

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

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Richard H. Llewellyn, Jr.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Honorable Members of the Budget and Finance Committee
Office of the City Clerk
200 North Spring Street, City Hall, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

April 22, 2020

Dear Honorable Members:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to comment on the 2020-21 Proposed Budget for the Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO; C.F. 20-0600).

As you are aware, this Office strives to ensure the City's path is one towards long-term fiscal sustainability. In this time of pandemic and significant economic uncertainty, all departments, including this Office, must ensure important public services are provided in the most effective manner within the City's financial means. I am thankful this budget continues to fund the City's commitment to addressing homelessness as well as fully funds our contractual obligations for employee salary and benefit costs in accordance with our approved Memoranda of Understanding with our labor partners.

The funding provided in the 2020-21 Proposed Budget for the CAO meets my Office's basic financial obligations. The Proposed Budget, however, reflects more than a ten percent reduction in funding when compared to the 2019-20 Adopted Budget. The most significant reduction is due to furloughs for all of my staff, consistent with the burden placed on most of our City's civilian workforce. While I am deeply concerned about the potential Citywide impacts associated with furloughs, I also am concerned specifically about the service impacts for the CAO, particularly as we will be severely constrained in hiring due to the salary reductions related to the hiring freeze policy and one-time salary reduction. Still, this Office will do its part. Our staff are exemplary professionals, and will prioritize their work in order to ensure critical needs are met.

The CAO recognizes the challenges currently facing the City. My staff and I look forward to working with the Council during this budget process and in the future.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Llewellyn, Jr.
City Administrative Officer