

Innovation & Performance Commission  
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c/o City Administrative Officer (CAO)  
200 North Main Street  
Room 1500, City Hall East  
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4190

## IPC Motion of Action

### Recommendation to Create a Government Operations Commission



SPONSOR: Commissioner Sargent

President

Todd Sargent

CO-SPONSOR: Commissioner Levey

Vice Presidents

Joe DiMento

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ISSUE: Civilian oversight of City department performance is critical to effective government.

Commissioners

Enrique Aragon

Freddy A. Carrillo

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Jon Merritt

Heather Rosenberg

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\*OPEN (Krekorian)

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The Ralph M. Brown Act (1953) states that ““The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.”

As an example, The Los Angeles Fire Department, a charter department, is overseen by a five-person civilian board appointed by the Mayor and affirmed by the City Council. Pursuant to the City Charter, this diverse and qualified group establishes goals and provides direction to the Department through the Fire Chief.

Ordinance-created departments are not required to have a commission. By ordinance, the council can determine whether the department will be managed by a commission or by a general manager.

Currently, there is no city commission focused on the following government operational departments:

City Department	Annual Budget (FY15-16)
City Clerk	\$10,020,755
Finance	\$37,710,580
General Services Department (GSD)	\$241,504,530
Information Technology Agency (ITA)	\$91,501,382
Personnel	\$56,704,686

The people of Los Angeles should retain control over these departments, ensuring they are focused on performance to deliver superior city services.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Request the Trade, Commerce, and Technology (TCT) Committee of the City Council to review the concept of a Government Operations Commission – or similar entity or entities that achieve the same goal of oversight.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Mayor Eric Garcetti; Deputy Mayor Matt Szabo; General Manager of the Personnel Department Wendy Macy; City Administrative Officer Miguel Santana; City Council President Herb Wesson; TCT Chairperson Councilmember Bob Blumenfield; and additional parties as deemed necessary