

MOTION

On November 4, 2014, California voters approved Proposition 47 which reduces penalties for certain “nonserious and nonviolent property and drug crimes” and allows some offenders already convicted of these types of crimes to apply for reduced sentences. Under the Proposition, any savings must be spent on truancy prevention, mental health and substance abuse treatment, and victim services.

Proposition 47 took effect immediately upon its passage, and now local law enforcement agencies are seeing the true, and often unanticipated, impact to public safety operations. In the LAPD, preliminary indications are that this measure has triggered changes in the department’s deployment practices for uniformed and civilian personnel. Some of these changes are expected to reduce costs for custody and transportation, while other changes may result in increased workload in other areas.

On February 27, 2015, LA County’s CEO submitted a summary report to the Board of Supervisors with preliminary information on the impact of Proposition 47 on the LA County Sheriff’s Department, Superior Courts, District Attorney, Public Defender, and Alternate Public Defender. That report also identified for the Board potential grant opportunities from this measure. In the report, the County CEO notes that the Sheriff’s narcotics-related arrests are down 48 percent relative to the same period last year, and the jail population has dropped significantly with the release of many individuals whose convictions were changed to misdemeanors, reducing overcrowding. That report provides other summary data that will help LA County prepare for full implementation of this measure next fiscal year.

The Mayor will soon complete his 2015-16 Proposed Budget and forward it to the City Council for consideration on April 20, 2015. In advance of that Council review, it is imperative that the LAPD provide the City Council with clear and pertinent information as to the impact of Proposition 47 on department operations and the net costs associated with those changes.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the CAO, CLA, and the Los Angeles Police Department to submit a report to the Budget & Finance Committee by March 30, 2015 detailing the financial and operational impact of Proposition 47 on the department’s personnel, equipment, expenses, and other operational costs. To provide a basis for the fiscal analysis, the report should provide summary information outlining operational changes implemented as a result of Proposition 47, such as: detective resources assigned to investigate property crimes and narcotics cases; court liaison positions; jail station officer workload; use of force policies; booking and custody approval procedures; and, the anticipated impact on Part 1 and Part 2 Crime rates reported to federal and state agencies.

I FURTHER MOVE that the LAPD identify in its report any net savings from operational changes resulting from Proposition 47, as well as potential grant opportunities to mitigate the impact of this measure on department operations.

PRESENTED BY:

BERNARD C. PARKS
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY:

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