

IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND EQUITY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Justice Fund and related matters; and, CAO report relative to the California Community Foundation's (CCF) Los Angeles Justice Fund (LAJF): Final Bridge Funding Report for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 20, 2021.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. ADOPT the proposed Immigrant Legal Services framework, in partnership with Los Angeles County (County), the CCF, and the Weingart Foundation; and INSTRUCT the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) to report on the transfer of existing LAJF cases to the new program.
2. INSTRUCT the CAO and the CLA to report with options to unilaterally implement a City immigrant legal services framework including other critical wrap-around services based on the Council's priorities such as housing for unaccompanied minors, access to healthcare services, and job preparedness programs, release a separate procurement process and complete the disposition of existing LAJF cases.
3. AUTHORIZE City funds allocated in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget to be used for financing existing LAJF cases and new cases under the new Immigrant Legal Services framework.
4. ADOPT a merit-blind approach where criminal history is not considered as eligibility criteria for participating in the new program.
5. AUTHORIZE the CAO, with the assistance of the CLA, to work with the County Office of Immigrant Affairs and philanthropic partners to develop and implement a competitive bid process, or sole source contract, if necessary, for the selection of: a) a lead organization(s) to serve as program operator; b) an organization to manage data collection, evaluation, and performance metrics that take into account the various interactions during the life of a case; and c) sub-grantees; and, report to Council with selections for a, b, and c for approval.
6. INSTRUCT the program lead organization(s) and the program evaluator, once selected, to monitor eligibility requirements and program access, and report periodically to Council with recommendations to improve and/or remove and barriers to entry into the new program, including a status report on the transfer of existing LAJF cases once the new program has been implemented.
7. INSTRUCT the lead organization, once selected, to report on the selection of the Community Advisory Group for Council approval.
8. INSTRUCT the CAO to report with a revised budget that contemplates the new implementation timeline, including the funding resources identified in the CLA report, dated October 21, 2021, from philanthropy and the County of Los Angeles, and report on the use of the City's \$2 million allocation in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget, a payment methodology, and options to set aside funds to cover the cost of background checks and expenses associated with referrals to public agencies providing wraparound services.
9. INSTRUCT the CAO and the CLA, and request the County Office of Immigrant Affairs, to include in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), a provision to enhance outreach efforts encouraging participation by Black and Indigenous immigrants, and other vulnerable populations, in the proposed Immigrant Legal Services program, and report on how individuals can access the variety of legal services offered by the program.

10. INSTRUCT the CLA to continue to monitor federal legislation and other administrative actions that provide resources for legal representation services for individuals at risk of deportation and report to Council with periodic updates.

11. INSTRUCT the CAO and the CLA to include the above Council actions in the final MOU between the City, County and other partners, and report to Council for approval.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The CLA reports that the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget provides \$2 million for immigrant legal services. Should the Council adopt Options 1A and 2B, a multi-year legal services program may result in a potential estimated General Fund obligation of approximately \$2 million annually until at least Fiscal Year 2023-24 (Council file No. 21 0600). It should be noted that accepting new legal cases may result in a multi-year funding obligation inasmuch as an immigration case could take years to resolve.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

SUMMARY

At the regular meeting held on January 20, 2022, the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights, and Equity Committee considered a CLA report relative to the Justice Fund and related matters; and, CAO report relative to the California Community Foundation’s LAJF: Final Bridge Funding Report for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 20, 2021.

A representative from the CLA provided an overview of the report and answered questions posed by the Councilmembers. After an opportunity for public comment was held, the Committee recommended to approve recommendations 1A, 1B as amended to include details of critical wrap-around services, 2B, 3B, and 4-10 of the CLA report dated October 15, 2021, as detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
DE LEON	YES
PRICE	ABSENT
O’FARRELL	ABSENT
CEDILLO	YES
RAMAN	YES

AS 1/20/22
COUNCIL FILE 17-0046-S2

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-