Enact the People’s Budget LA
1 message

From: Chelsea Lee <leeche.lee@gmail.com>
To: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org
At: Mon, Jun 15, 2020 at 12:03 PM

Dear Mayor Garcetti and Councilmembers Krekorian, Price, Koretz, Blumenfield, and Bonin,

I write to express my deep concern regarding the Mayor’s Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year 2020-21.

I urge the City Council to amend Mayor Garcetti’s budget to reflect the values of our community: we want more social services, employment programs, public health resources, rent relief, and restorative justice programs, not more policing. We request the City Council adopt the People’s Budget LA.

While the Mayor recently announced he would decrease LAPD funding by up to $150M, this symbolic gesture is simply not enough. There needs to be a drastic reduction of LAPD funding and an un-armed, community-based, alternative policing system – on top of more funding for social programs. People are marching through the entire city demanding systemic change and justice for the 600+ black people killed by police in LA County since 2012. We implore you to listen to the demands of your constituents.

Public safety should no doubt be one of the City’s highest priorities. But investments in housing and job security, mental health care, and after-school programs are investments in public safety. By cutting these services, this budget will not make Angelenos safer.

Furthermore, protests in Los Angeles following the murder of George Floyd have exemplified the issue of police brutality, including the indiscriminate use of tear-gas and rubber bullets against protesters, demonstrating the need for an overhaul of the LAPD. We are presented with an opportunity to improve upon the past instead of repeating its mistakes. It is in that spirit that I ask you for a compassionate budget—and through it, for a more just, equitable, and humane Los Angeles.

I urge the City Council to adopt the People’s Budget LA and amend Mayor Garcetti’s budget to shift resources from the LAPD to social services, housing, employment programs, restorative justice programs, rent relief, and public health efforts.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Lee
Hi all,

I hope your week is going well. I’m writing today to ask that you please adopt the people’s budget that BLM presented yesterday. I have been exceedingly frustrated with the lack of response from our city to adhere to the requests of peaceful protesters. As BLM presented to you yesterday, it is imperative that you defund the police and invest that money in other areas of the city that are in dire need of additional funding. By reducing the vast amount of the city’s budget going to the LAPD, rather than buying tanks and armored vehicles that no one needs, that money could instead be used to supporting the LAUSD, helping the homeless, extending healthcare, improving infrastructure, aiding social services, supporting the arts, and assisting in other community programs that ultimately would make this city a better place to be for everyone.

This doesn’t mean doing away with the police, far from it. They are an essential service to the city when a crime is committed, but they are being asked to do too much. By divesting in them, we could put other systems in place so that the police can focus on crime, rather than having to be responsible for services they are not equipped or trained to deal with. However, currently I don’t trust the LAPD in any capacity to protect and serve. Our trust in the police can only be reestablished when the people responsible for breaking that trust are held accountable for their actions. So once again, I am asking you all to hold Police Chief Moore and the entire LAPD accountable for the numerous acts of police brutality against peaceful protesters. In order to do this, an independent investigation must be launched to make sure that each and every officer guilty of these horrific acts of violence against innocent people is brought to justice. I love Los Angeles, but I am furious at the way the LAPD abused their power and brutalized innocent people. Chief Moore and the LAPD have made me ashamed to be a citizen of Los Angeles, and they should make you all feel ashamed as well. But it is not too late to start to make amends. We’re a long way away from rebuilding trust, but it starts with defunding the LAPD and bringing the perpetrators of these heinous acts of police brutality to justice.

Do the right thing. Adopt a people’s budget to invest in our communities of color. Ask yourselves how you would like history to look back on your actions during these turbulent times. Do you want to be remembered as leaders of integrity, who advocated for justice and equality, or do you want to be remembered as the ones who chose to do nothing when their city needed them the most? The choice is yours.

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All the best,
Megan Salinas
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Sincerely,

Mick Rosenthal

Sent from my iPhone
Hello,

My name is Olivia and I live in Venice 90291. I am writing to amend the budget for the LAPD, and redirect the excessive amount of funds to programs committed to healing the community the police regularly abuse. I also see that almost the entire committee has accepted funds from the LAPD union, which is why you must examine why you took office and pledge to uphold the voice of your constituents.

If the average Angeleno spent like the City of LA, their monthly budget would be: $177 for housing, $80 for transportation, and $1831/mo ON GUNS.

PAUL KREKORIAN You received $24,998.91 from the LAPD. I urge you to redirect those funds to bailout, mutual aid, and organizations that benefit the black community.

CURREN PRICE You received $7,378.07 from the LAPD, and I urge you to redirect that money to bailout, mutual aid, and organizations that benefit the black community.

PAUL KORETZ: You received $56,061.42 from the LAPD, and I urge you to redirect that money to bailout, mutual aid, and organizations that benefit the black community.

MIKE BONIN: You received $26,553.43 from the LAPD, and I urge you to redirect that money to bailout, mutual aid, and organizations that benefit the black community.

Bob Blumenfield, you haven’t (at least on public record) taken money from the LAPD, and I would urge you to hold your fellow council members who are clearly bought by the LAPD accountable.

Moving forward, it is your utmost duty to stand with your fellow community members and refuse donations and endorsements from the police union.

We urge you to commit to a future in which senseless acts of police violence no longer go unheard, and we hope that you uphold George Floyd’s legacy to seek justice alongside us. Because we won’t stop.

Defund the LAPD and redirect funds to care for the community.

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Sincerely,

Tyson Suzuki  Founder, TYFLUX
P: 3104240124  E: activeadvocating@gmail.com

"Cause driven stories worth telling"