

MOTION

Hate crimes are crimes that are motivated by the victim’s actual or perceived characteristics including race, ethnicity, religion, gender, disability, or sexual orientation. Recent years have seen an unprecedented rise in hate crimes, a rise that has become a consistently alarming trend. Particularly, hate crimes against the Asian American Pacific Islander, LGBTQ, and Jewish populations have risen notably. In the last year alone, there have been a number of brazen displays of anti-Semitism and homophobia, as well as several racially motivated attacks.

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) has continued to track hate crimes and provide assistance and resources to victims. The LAPD has also conducted outreach to community organizations to increase awareness and take preventative measures against hate crimes. In addition, the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department has led implementation of the “LA for All” campaign to increase hate crime awareness and prevention in the City.

LAPD, in coordination with the Civil, Human Rights, and Equity Department, and the Information Technology Agency, were recently instructed to review and report on opportunities to expand the City’s capacity for hate crime reporting and to build capacity to address the needs of hate crime victims, via 311 staff training and other means.

Hate crimes, whether they be destruction or defacement of property, threats, or violence must be met with a zero-tolerance policy. We must take a firm stance on this critical issue and dedicate the resources needed to reverse the unacceptable rise in hate crimes.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Police Department (LAPD), with assistance of the City Attorney and other relevant City Departments, be directed to provide a status report on the rise in hate crimes in Los Angeles, as well as an overview of the City’s hate crime reporting resources, hate crime prevention, prosecution of offenders, and public awareness efforts.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department to report on the “LA for All” campaign, including a description of the campaign’s scope, impact, best practices, and opportunities for the expansion of hate crime prevention and awareness in the City.

PRESENTED BY:

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Councilwoman, 5th District

SECONDED BY:

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