

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: East Hollywood Neighborhood Council (EHNC)

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(13) Nay(1) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 06/27/2022

Type of NC Board Action: Against unless Amended

Impact Information

Date: 07/06/2022

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 22-0600

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Dear Councilmembers, The East Hollywood Neighborhood Council would like to voice its opposition to Council File 22-0600 which outlines the Mayor's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23. Our opposition begins with a request that Neighborhood Council budgets be restored to their previous pre-pandemic annual total of \$50,000, and that the Police Budget be decreased considerably from the present amount, in order to free up funds for needed services for our community. Neighborhood Councils and the Department received disproportionate budget cuts during the COVID-19 pandemic, relative to other departments, and have up to now not seen a restoration of their budgets. Therefore, we ask that you restore Neighborhood Council annual budgets to a minimum of \$50,000. The continuation of these cuts is particularly concerning when taking into consideration the proposed increase to the LAPD Budget from last year's numbers. In this coming year's proposed budget, the LAPD would receive nearly 50% of the entire city's discretionary budget, making it by far the most robust beneficiary of city funds in the Mayor's budget this year. What's more, the police are slated to receive additional funding from other sources within the budget, including \$8 million of the proposed \$1 billion being allocated towards homelessness. We believe that the city's budget would be better spent investing in non-violent alternatives to policing, more affordable housing, and services for the homeless that do not include or require the involvement of police. For this reason, we urge the City to reconsider their support of this budget, and reallocate funds from the already bloated LAPD budget to services for the community, more funds for Neighborhood Councils, and a recommitment to more equitable and non-violent approaches to solving our city's problems.



The Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

05/11/2022

Re: [Council File: 22-0600](#): Budget Proposal Fiscal Year 2022-23

Position: Opposed unless amended

Dear Councilmembers,

The East Hollywood Neighborhood Council would like to voice its opposition to Council File 22-0600 which outlines the Mayor's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23. Our opposition begins with a request that Neighborhood Council budgets be restored to their previous pre-pandemic annual total of \$50,000, and that the Police Budget be decreased considerably from the present amount, in order to free up funds for needed services for our community.

Neighborhood Councils provide an essential bridge between the City of Los Angeles and local communities, playing an integral role in communicating and implementing the services the City provides for all of its residents. Neighborhood Councils work to ensure that funds and resources are being distributed equitably amongst the City's most vulnerable populations, including direct services for them. This includes:

- Delivering supplies such as groceries, household essentials, diapers, and more to vulnerable residents;
- Providing translation services so that residents can access benefits and public meetings;
- Providing micro-grants to local nonprofits on the front line of supporting our most vulnerable residents
- Creating or working with mutual aid networks that match volunteers with people in need for services like grocery delivery, prescription pick-up and dog-walking;
- Improving parks and recreation services, identifying fixes to streets and roadways, supporting the City's Vision Zero efforts, finding houses for homeless neighbors, and much more.
- Improving outreach to communities in order to grow their Neighborhood Councils.

Despite all this, Neighborhood Councils and the Department received disproportionate budget cuts during the COVID-19 pandemic, relative to other departments, and have up to now not seen a restoration of their budgets. Therefore, we ask that you restore Neighborhood Council annual budgets to a minimum of \$50,000. This is necessary as Neighborhood Councils pay individually for technology licenses to meet virtually, meeting spaces when we return to in-person meetings, and outreach for upcoming election activities.

The continuation of these cuts is particularly concerning when taking into consideration the proposed increase to the LAPD Budget from last year's numbers. In this coming year's proposed budget, the LAPD would receive nearly 50% of the entire city's discretionary budget, making it by far the most robust beneficiary of city funds in the Mayor's budget this year. What's more, the police are slated to receive additional funding from other sources within the budget, including \$8 million of the proposed \$1 billion being allocated towards homelessness. We believe that the city's budget would be better spent investing in non-violent alternatives to policing, more affordable housing, and services for the homeless that do not include or require the involvement of police. For this reason, we urge the City to reconsider their support of this budget, and reallocate funds from the already bloated LAPD budget to services for the community, more funds for Neighborhood Councils, and a recommitment to more equitable and non-violent approaches to solving our city's problems.

In addition to restoring individual neighborhood council budgets, we ask that you approve the request from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to ensure the success of our Neighborhood Councils. We believe that these are reasonable and prudent requests that will save the City funds over the long-term as Neighborhood Council leaders will have better support from the City to achieve better outcomes in their neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

East Hollywood Neighborhood Council

CC:

Paul Krekorian
Nury Martinez