mismanagement i.e. Lee Baca and the Rampart scandal not to mention countless other cases that have been covered-up. I ask you if not now then when will this cities elected officials actually put merit in what they campaign on and show it's minority citizens how valued they are by giving them hazard pay; help with child care ; meals for the needy; better transportation and helping them financially instead of lip service. These vital and essential workers have been emotionally and psychologically raped for years. Now is the time to show empathy for this cities valued citizens so that they may create the American dream for their children.

Communication from Public

Name: Bruno

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 03:10 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Bruno with OneJustice, a legal nonprofit organization with offices in Los Angeles and San Francisco. OneJustice was one of the organizations that received funding from the Los Angeles Justice Fund (LAJF) and we deeply understand the life-saving impacts of mobilizing attorneys from the private sector to provide pro bono legal services to immigrants facing deportation. Access to counsel for immigrants facing deportation is essential for having a fair day in immigration court. Currently, immigration detention is turning into a death sentence during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is URGENT to invest in sustainable and comprehensive funding for the LA Justice Fund. No one in the Los Angeles community should face imprisonment and deportation without a lawyer. I live in the 13th district. I grew up in Los Angeles all of my life and experienced first hand how immigrant communities build and sustain Los Angeles and this entire country. It is unconscionable that millions of immigrants have been detained and deported in the last 10 years, many without ever speaking with an attorney to help them navigate the complex process of removal proceedings. 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 of providing free legal services to immigrants facing deportations. ?During the COVID-19 pandemic, detention centers like Adelanto are still considering expanding ?their capacity to detain more people. 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, 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:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 03:41 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Certainly, the Budgets need to be revised, but there are other options besides pretending that there is no Climate Emergency. Just because we had cleaner skies in Los Angeles for two months... does not mean that there is less CO2 in the air world-wide. Local air pollution is just that -- local, and changes when the local winds blow the NOx and particulates out of the Basin. Climate Emergency addresses rainfall in the Colorado River drainage.. the Sierra Nevada, Owens Valley, and Central Valley-- and in consequence protects our Water, ENERGY, and FOOD supplies. Perhaps the Climate Emergency effort might be directed to do a better job of involving the public and volunteers into the effort, just as the Governor, County Sups, and Mayor have appealed to volunteers, and the expertise of the retired to be used to address these problems.

Communication from Public

Name: Emmanuel

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 03:43 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am concerned resident of California and Los Angeles. I am not in agreement with the proposed increase of 123 million for the police departments of the city of LA. We need to bolster social services and economic aid during this time, instead of increasing surveillance and punishment. Crime is at a low and yet our communities do not get the benefit of the doubt. We, especially black and poor people are constantly criminalized via suspicion. Let's focus our energy on supporting our communities like that is done in white neighborhoods and wealthy neighborhoods. We need healthcare. We need economic aid. We need police officers to be trained like social workers. We do not need more armed forces patrolling the streets.

Communication from Public

Name: Latia Suttle

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:39 AM

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 the 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:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:40 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We need more human and social services in our community. The presence of law enforcement is not the major social indicator for the residents of the community or a successful living area. When social , psychological and economic needs are met you have the bases for a thriving community. Law enforcement has a place in society but it is not a basic need. Failure to provide basic needs means you have to rely on l;aw enforcement.

Communication from Public

Name: Britney Spindler

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:42 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm urging you to reject the proposed city budget. The fact that the city of Los Angeles has prioritized expanding the police budget is an egregious injustice to the people of Los Angeles in this midst of this crisis. Essential public services such as Housing & Community Investment, Economic & Workforce Development, mental health services and parks services have been cut in favor of salary raises for police officers. Furloughs are distributed unfairly, focusing on staffing and salary reductions across social programs. These decisions will leave us unequipped to handle the homeless crisis and unable to assist all Angelenos in the midst of the economic crisis which will surely be coming. The budget doesn't prioritize the people of Los Angeles. Not one caller for either Wednesday, 5/20 or Thursday, 5/21 city council meeting was in favor of the budget. You must listen to your constituents and reallocate funds to create a budget that protects and uplifts all Angelenos.

Communication from Public

Name: Angelica Sanchez

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 04:43 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello My name is Angelica Sanchez and I am a member at Community Coalition and a constituent of CD8. I am in opposition of the \$123 million budget proposal for LAPD. The proposed budget is unethical and completely disregards the lives of hundreds of thousands of Angelenos that are being negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and lack of public health infrastructure. Communities with very high needs, like South LA, have suffered from decades of wasteful incarceration spending and deserve common-sense approaches to addressing the huge lack of social safety net programs. At a time when so many Black and Brown folks are suffering and in despair, much due to historical racism, disinvestment, and the lack of governmental leadership, the people cannot afford any cuts to critical services that support the living conditions of vulnerable communities.

Communication from Public

Name: maria gritsch

Date Submitted: 05/19/2020 03:37 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Agenda Item # 1 We are so sad to read that the Mayor's proposed budget terminates the Wildlife Pilot Study. A lack of funding for this program could derail steps toward permanent protections for LA's wildlife and hillside habitats. Our wildlife needs funding for the Wildlife Pilot Study! Please vote YES to fund the wildlife study! Maria Gritsch TenHouten Warren D. TenHouten 8854 Lookout Mountain Ave Los Angeles, CA 90046

Communication from Public

Name: Gina Viola
Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:01 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Like the many Angelenos who called yesterday and tweeted on Monday, I am urging the City Council to block this budget. This budget, which gives 3.15 billion dollars, or 54% of our general funds, to LAPD does not reflect the needs or values of those who live in this city. If City Council defies the people's will, we will escalate. The LAPD is one of the most abusive and corrupt law enforcement departments in the country, and the city is repeatedly sued over the LAPD's abuse of power. We are in the midst of a global health pandemic — thousands remain unhoused and millions are at risk of joining those ranks. Black, brown, poor, institutionalized and unhoused bodies are at the greatest risk of being exposed to and dying from COVID-19; these are the same folx who are disproportionately impacted by LAPD violence. Instead of more money to cops — especially as crime is dropping — we need to allocate money to health and human services, to housing, to education, to free public transportation, to mental health services, to healthy food and water for all Angelenos, to clean parks with 24/7 bathroom access, for rent and mortgage suspensions, to emergency preparedness, and to climate crisis mitigation that centers low-income and vulnerable communities. Under the Mayor's budget, necessary service-oriented city departments see decreased budgets and forced furloughs. This is unacceptable. We do not need more policing in this city. We need care, not cops. (continued on next page) I am demanding you block the Mayor's proposed budget AND that the final budget includes a cut to the overall LAPD budget including to overtime. I want to make clear that your failure to listen to your constituents does not mean that we will give up. We will continue to make our voices known, both online and through in-person protests. Thank you for your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Desiree Boykin

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:05 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good morning please keep the services for recreations and parks for seniors and the community. The meals program classes on healthy eating Mommy and Me class our virtual too the community. My personal experience 25 years ago at Ranch Cienga Pool. When I was a student at Dorsey High I participated in their Adaptive Swimming for 2 years. The lifeguards Chris R, Marie L, Rodney N, and Tommy S, they worked with me one on one everyday to make sure I knew the correct way to the backstroke and freestyle. I learned use the equipment eventually moving not using them at all in my senior year of high school. That positive experience help me conquer my fear of swimming please don't cut the programs. Thank you Desiree Boykin
Advocate

Communication from Public

Name: Zoe E Masongsong
Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:08 AM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: We need services, not more police.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristin

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:14 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: To Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez: You have the power to provide the single most important public health contribution during this pandemic. It's not masks or hand sanitizer or hand washing stations: it's housing. Our mayor and our governor are correct: social distancing means we're "safer at home." Putting a roof over every single unhoused person, in addition to canceling rent and evictions, could significantly slow the spread of this virus in our communities. Why am I reading articles in the LA Times about empty hotel rooms, some of which have already been allocated for housing the homeless, remaining empty? How is this city continuing to fail its most vulnerable population when the resources are ready and waiting? Here is what I have seen from law enforcement during this pandemic: officers harassing black and brown residents for not social distancing while other folks stroll the beach communities unmasked. That is not the kind of enforcement that protects and serves our community, and it should not be rewarded with funds from a dwindling budget, particularly when crime has gone down. In the middle of a pandemic, in the middle of an ongoing investigation regarding massive corruption within your own institution, you have the opportunity to direct resources towards the people who need it the most: our homeless, our essential workers, our unemployed, our residents without access to food, and our seniors. If you're unwilling to help them, then think about yourself, or your family, or those you care about: every single healthy, safely-housed, and cared for Los Angeleno reduces your risk of contracting this virus. Don't take my word for it: speak to public health officials. Our allocation of budget resources should reflect this reality. Let me be clear: providing law enforcement with *any* additional funds during this pandemic, instead of allocating those funds towards the aforementioned at-risk populations, would be both an act of self-destruction and a contribution towards genocide.

Communication from Public

Name: Will McWhinney

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:19 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We can cut our funding for the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization, but that won't make the climate emergency go away. While the impact of COVID-19 on this year's budget is severe, it cold pale in comparison to the growing and enduring costs the city will face from a hotter climate and higher sea levels. Money spent on the OCEM is well-spent. I urge you to retain funding for the office. It's the prudent choice.

Communication from Public

Name: Asiya

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:28 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: LA county residents demand the revision of this proposed budget which would allocate an absurd portion for LAPD. Instead we demand the increase of resources for our homeless community who have been rendered even more vulnerable during the pandemic. To continually turn your backs on the homeless population is a misuse of power that does not reflect on our wishes as angelenos and furthermore is a violation of human rights. Defund the police and use that money for our transient friends! To ignore their conditions and treat them as a secondary concern in comparison to LAPD is so deeply shameful and alarming.

Communication from Public

Name: Molly Stewart

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 11:34 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We need a #PeoplesBudgetLA Instead of increasing the LAPD budget, we are calling for #CareNotCops. We want services that help and strengthen our communities and meet our needs and priorities--not more police! We need transportation that doesn't put us at risk! We want more services for unhoused Angelenos, which could easily include housing people in the thousands of empty hotel rooms throughout the city; more mental health services; rent forgiveness for the 55% of Angelenos who are currently unemployed; more funding for public schools and resources to ensure all students—regardless of their situation—can continue learning during these uncertain times.

Communication from Public

Name:

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

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: During these unprecedented times, what families and communities need is investment in healthcare, affordable housing, nutritious food, educational enrichment, and access to public transit—not more cops on the street policing people. This pandemic is already ravaging Black and Brown communities at disproportionate rates. Please do not exacerbate the situation even more by pouring public funds into more enforcement. Fund resources and services!

Communication from Public

Name: Pete White

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 05:50 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The Los Angeles Community Action Network OPPOSES Mayor Garcetti's Proposed Budget The Mayor's Budget, while particularly egregious, is a display of political gymnastics at it's worst. His budget bends and contorts away from critical services that remain essential in the wake of the covid19 pandemic, but finds multiple ways to increase the LAPD budget. His budget has the unmitigated gall to propose a 9.4% cut to the Housing and Community Investment Department in a city roiled by a severe lack of affordable housing, housing insecurity, and houselessness. The Mayor recently reported a 50% unemployment rate resulting from the economic devastation caused by Covid19. Los Angeles follows the national estimate of a 40% unemployment rate amongst workers earning \$40,000 or less annually. His budget response: slashing the Economic and Workforce Development budget by almost 9%. Yes, the department responsible for various employment programs and job training. But it doesn't end there. The slashing continues as Garcetti unleashes his budget knife on the Department of Aging, Department of Transportation, and just about every department that provides critical services to Angelenos. But not the LAPD. Remarkably, at a time when crime is at an all-time low, the LAPD is not only spared, but given raises and bonuses. The 4.8% salary increases totaling \$144 million is just the tip of the iceberg. Unbeknownst to many is the added \$190 per pay period bonus being handed to officers with AA degrees; or, the \$290 per pay period for those with BA degrees. The logic provided by the Police Protective League is that with the changing nature of police work, officers now provide social work functions and should be compensated. Based on Mayor Garcetti's proposed budget, he accepts that assessment and slashes the budgets of those paid and trained to perform those duties. We oppose the Mayors proposed budget and are preparing to respond accordingly.

Communication from Public

Name: Emmy Goldknopf
Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 07:51 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I want to comment on budgeting for two environmental issues. First, while I realize that the COVID-19 pandemic has hurt Los Angeles and its budget, climate change is in the process of hurting the City, the state and the world. (Examples of the harm include more extreme weather, deadly wildfires, and rising sea levels.) Just as the military is prepared to fight two wars at once, we need to be prepared to respond to at least two emergencies. For that reason, I urge you to reinstate the budget for the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization (\$500K), the Climate Emergency Commission (\$200K), and the Community Assemblies (\$300K) for a total of \$1 million. That way, as we continue to deal with COVID-19, we can be more prepared for the next big global emergency. Second, please reinstate the four staffers working on the Planning Department's Wildlife Connectivity project. In addition to directly helping the City, its people, and its wildlife, these important projects will enable Los Angeles to continue to lead on environmental issues. Thank you, Emmy Goldknopf

Communication from Public

Name: Sergio Rivera
Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 08:07 AM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please increase budget for mental health, housing, education, and any other public good other than policing us. Cut the police budget as much as possible and reinvest in the care of the people.

Communication from Public

Name: Leslie Purcell

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 08:32 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles has made worthwhile efforts to address climate and environmental concerns in the city, with beneficial effects in the larger world. Please continue funding the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization, including the Climate Emergency Commission as well as Community Assemblies and pilot projects, in the proposed budget. In this moment of worldwide stress, Los Angeles can continue to be a leader in California and the US, as we move towards a better world in recovery and resilience. I would also urge support for the Planning Department's Wildlife Connectivity project. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Ana Carrion

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 09:16 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Soy Ana Carrion. Soy residente de Los Angeles Mi preocupacion es la falta de balance en el presupuesto debemos ser coherentes en el aumento de millones para la division polisiaca y la falta de inversion para nuestra comunidad cada vez afectada por el covi 19. Abogando por la Education estudiantil deben de redireccionar la inversion a futuro proximo para prevenir una generacion de estudiantes indigentes prematuro, por la falta de recursos en la salud estudiantil especialmente con emfermedades chronicles que por el covi 19, now puso en vulnerabilidad, como el ashma. La inversion en detectores de temperatura y oximetros, para prevencion de un brote futuro covi19.para el proximo ciclo escolar y as apoyo de salud mental. Poner inversion sin reglas ala policia. Es poner a nuestros estudiantes en la pared con restricciones de espacios libres de expression. Las madres como yo, hemos tomado todas las pocisiones de apoyo para nuestros hijos,de seguridad, asistentes de maestros, y terapeuta. Les pregunto:cual es la inversion para nosotros las madres de la comunidad de Los Angeles? Ya que seguimos trabajando sin goce de sueldo,y la policia no va a cubrir nuestras nescidades. Les recomiendo de apoyar la inversion para la comunidad estudiantil de los Angeles. Espero una decision de Equidad de Los reprecentantes del ayuntamiento. GRACIAS.

Communication from Public

Name: Megan Castillo

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 09:18 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am adamantly advocating for Los Angeles to delay the budget vote. We know historically, LAPD is among the most murderous entities in our community therefore we need vehemently oppose a police state that would ultimately contribute to the demise of our community. We do NOT need to increase the budget for LAPD. We should instead prioritize the health and wellness of our communities by providing housing, strengthening small business, and building health services, food programs, and other services that help our city thrive. WE NEED A BUDGET THAT SUPPORTS PEOPLE NOT POLICE.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica De Luna
Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 09:28 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: While education is taking a historical cut to their budget, while black and brown communities are being attacked by historically racist and abusive police , while mental health, medical, food, homeless services need to be at the forefront during a pandemic and recession, you are choosing to give LAPD a large sum that should go to other much needed areas. I strongly oppose the multimillion dollar budget suggested for LAPD

Communication from Public

Name: Betty J

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 09:45 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Betty J White and I live and work in El Sereno. I am asking you to vote against the proposed budget scheduled for the next City Council meeting and vote instead for a budget that reflects the priorities and needs of Angelenos. We want a budget that reflects our priorities and needs. We want more services for unhoused Angelenos, including housing in the thousands of empty hotel rooms throughout the city; more mental health services; rent suspension and forgiveness for the 55% of Angelenos who are currently unemployed; more funding for public schools and resources to ensure all students — regardless of their situation — can continue learning during these uncertain times. 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Advocat
Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 09:54 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Jessica Advocat and I live in Venice, CA. I am asking you to vote against the proposed budget scheduled for the next City Council meeting and vote instead for a budget that reflects the priorities and needs of Angelenos. We want a budget that reflects our priorities and needs. We want more services for unhoused Angelenos, including housing in the thousands of empty hotel rooms throughout the city; more mental health services; rent suspension and forgiveness for the 55% of Angelenos who are currently unemployed; more funding for public schools and resources to ensure all students — regardless of their situation — can continue learning during these uncertain times. 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.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:03 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Care not more cops. We have enough WE do not have enough funding to care of the homeless, the low income families and students. For the sake of a healthy LA more funds are needed at the grassroots level to take care of own

Communication from Public

Name: Valerie Hanley

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:06 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear President and City Council members, My name is Valerie Garcia Hanley. I am a third generation Merchant on Olvera Street. My father started on Olvera Street when it opened with Ms. Christine Sterling on April 20, 1930. My 82 year old mother and I still work our business (up until 3/18/20). I am also a member of the Olvera Street Merchants Association. This year is Olvera Street's 90th birthday and we are closed. The street is a ghost town. In my 52 years I have never seen it like this. The Merchants provide our traditional events & children workshops (Blessing of the Animals, Day of the Dead and Las Posadas) free to the public. We preserve the culture and traditions of the early Mexican influence of Los Angeles. Back in the 1990's the electorate of City deemed the Merchants unique and that we are the living cultural resource which has made Olvera Street and El Pueblo what it is today. The Merchants want to maintain the historical and cultural integrity that we provide, not only to our City and State, but also to millions of visitors from around the world. I understand that Councilman Huizar is putting forward a motion of two months' rent forgiveness for the Merchants. We are truly grateful for this initial help. However, I and others would like to make the City aware, that this will not be enough to help us in this unprecedented crisis we are all going through. These are just a few reasons why we will need much more help. The Merchants, and El Pueblo as a whole, will be one of the last areas in the City to recover. We rely heavily on tourism (which is non-existent now and will take a long time to return). Our local customers will have very little expendable income for quite some time. Our local church (La Placita) parishioners are non-existent. Downtown businesses and government buildings will not be at their regular capacity (telecommuting). There are no field trip from schools. We will not be able to hold our large events for some time. Mass transit will not have its regular ridership and we will have new restrictions on how we can do business (the "New Normal"). All of these factors equal very low revenues. We need the City to provide rent forgiveness for an extended period of time, to supplement the El Pueblo department's operating budget, and that the City empower the El Pueblo management to work with us. I am hoping that the City Family, our landlord, is understanding and compassionate to our situation and will work with the

Merchants to assure that Olvera Street can continue to be the Historical Heart of Los Angeles. Without your (the City) help, my family and many others will not be able to come back to our business and our legacy. We will have to close our doors forever. Ninety years of our family's history is being wiped out in 90 days of financial hardship. Please do not turn a deaf ear on us, hear our plea! Sincerely, Valerie Hanley Casa California W-10 Olvera Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Communication from Public

Name: Cathie Pacheco

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:07 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of CD 9 I am completely against a city budget that prioritizes LAPD and gives them an \$123 MM increase to their budget. More policing is not what my community needs now during a pandemic or ever. It has been proven over and over again that communities thrive when they have access to resources that aid their overall health and well-being and police do not contribute to that. Help our communities survive this pandemic by funding more life saving social services!

Communication from Public

Name: Jermel Williams

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:12 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: To the Council I humbly say please pour all of your available resources into the care of the people that entrusted you with having their best interests at heart. While I understand police provide an essential service, they're policing will not heal the sick and provide shelter for who cannot afford it in these challenging times. We invest our hard earned tax dollars with the belief that the government we strongly support will do the same for us in our time of need. I ask you to please put every available resource toward providing care to those who don't currently have access to health care and to shelter those who cannot afford to shelter themselves regardless of the circumstances. The measures taken by this Council will impact many lives. I just pray you find it in your hearts to impact them positively. - Humble Los Angeles Resident Jermel Williams

Communication from Public

Name: Ali

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:14 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi my name is Ali Ture and my pronouns today are they/them. I am making public comment because I am fervently concerned about the \$123 million increase to the LAPD budget while simultaneously making cuts to services that residents need. Invest in communities-not cops.

Communication from Public

Name: Enrique Nunez

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

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members of Los Angeles, Instead of increasing the LAPD budget, we want services that help and strengthen our communities and meet our needs and priorities--not more police! Consider the youths in our communities, they are the future of Los Angeles. Don't increase the LAPD budget. -Concerned Angelino

Communication from Public

Name: John Kerin

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

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The City Council must block the proposed budget. We are in an unprecedented crisis with over 50% of LA County unemployed. People are unable to pay rent. People are unable to afford food. People are scared for their health. We must cut the LAPD budget. An increase in the LAPD budget, which already makes up 54% of the City budget, does nothing to help Angelenos. Defund the LAPD and use the money for services that help Angelenos. If this budget passes, more protests will happen. Things will escalate until City Council protects Angelenos and defunds LAPD.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:28 AM

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.

Communication from Public

Name: Kaci Patterson

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:31 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly urge the City Council to reconsider its budget vote today. At a time when our public health infrastructure has experienced unforeseen demand and our economy has pushed thousands of Angelenos even further to the brink of financial despair, our answer as a city should NOT be to increase policing. We've seen what levying a law enforcement response to a public health crisis has done in the past -- put millions of Black and brown people in jail, caused untold financial and emotional damage to families and decimated the fabric of our communities. The City of LA needs a new vision and a new approach to public health and economic despair. We need SERVICES not policing. We need a strong and sustainable social safety net, real economic opportunities for low-income communities and investments in the growth and development our young people. More law enforcement does none of those things. We need systems of care not systems of oppression and criminalization. I urge you to reject the inertia to return to the status quo and seize your opportunity in this moment to be a visionary and forward-thinking Council; to lead the nation in elevating people, not policing. In service to community, Kaci Patterson



April 14, 2020

From: The Undersigned Black-led-and-serving Organizations

An Open Letter to Philanthropy and Government Leaders: Equity Meets Its Moment

Just three weeks into research on the myriad ways in which the novel coronavirus is devastating communities across this country a story is emerging that is not novel: Black people are dying at disproportionate rates across the country. At this early stage in the U.S. COVID-19 crisis, the stark racial disparity in death rates is linked to disparities in underlying health and economic conditions that increase the likelihood of death as a result of COVID-19. These health conditions—our conditions—are rooted in a history of being denied access to quality food, medical treatment, and the physiological stress of intergenerational racial terror.

As this epidemiological crisis continues, you should expect to hear stories suggesting that even when controlling for underlying health conditions, Black people are still dying from COVID-19 at disproportionate rates. Hidden in the statistics are questions none of us can ignore: how are Black people treated by nurses and physicians when seeking treatment for symptoms of COVID-19? How does race factor into the question of who lives or dies?

You should also expect to hear stories about Black people, particularly poor Black people, bearing the brunt of the severe economic dislocation caused by this pandemic. Yet, as funders and government leaders, you should not wait until these stories hit the front pages of our leading newspapers. You know the history. You know the *right now*. You should act immediately to robustly support those community-based organizations that empower Black Californians to both survive and challenge inequitable conditions.

In 2011, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs reported in its Annual State of the Sector Report that 39% of nonprofit organizations that disbanded between 2002—2011 in LA County served neighborhoods where more than 20% of the population lived in poverty and more than 40% of the residents were African American.

Data published by the Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity in 2017 revealed the proportion of annual grant money for African Americans decreased by 4.3% between 2005-2014, the highest decrease of any POC group over the same time period.

In its 2018 report, *The Racial Wealth Gap*, the California Budget and Policy Center detailed how government-sponsored policies and discriminatory practices have driven the racial wealth gap, where in 2014, the median value of liquid assets for white households in Los Angeles was \$110,000, compared to \$200 for US-born black households.

That same year, the LA County Department of Public Health Center for Health Equity published its action plan for birth equity, in which racism and its impact on life outcomes was the clear and determinant public health factor impacting Black infant and maternal death.

In 2019, the LA Homeless Service Authority declared in its groundbreaking report on Black people and homelessness: *Structural racism, discrimination, and unconscious bias in housing*,

employment, criminal justice, and child welfare policies have led to overrepresentation of Black people experiencing houselessness.

Data is clear: racial injustice continues to serve as a destructive force in society, undermining our economy, humanity and self-professed values of liberty and justice for all.

As Black-led-and-serving organizations, we are on the frontlines. We live the truth of inequity: that Los Angeles, the Inland Empire, and indeed, the nation, have historical legacies rooted in institutional and systemic racism; that our communities have been harmed by oppression and neglect.

Progress on Black equity and racial justice must be part of any forward movement in the United States, and it will only be achieved when philanthropic investments, public policies, and institutional practices boldly confront racial injustice.

Now is the time to double and triple down on eradicating it. Now is when equity gets put to the test. And now is the time to make good on your word: equity matters.

This begins with a commitment to invest in Black community organizations.

Why? Because Black communities continue to be the canary in America's social and economic mine. From poor performing schools to predatory lending practices, our community experiences the pain first. Our communities have had to withstand the unnecessary loss of lives due to failed public policies and racial bigotry. At the same time, we are the pioneers of social justice resistance and transformative innovation. When reflecting on anti-terror lynching movements of the NAACP to the Black Panther Party's free lunch and clinic programs to LA CAN's COVID-19 sanitation centers in Skid Row, our community's first responders have been leading the way in showing government and NGOs alike how to care for the needs of people rather than discard the people all together. We are more than CBOs: we are family. Some of us have lost members of our natural family to COVID-19 while coming to the aid of our community families. That is why we cannot be silent in this moment.

The one thing you, as philanthropic and government leaders can control in this crisis, is how we will be better when it's over.

As funders and public officials, we call on you to act with the fierce urgency of now. We call on you to:

- Use your voice and public platform to speak about systemic harm to Black people and advocate for equity-based investments
- Commit to rigorously tracking the flow of dollars from your institution to Black-led-and-serving organizations
- Increase investments in Black CBOs by at least 25%, in line with the recommendations made in 2017 by the Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE)
- Fully fund public departments and commissions tasked with anti-discrimination and racial equity enforcement (e.g., Office of Racial Equity, Civil and Human Rights Ordinance, Equity and Targeted Student Achievement, Perinatal Equity Initiative/Black Infant Health, among others)
- Take an institution-and-infrastructure-building approach to funding nonprofits, recognizing strong Black-led institutions, alliances, coalitions, groups and individuals are more important than ever.



Our collective work is both timeless and urgent. Disrupting systemic oppression cannot wait, nor can our response be colorblind or race neutral when the outcomes are not. Lives are at stake.

We **can** design an equitable recovery. For the sake of our shared humanity, we must.

In community,

Executive Directors (signed below)

*The undersigned organizations are part of the Black Equity Initiative (BEI) and the African American Infant and Maternal Mortality (AAIMM) Initiative. Black executive directors denoted by *.*

Black Equity Initiative

Susan Burton, A New Way of Life Re-Entry Project*

John Kim, Advancement Project California

Sam Lewis, Anti-Recidivism Coalition*

Janette Robinson Flint, Black Women for Wellness*

Dina Walker, BLU Educational Foundation—San Bernardino*

Charisse Bremond Weaver, Brotherhood Crusade*

Mary Sutton, Collective REMAKE

Alberto Retana, Community Coalition (CoCo)

Jessica Ellis, Centinela Youth Services

Rev. Sam Casey, Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement (COPE)—San Bernardino*

Jeffery Wallace, LeadersUp*

Janel Baily and LaTonya Harris*, Los Angeles Black Worker Center*

Pete White, Los Angeles Community Action Network (LA CAN)*

Areva Martin, Special Needs Network*

Gloria Walton, Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education (SCOPE)*

Tremaine Mitchell, Youth Action Project—San Bernardino*

African American Infant and Maternal Mortality (AAIMM) Initiative

Michelle Fluke, Antelope Valley Partners for Health

Janette Robinson Flint, Black Women for Wellness (also a BEI organization)*

Sonya Young Aadam, California Black Women's Health Project*

Dr. Sayida Peprah, PsyD, Diversity Uplifts*

Wenonah Valentine, iDREAM for Racial Health Equity, a project of Community Partners*

Kimberly Durdin and Allegra Hill*, KindredSpaceLA and Birthing People Foundation*

Mashariki Kudumu, MCH Director, March of Dimes Greater Los Angeles*

Communication from Public

Name: Philip Ganchev

Date Submitted: 05/21/2020 10:31 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a constituent from CD11 and a member of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance, Protect Playa Now, and other groups. The Mayor correctly recognizes of the need for emergency shelters, health and hygiene services, food for seniors and rental assistance. But I oppose the proposed budget because it: * allocates too much money to policing * cuts the money for climate response and ecology I urge the City to make budgeting participatory. Policing will not serve the needs of Angelinos; it will not help our communities deal with any of the ongoing crises. It will only increase the suffering of the most vulnerable, as LAPD has a history of harassing and often brutalizing Black, Latino and unhoused folks. The police budget has been too large for years. It is proposed to be \$1.857 billion. This can house everyone in LA who currently does not have a home. There is even less need for policing during the shelter in place, as crime has decreased. So we should deeply cut the policing budget, and use the money to ease the suffering of Angelinos and so address a large cause of crime. We should provide extra housing, rent forgiveness, schools, and health and sanitation. And we should fund a climate and ecological response. One lesson from the COVID-19 crisis is the need for preparedness to threats. The greatest threat to LA and the entire human civilization is the ongoing mass extinction and impending ecological collapse due to global heating, resource over-extraction, pollution and habitat loss. Although slower moving, these will dwarf the coronavirus epidemic. Global heating is predicted by scientists to cause devastating droughts, floods, fires, food shortages and societal conflict. To avert the worst of the climate catastrophe, we cannot make up for lost time in eliminating greenhouse gas emissions. LA had started small steps to transition to clean energy, and Mayor Garcetti had touted his Green New Deal. The City created the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO), a Climate Emergency Commission, and Community Assemblies. There was a program of urban forestry, to plant and care for trees in the city. The 2020-2021 budget completely eliminates the Office and the commission. It also removes the Wildlife Pilot Study, and does not mention urban forestry. The climate and ecological crises are also health crises. The pollution from burning of natural gas and gasoline causes breathing problems and deaths. And a green transition will

directly improve health and save lives And CEMO would serve vulnerable populations. Please revise the budget to restore the money for transitioning to a clean energy economy, and cut the policing budget. Finally, the economic crisis due to the epidemic is an opportunity to increase LA's democracy. Let's create mechanisms for the public to participate in forming the budget via proposals, discussion and voting. This can be done at the individual level or in neighborhood councils.

Communication from Public

Name: Rudy BARBEE

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 06:35 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Re Exhibit H to city budget modification matters -- Dept of Cultural Affairs. Whereas the funding Arts in Los Angeles has been structurally challenging through the years, attempts at reducing likely sustainable funds through the modified calculated cuts will further erode DCA's ability to keep up with the demands of its centers and program patrons! While economic circumstances constantly challenge the city's commitment to artistic and cultural acknowledgment for its citizenry, it is incumbent on the city's leadership to ensure such acknowledgment is consistent and sustainable for generations to come. Full-funding of DCA's FY20 and 21 needs will be a good return on the the city's investment in quality educational, psychological, artistic expression, as well as familial interaction along with domestic and international visitations to Los Angeles. Integral with the city's rebirth should be a robust educational and cultural appreciation. DCA is that critical element, that bonding agent, that should suffer proposed fiscal cuts. Previous reductions and funding modifications notwithstanding, DCA for this fiscal discourse should not again feel the brunt of budget modifications proposed in Exhibit H.

Communication from Public

Name: Maura Brewer

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 07:23 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing to express my support for a fully funded DCA. I've gone to many very meaningful events organized through the DCA, including numerous Current Events last Fall. Please don't punish our communities by cutting public art funding - accessible, public culture is the life blood of Los Angeles. Without a fully functioning City Arts Commission, LA will quickly become soulless and unrecognizable. Thank you, Maura Brewer

Communication from Public

Name: Vanessa Bailey

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 12:38 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: 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.

Communication from Public

Name: PV

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 01:13 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Having the city of Los Angeles continue to invest in the arts ensures that every Angeleno has access to what makes this city a unique place to inhabit. By cutting the budget, you will allow the privatization of arts and reduce access to the millions of Angelenos that rely on these programs. Additionally, many city employees run the risk of losing their jobs. Further destabilizing in income can have a profound impact on the livelihood of these individuals, their families, and the community. Many might lose their access to healthcare, which is awful since we're facing a global pandemic. Please reconsider these cuts. We must preserve the DCA!

Communication from Public

Name: Kailee

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 10:16 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: LA County needs housing, education, healthcare, good jobs, healthy food, free public transit, mental healthcare, and small business support not more police. COMMUNITY CARE NOT police. If we don't change the way we do things during and after this pandemic we will not have different results. The police do not provide public safety, they do the opposite and cause more harm to especially Black and Brown communities. We want the peoples budget LA. FUND SERVICES NOT police.

Communication from Public

Name: Adolfo Nodal

Date Submitted: 05/19/2020 10:36 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: For Council review of the DCA budget: Please Eliminate the recommendations in Exhibit H Dear Council Members, I write to you to express my opinion that you should not go so far as to make the community arts of Los Angeles impoverished in the near future by changing the language of the Transient Occupancy from funding "an amount equal to one percent" to the new language "an amount up to one percent" This seemingly subtle word change in the ordinance will further reduce the gains that this arts community gained when these ordinances were put in place. You do not need to throw into doubt future secure funding for the arts in the City because we have major revenues shortfalls right now and in the near future. Just cut the budget for the amount needed but do not open the door for sacking the TOT from the Department. Today I read the DCA budget for 2021. It is full of wonderful cultural services to each and every one of your districts. Are you really willing to live with out them? Are you willing to reduce employment in the arts over the next ten years with this move? The answer should be no. Please eliminate the recommendations in Exhibit H!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/19/2020 11:10 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Especially during these troubled times we need the arts to provide a positive vision for the future which integrates the richness of our population within this city and brings imagination and depth to our lives. Cultural organizations have given us food for thought, a way to express our inner needs and feelings, a path to understand our differences and a dialogue that can heal. So often the arts becomes the lesser priority when in reality it presents us with the very best of humanity. I strongly am for continued and strong financial support in this city for our cultural institutions that can enhance our lives, our spirit and soul.

Communication from Public

Name: Sandra Garcia

Date Submitted: 05/20/2020 01:13 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Regarding the budget for the upcoming fiscal year, we should be re-investing in our communities not in police. The people of LA are suffering right now because they have lost jobs, friends/family members because of the pandemic, economic security, food security, etc and what is being prioritized is more funding for police than the average citizen's wellbeing. The budget should show a re-allocation of funds to meet the needs of the poorest and least privileged among us.