MOTION

On June 30, 2020 a Motion (Wesson - Martinez - Blumenfield - Harris-Dawson - Price - O'Farrell; CF# 20-0769) was adopted by the Council to instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and the City Administrative Officer (CAO), with the assistance of the Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and in cooperation with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) and other relevant government service providers, to develop an unarmed model of crisis response that would divert non-violent calls for service away from the LAPD and to appropriate non-law enforcement agencies. The CLA and CAO report is still in development, and these offices have been working diligently with various City and County entities on this issue.

Concurrently, the Fire Department (LAFD) and LAPD have been working over recent months to change the way that they respond to mental health calls, in an effort to get individuals suffering through a mental health crisis the care they need. Chief among these efforts is a proposed agreement between LAFD and DMH for a Therapeutic Van Pilot Program, which would locate DMH vans and staff at LAFD stations to be dispatched as needed, and a proposed agreement between the LAFD, LAPD and Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services for a pilot program which would integrate Didi Hirsch into the LAFD and LAPD dispatch systems to provide quality mental health, substance use, and suicide prevention services to those in need.

These efforts predate widespread calls for reforms to policing stemming from recent protests that lead to the introduction of the unarmed response Motion, but will likely be important components of the new, more comprehensive unarmed crisis response model that is in development. The CLA should be directed to report on these proposed pilot programs, in order to ensure transparency and to explain how these agreements will be structured and the services that will be provided.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the Fire Department (LAFD) and Police Department (LAPD) be directed to report on the pending agreement between the LAFD and the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) for the Therapeutic Van Pilot Program, and the pending agreement between the LAFD, LAPD and Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services for a Mental Health Services Pilot Program.

PRESENTED BY:

HERB J. WESSON, JR.
Councilmember, 10th District

URY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

CURREN D. PRICE, JR.
Councilmember, 9th District

MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:

n
jwd