

Communication from Public

Name: Caitlin Lainoff
Date Submitted: 05/22/2020 02:27 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: It is immoral, unethical, and unnecessary to increase police funding when our public education and available housing funds are being cut. Do you know what helps decrease crime? School and a safe place to sleep. Please adjust your priorities and think of how you want to be remembered after the pandemic has passed.

Communication from Public

Name: Greg Ericksen

Date Submitted: 05/22/2020 07:55 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of REDF and all our LA:RISE partners, we want to sincerely thank you for your past support of the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE). The city general funding our partners receive is critical to Los Angeles city's initiatives to reduce homelessness by helping people get jobs, stay employed, and build a better life – more urgently needed than ever. We respectfully request your continued to support for the program by approving Mayor Garcetti's proposed budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, which allocates \$3 million to LA:RISE. With millions of Californians out of work, the competition for jobs will be fierce as the economy reopens. The jobs, supportive services, and training that LA:RISE and social enterprises provide will be in even higher demand by people whose experiences with homelessness and the criminal justice system not only make it difficult to access employment, but have left them vulnerable to the pandemic. LA:RISE partners are committed to working with the City of Los Angeles to ensure we are ready to meet that demand so that no one is left out of the recovery.



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May 22, 2020

RE: Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) FY20-21budget

Dear Los Angeles City Budget & Finance Committee Members:

On behalf of REDF and all our LA:RISE partners, we want to sincerely thank you for your past support of the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise ([LA:RISE](#)). The city general funding our partners receive is critical to Los Angeles city's initiatives to reduce homelessness by helping people get jobs, stay employed, and build a better life – more urgently needed than ever. We respectfully request your continued support for the program by approving Mayor Garcetti's proposed budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, which allocates \$3 million to LA:RISE.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and homeless crisis in Los Angeles, your leadership and support have been instrumental in helping to find real solutions for our most vulnerable neighbors, including those struggling to overcome homelessness. With millions of Californians out of work, the competition for jobs will be fierce as the economy reopens. The jobs, supportive services, and training that LA:RISE and social enterprises provide will be in even higher demand by people whose experiences with homelessness and the criminal justice system not only make it difficult to access employment, but have left them vulnerable to the pandemic. LA:RISE partners are committed to working with the City of Los Angeles to ensure we are ready to meet that demand so that no one is left out of the recovery.

Thanks to both City General and Measure H funds, as of April 2020, 3,918 LA:RISE participants have secured subsidized employment, 2,720 participants were co-enrolled into WIOA, and 1,835 participants have secured regular employment. During our first four program years (from September 2015 to June 2019), the program has placed over 50% of all LA:RISE participants into competitive unsubsidized employment which is significantly higher than other national programs for this population. LA:RISE serves primarily African American and Latino individuals and with a focus on the formerly, currently, and imminently homeless population.

The \$3 million in the FY20-21 City General Fund budget proposal will help LA:RISE:

- Place at least 450 new Angelenos facing multiple barriers to employment into transitional subsidized employment with intensive wrap-around supports;
- Provide emergency services and staffing support during COVID-19 pandemic.
- Sustain LA:RISE model funding for at least eleven employment social enterprises, five WorkSource centers, three Youth Source Centers, two retention providers, and one legal provider;
- Create job opportunities for the homeless population in programs such as Project Roomkey, A Bridge Home, Safe Parking LA, and Rapid Rehousing;

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- Provide career planning, job training, assistance into employment, employment retention incentives, and post-employment supports; and

Everyone involved in this work, and of course the people whose lives are transformed as a result, are proud of what we have been able to accomplish and eager to share the success of this program with Angelenos. So often the challenges facing our society seem insurmountable. LA:RISE demonstrates that there are programs that are working.

On behalf of the LA:RISE social enterprises, personal support providers, WorkSource Centers, and partners, we thank you for your on-going support and the continued funding to help eliminate homelessness in Los Angeles. For more information, please contact Greg Ericksen at gericksen@redf.org or (213) 947-3889.

Sincerely,



Carla Javits
President and CEO
REDF

Anti-Recidivism Coalition

Sam Lewis
CEO

**AYE of Catholic Charities
Los Angeles**

Robert L. Gutierrez
AYE Director

**Center for Living &
Learning**

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Harry Grammer
Founder and President

Restoration Law Center
Leslie Ivy
Lead Attorney

UCLA Youth Source Center
Mary Keipp
Program Director

YWCA-DLA
Faye Washington
President and CEO

cc: Krista Kline, Deputy Chief of Staff
Elaina Houser, Legislative Director

Communication from Public

Name: Kellan Martz
Date Submitted: 05/22/2020 08:43 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good morning council members and staff, We are in uncharted waters regarding coronavirus and the impacts on the health, safety, and economy of our city and residents. I am urging you to engage in serious contract negotiations with our law enforcement partners as well as other departments with contracts in place. To come through this event in the best shape possible, every single city staffer is going to have to bring something to the table. If we allow (well earned) raises to go into place for LAPD, we are at risk of severe cuts to social services that will have longterm and potentially disastrous effects. By day, I am an affordable housing attorney. We must do all we can to preserve funding for these important projects. I also suggest that work be done to streamline and reduce delays in approval of these projects. I can attest to the fact that working with the City of Los Angeles on these projects can be difficult and unnecessarily time consuming. City staff has their hearts in the right place on the projects, but red tape creates delays and increased costs per unit of affordable housing. By night, I am the co-founder and president of a small nonprofit serving the homeless community in Hollywood and West Hollywood. Some of our most vulnerable residents are in dire need of help during the best of times. But during this partial shutdown, we have seen less help available to people experiencing homelessness - from government agencies to nonprofits. We can't leave people behind when times get tough. Thank you for your hard work on these tough decisions.

Communication from Public

Name: Alanna Holt

Date Submitted: 05/22/2020 10:13 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Alanna Holt, and I am a resident of CD 13. I urge the budget committee to make changes to the Mayor's proposed budget, including revisiting contract negotiations with the LAPD to defer agreed upon raises to the department, and to make cuts to the LAPD's budget. I am alarmed at the catastrophic consequences that will befall other essential services in this city as a result of the Mayor's proposed budget cuts, including emergency response and preparedness, assistance to tenants, small businesses, youth programming, homelessness services and prevention, seniors, people living in poverty, victims of domestic violence, and more. Every single vulnerable population in Los Angeles will suffer under the current budget, at a time when thousands of people are about to fall into poverty and homelessness due to the pandemic. I am also asking the Budget and Finance Committee to consider making cuts to the City Attorney's budget as it pertains to criminal prosecutions. As the council is aware, the City Attorney's office only prosecutes misdemeanor offenses, which by their nature constitute low level offenses. Over 50% of the City Attorney's office budget goes towards criminal prosecutions, including prosecutions for non-violent offense that could be more accurately characterized as civil, regulatory offenses, rather than crimes. These include prosecutions for low-level employees at unlicensed cannabis dispensaries, building and safety code violations for individual homeowners, or for violations of the HPOZ. All of these prosecutions bear no rational relationship to public safety, and should be under consideration for budget cuts, particularly as the council considers cuts to departments that DO provide immediate public safety needs, including emergency preparedness.

Communication from Public

Name: Melissa Chalsma

Date Submitted: 05/22/2020 10:31 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The percentage of money being allocated to the LAPD is not humane, nor practical--reducing allocations so drastically in other areas will encourage the very circumstances that impact crime. As a taxpayer, and a proud Angeleno, please rethink this.

Communication from Public

Name: Joy Stallworth

Date Submitted: 05/22/2020 10:50 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a tax paying citizen and right now is not the time to increase extra funding to the police department, there are greater needs on the table at this point. I believe there are enough officers on the streets that are not being used efficiently. How can we add more officers when we haven't corrected the systemic deficiencies and failures that currently exists. The needs of the community are greater and they DO NOT INCLUDE more policing. Until we can be assured that the department is actively changing their negative, derogatory and abusive perspective on the communities of color there shouldn't be any more financial increase, or new hiring. WE SHOULD NOT REWARD NEGATIVE BEHAVIOR!!! attem

Communication from Public

Name: Alison Raitt

Date Submitted: 05/22/2020 11:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Why don't you take a pay-cut? Do you really need to make \$400K a year when many are losing their homes? And also being subjected to paycuts in ALL industries? What is the actual point of keeping you and your staff at your same salaries while the rest of LA is suffering? I see no humane reason behind this other than greed and more greed. You have effectively killed ALL small businesses while allowing places like WalMart, Amazon and the ilk to gain a monopoly. This is not the American way. You are creating and turning our city into your own little communist empire. We won't stand for it. Enough is enough. Take a pay cut. Stand with the "common people" unless you are a complete hypocrite. You are a liar. And deserve to be removed from office.

Communication from Public

Name: sarah

Date Submitted: 05/22/2020 06:32 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We dont need more cops. We dont need more money for cops. We need food, we need out rent paid for, we need health care, we need help with debt, we need money for our communities and the people that live in them. The LAPD is not helping. Giving them more money would be a drain of funds desperately needed for residents struggling during the pandemic