

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to an update and the status of the Los Angeles Justice Fund (LAJF).

Recommendations for Council action:

1. AUTHORIZE the \$1 million allocation in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Adopted Budget for a one-year extension of the LAJF from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, to allow grantees to continue to provide legal representation services to new and existing cases.
2. INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and City Administrative Officer (CAO) to report with a strategic plan for a longer term multi-year funding program for removal defense. The CLA and CAO will report with a plan that will include a negotiated Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Los Angeles, Department of Consumer and Business Affairs - Office of Immigrant Affairs, to better align metrics, reporting requirements, the identification of additional funding contributions to promote the sustainability of the program, and recommendations for a reduced number of legal service providers.
3. INSTRUCT the CLA to work with the City Attorney and CAO to report on the feasibility of creating a Request for Proposals consisting of immigration legal service provider(s) with demonstrated capacity and experience.
4. INSTRUCT the CAO, with the assistance of the California Community Foundation (CCF), to report on the impact to open LAJF cases should funding not be available in the future.
5. INSTRUCT the CLA to report on various scenarios of servicing the immigrant community after the November elections.
6. NOTE and FILE the CAO report dated March 5, 2020 relative to the LAJF Status Report - November 27, 2017 through September 30, 2019.
7. AUTHORIZE the CAO to negotiate and execute an amendment to the agreement with CCF for continued implementation of the LAJF for a one-year term, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$1 million, disbursed per a payment schedule in accordance with the scope of work, reporting requirements, and program deliverables as outlined in the amendment, subject to the availability of funds, compliance with City contracting requirements, and the City Attorney as to form and legality.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CAO nor the CLA has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For: Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council

SUMMARY

At its meeting of March 9, 2020, the Chair of the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights, and Equity Committee considered CAO and Chief Legislative Analyst reports relative to an update and the status of the Los Angeles Justice Fund. The Chief Legislative Analyst reports that on October 3, 2019, the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights and Equity Committee instructed the Chief Legislative Analyst to work with partners to identify efficiencies in the LAJF including options on how to continue to fund the LAJF, review how other cities disburse funds for legal representation services, and report on the model implemented by Councilmember Price in which funding was provided to non-profit organizations to provide immigration-related services. At the direction of the Committee, the Chief Legislative Analyst held several meetings with stakeholders, reviewed legal representation models in other cities, and analyzed quarterly reports to determine whether any changes are needed to improve the program.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Chair of the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights, and Equity Committee approved the recommendations found in the Chief Legislative Analyst's report as amended and noted and filed the CAO's report, as stated above. Subsequently, on August 10, 2020, after providing an opportunity for public comment, the Budget and Finance Committee concurred with the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights, and Equity Committee prior action, as stated above. The matter was then forwarded to the City Council for its consideration on August 19, 2020.

An amending motion (Cedillo - Rodriguez) was introduced during the City Council meeting of August 19, 2020, and the entire matter was referred to the Budget and Finance Committee only. At its regular meeting of August 24, 2020, the Budget and Finance Committee considered the Communication from the Chair of the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights, and Equity Committee from March 9, 2020, the Budget and Finance Committee report from August 10, 2020, and the Amending Motion (Cedillo - Rodriguez) from the City Council meeting of August 19, 2020. After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Budget and Finance Committee approved the matter, as detailed above. The matter is now forwarded to the City Council for consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KREKORIAN:	YES
PRICE:	YES
KORETZ:	YES
BLUMENFILED:	YES
BONIN:	YES