

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to availability of funds for additional Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) mental health training classes for sworn officers.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-16 Adopted Budget Recommendation relative to an instruction to the LAPD to report on the availability of grant funds to fund additional mental health training classes for LAPD sworn officers.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

### SUMMARY

At its regular meeting held on August 24, 2015, the Budget and Finance Committee considered FY 2015-16 Adopted Budget Recommendation relative to an instruction to the LAPD to report on the availability of grant funds to fund additional mental health training classes for LAPD sworn officers.

The Captain in charge of the LAPD's Detective Support and Vice Division, which oversees the LAPD's Mental Evaluation Unit, addressed the Committee relative to the Mental Health Intervention Training (MHIT) the LAPD provides to officers, and responded to general questions from the Committee. During discussion of this matter, the Captain reported that the LAPD initially sought federal grants but was unable to identify funding through those sources, however it was able to secure private funding through grants from the Los Angeles Police Foundation.

According to the Captain, MHIT is a 36-hour California POST (Police Officer Standards and Training) certified course primarily aimed at officers who are first responders and those officers with a specific need for the training. Instructors for the course include LAPD mental health workers, Department of Mental Health clinicians and doctors, National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI), and speakers from the Autism Society. MHIT includes various topics related to mental health and illness as well as various interactive exercises, field simulations, tours, and panel discussions. The class sizes are limited to 30 students per class twice per month due to the intensive nature of the training and the difficulty in having outside agencies participating in the training to devote more staff and resources for additional classes. Since 2014 when the training was offered, 266 officers have been trained as well as 37 individuals from outside law enforcement agencies nationally and abroad.

The Committee requested that the LAPD report back with detail regarding the challenges to expanding MHIT beyond the current twice-per-month schedule, such as whether there are specific funding issues or whether there are difficulties in obtaining more participation from the outside agencies that present in the training sessions. Additionally, the Committee inquired whether the LAPD has investigated the use of Proposition 63 (Mental Health Act) funding for MHIT, however the Captain advised the Committee that LAPD is not eligible for such funds. The Committee urged the LAPD to explore partnering with appropriate agencies who are eligible for

Proposition 63 funds in order to increase funding for MHIT inasmuch as it is critically needed training for LAPD officers.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended to note and file the Adopted Budget Motion. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KREKORIAN:	YES
ENGLANDER:	YES
KORETZ:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
BONIN:	YES

REW  
8/28/15  
FILE NO. 15-0600-S67

**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**