



**JOE BUSCAINO**  
Councilmember, 15th District

April 26, 2016

The Honorable Paul Krekorian  
Chair, Budget and Finance Committee  
City Hall, Room 395  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re. CF: 16-0600 Mayor's Proposed FY 2016 - 2017 Budget**

Dear Councilmember Krekorian:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Mayor's FY 2016-2017 Proposed Budget, and express my appreciation for the hours of thoughtful deliberation that this panel devotes to reviewing it every year.

Homelessness continues to be a top concern for my constituents, and I am pleased to see \$138 million in spending has been allocated to address this crisis. However, I am doubtful that \$3.6 million for right of way cleanup is sufficient to properly enforce the 60 gallon personal property limit established in the new version of LAMC 56.11, as well as ensure the immediate removal of property that poses a public health hazard. No longer is homelessness confined to Skid Row, Venice and other very specific neighborhoods. Operation Healthy Streets must be expanded in order to ensure public health. Therefore, **I respectfully request increasing funding for overtime for the Bureau of Sanitation by \$450,000 to support the expansion of Operation Healthy Streets to address critical public health needs in Council District 15.**

While the City is recovering from the Great Recession, and revenues are increasing, it remains a great frustration of mine that we are not able to adequately provide residents with basic city services. Over the past 4 years, my team has been very successful in partnering with non-profit organizations like Gang Alternatives Program (GAP), Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) and Sharefest on community beautification projects including cleanups, landscaping, and sidewalk construction, to complement the work of our understaffed City departments. In fact, numerous Council offices have allocated discretionary funds to non-profits on contract with the Board of Public Works' Office of Community Beautification, using this same approach. Clearly, we all recognize the value and cost-effectiveness of our non-profit partners. **I respectfully request the addition of \$3,000,000 to the Office of Community Beautification Contractual Services account, to be split evenly among the 15 Council District, for an allocation of \$200,000 per district.** LACC, GAP, Sharefest, Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD) and other organizations across the City hire workers from within the communities they serve, providing

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job opportunities and training for city residents that are often difficult to employ, like the formerly incarcerated and gang-affiliated.

Furthermore, over the past year, my staff has been working with residents and stakeholders--including Clean Wilmington, I Heart Wilmington and Wilmington Art Walk--on plans to rehabilitate and improve Wilmington Town Square Park and to design and implement streetscape improvements along Avalon Boulevard. We have worked diligently with Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI) and LA-Mas to secure community consensus, work with architects and planners on design elements that will enhance pedestrian, bicycle and commercial activity along Avalon Boulevard. These long awaited improvements will not only increase property values and positively impact the quality of life for Wilmington residents, they will foster economic development in a long underserved community. **I respectfully request \$900,000 be added to the Council Community Projects line item of General City Purposes.**

Lastly, as you may recall In November of 2011, the White Point Landslide caused approximately 420 feet of Paseo Del Mar in San Pedro to slide into the Pacific Ocean. Over the past four years, the Bureau of Engineering has performed a number of measures to stabilize and dewater the hillside and ensure public safety. The Bureau is ready to begin design and environmental review on the project to restore the roadway. I respectfully request **\$2,000,000** be added to a new line item in the Capital Improvement Expenditure Program - Physical Plant - Street Projects for the restoration of Paseo del Mar.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,



**JOE BUSCAINO**

Councilmember, 15th District