

Communication from Public

Name: Tatiana Santa Cruz
Date Submitted: 04/22/2025 04:50 PM
Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council, I write to you in my capacity as a Civilian Supervisor within the Los Angeles Police Department to express grave concern regarding the continued undervaluing of civilian personnel who perform critical project management, compliance, and public service functions within LAPD. Currently, 403 civilian positions are slated for elimination, despite being essential to the LAPD's community-facing daily operations, technical analysis, and regulatory responsibilities. The expertise required for these roles is developed through years of graduate education and professional experience in legal compliance, administrative procedures, and investigative review—skills specific to civilian professionals. This proposal is made even more inequitable by the fact that sworn personnel are neither held to the same performance expectations nor face any risk of their positions being eliminated. Over the past three years, civilian staff in my division have reported to work in person every day to provide direct, hands-on assistance to the public, the business community, and other City Departments. We have personally absorbed parking costs just to maintain a consistent in-person service, even as City-owned parking spaces sit unused by employees who are permitted to telecommute. Despite our integral role, civilian employees continue to be treated as secondary to sworn personnel. We are routinely expected to absorb high volumes of public inquiries and regulatory complaints. This lack of recognition is not only inequitable but also threatens the Department's effectiveness and integrity. Civilian staff are responsible for ensuring compliance with City policies, safeguarding public trust, and sustaining administrative accountability. These are not optional tasks—they are foundational to the Department's lawful operation and its relationship with the communities it serves. I respectfully urge the City Council to reconsider any budget proposals that threaten these essential civilian positions. Moreover, I request your leadership in reviewing equitable treatment, classification, and support for civilian professionals who dedicate themselves to this City with integrity and specialized expertise. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Sincerely, Civilian Supervisor
Los Angeles Police Department

Communication from Public

Name: Graham Rossmore

Date Submitted: 04/22/2025 07:32 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a passionate, dedicated City Employee who serves this City every day. I, like all Public Servants joined this City to provide services to and pursue positive impacts for the People of the City of Los Angeles. The People are the ones who will suffer the most with the proposed FY25-26 budget, more so than us City Family. As an already understaffed City, eliminating filled and vacant positions will most definitely lead to reduced City services for the People of the City of Los Angeles who expect and deserve services for their tax dollars. Please reconsider this budget proposal.

Communication from Public

Name: Sherry Lear

Date Submitted: 04/22/2025 09:51 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing as a resident of the City of Los Angeles in STRONG OPPOSITION to the proposed budget cuts which will cut staffing for the CEMO. The CEMO's roe is to mobilize the community for climate action and emergencies. I cannot believe that after the horrors of the Palisades and Altadena Fires that these budget cuts are being proposed. Huge swaths of our beautiful city lay in ashes because of the reality of climate change and extreme weather events, which are only increasing in number and intensity. I cannot attend the Budget and Finance Committee hearing on April 25, 2025 due to work commitments but I want to make sure that my voice is counted against this short-sighted and foolish proposal to cut the CEMO budget and staffing. The City of Los Angeles is facing critical choices for its future; we are being asked to make sacrifices; cutting the entire CEMO staff will not help this great City. It is also a slap in the face to the communities on the frontlines of climate change and who face uncertain future and whose work the CEMO will benefit most. Thank you Sherry Lear

Communication from Public

Name: LIONEL MARES

Date Submitted: 04/22/2025 10:51 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hon. City Council: “This budget proposed by the mayor will have a systematic wide impact across the city,” said Lionel Mares
“Lionel Mares also said he’s worried that the proposed funding cuts to capital improvement projects could have real effects on transportation safety and infrastructure.” I will also add that that Neighborhood Councils saw a \$7k reduction... a decrease from \$32k down to \$25k in the Mayor’s Proposed Budget. Furthermore, the Mayor proposed eliminating vacant and filled civilian positions, while increasing the LAPD’s salary yet again. Our city is in CRISIS and our elected officials aren’t solving the problems that they created in the first place. Last year, we had revenue surplus but now we are facing a financial deficit according to City Controller Mejia. Article linked here: (<https://lnkd.in/gkHVTkx4>)

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L.A. residents and labor unions react to Mayor Bass' proposed budget

They raised concerns about layoffs, spending priorities, and the need for more transparency



L.A. Mayor Karen Bass with Executive Director of the Office of Major Events Paul Krekorian, President of Galpin Motors Beau Boeckmann, and Matt Hale, deputy mayor of Finance, Operations and Innovation, spoke to media at Galpin Motors, a San Fernando Valley dealership in North Hills, on Tuesday, April 22, 2025. (Photo by Teresa Liu, LA Daily News/SCNG).



By **TERESA LIU** | tliu@scng.com

UPDATED: April 22, 2025 at 7:15 PM PDT

A day after Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass unveiled her [proposed budget](#) for the upcoming fiscal year, questions and concerns were mounting on Tuesday over what the plan will mean for residents, city workers and the departments facing steep cuts.

The city initially faced a \$1 billion budget deficit, but Bass had [said on Monday](#) that her administration was able to reduce that gap to about \$800 million. The \$13.95 billion proposed budget now seeks to close that remaining shortfall by consolidating four city departments and potentially laying off up to 1,647 city employees, as well as other cost-cutting measures.

While the mayor has repeatedly said the cuts are a “last resort” and that she’s still working to bring that number down, labor groups and community advocates are calling for more details, and raising alarms about the broader impact on vulnerable communities.

“This budget proposed by the mayor will have a systematic wide impact across the city,” said Lionel Mares, a longtime Sun Valley resident. “Especially for the lowest income neighborhoods like Pacoima, Sun Valley, South L.A., Arleta, East L.A., Boyle Heights — these poor neighborhoods that are very dependent on government programs and community development.”

Mares also said he’s worried that the proposed funding cuts to capital improvement projects could have real effects on transportation safety and infrastructure.

“I’m a bicyclist and I like to ride my bike to and from work. I rode my bike in the past and I still do it when I can, when I feel safe to work,” he said. “And I take public transportation, like the train, Metrolink, the subway, buses. I’m afraid that a reduction in capital improvement projects will mean that the city will not implement protected bike lanes. That’s a concern for me.”

Departments facing the biggest budget cuts include Department of Transportation, LAPD civilian staff, Street Services, City Planning, General Services, and Department of Recreation and Parks, according to City Controller Kenneth Mejia’s Office. Other areas, such as Animal Services, the Bureau of Street Lighting and funding for Neighborhood Councils, are also expected to see reduced budgets.

Meanwhile, the budget increases the payroll for sworn positions in the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles Fire Department. The LAFD is set to receive 227 new positions, while the Housing Department will see the addition of 74 new positions.

While the proposed budget preserves funding for homelessness programs, the City Council on Tuesday voted to require an analysis of how that money is being spent.

Under the approved motion, the City Administrative Officer, Chief Legislative Analyst, and Los Angeles Housing Department will be required to provide a comprehensive breakdown of the city’s homelessness budget within 60 days and quarterly thereafter.

The push for greater transparency comes amid a broader shakeup over how homeless services are managed across the region.

The L.A. County Board of Supervisors [recently voted](#) to create a new county department to oversee regional homelessness services—effectively defunding the [Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority \(LAHSA\)](#), a joint city-county agency criticized for inefficiency, waste and a lack of transparency. The new county department is expected to launch by January 1, with all funding redirected from LAHSA by July 2026.

According to Bass, the proposed city budget allocates about \$900 million toward homelessness overall. That includes \$104 million for her signature [Inside Safe program](#), which aims to move people off the streets and into interim or permanent housing.

The proposed city layoffs would affect nearly 5% of the 32,405 currently filled positions. In addition, 1,074 vacant roles would be eliminated. The layoffs would save \$114 million, and the elimination of vacant positions would save another \$100 million.

The total proposed budget includes \$8.061 billion in general fund revenue, which is slightly below the \$8.14 billion that had been expected for this year. City officials have attributed the budget shortfall to a mix of factors, including slower economic growth, increased liability payouts, labor contracts, and lower-than-expected tax revenues.

While city officials say the proposed cuts are necessary to stabilize the city's finances, some residents are questioning the transparency of the rollout, and whether the sacrifices are the right ones.

“We need to make tougher decisions, but we need to be transparent,” said Mihran Kalaydjian, president of the Winnetka Neighborhood Council. “We also need to know why we are falling short on generating revenue for the city. We have a problem.”

David Green, president of SEIU 721, a union representing more than 10,000 city employees, said in a statement, “As the front-line essential workers who make day-to-day life in our city possible, we are the experts on how Los Angeles operates. We’re not going to allow the out-of-touch bureaucrats ... to balance the budget on the backs of city workers.”

The union also called for more creative and innovative solutions, including finding new revenues and cutting back on outside contractors.

Speaking to reporters on Tuesday after meeting with business and community leaders in the San Fernando Valley, Bass reiterated that her administration is actively working to reduce or avoid the proposed layoffs.

“We do not want to see the layoffs take place,” Bass said. “But as I mentioned yesterday, by charter the budget was due yesterday. We’re certainly hoping that over the next month and a half we will be able to come up with solutions that will avoid the layoffs, or that the number of individuals or positions eliminated will be significantly reduced.”

The mayor also addressed SEIU 721's concerns directly, saying her office has been in talks with the union since January.


“We will work in partnership and we will work to solve and close the budget deficit together,” she said.

Bass added that she and Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto plan to travel to Sacramento on Wednesday to advocate for state support and address one of the key drivers of the city's deficit: liability payouts.

According to Bass, the city typically budgets about \$100 million annually for legal settlements, but this year those costs have tripled—due in part to a backlog of court cases delayed during the pandemic and recent wildfire-related claims.

She said more clarity on possible state help is expected by mid-May, once post-tax season revenue projections are more clear.

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 The Trust Project 

2025 > April > 22

Communication from Public

Name: M

Date Submitted: 04/22/2025 04:18 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please take the most expensive line item and cut it in half. Give that other half to fire services and other public health services. Cops do nothing to prevent crime or help taxpayers. At best, they show up afterward (eventually) and explain why there's nothing they can do to help victims. At worst, they kill people and pets and then get away with it as an oopsie, and we taxpayers pay to cover the expenses tied to their killings. Unless they start helping people, we are not getting what we pay for. Discount services = discount pay. Cut the police budget in half.

Communication from Public

Name: Christian Mills

Date Submitted: 04/22/2025 03:38 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass' proposed layoffs are shortsighted and do not target the issue that she is trying to rectify. The City employees targeted by this layoff are not the cause of the billion dollar deficit. So it seems incredibly unfair to punish those who have done their job well and kept this city running and reward the police force with union raises when their officers are a big contributor to the deficit due to lawsuits for their bad conduct. It does not make the City of Los Angeles a better place, and certainly will not make it a city worthy to stand on the world stage when thousands of employees will lose their jobs. The consolidation of departments such as Youth Development and Aging will only harm the people who call Los Angeles home. Youth Development, the department I work for has made major strides in getting the Youth of LA involved. Our Youth Expo this year is projected to be the best yet, and our Youth Council alumni have said it is an opportunity that made them feel like their voices are heard. Reducing the department to 9 staff members and cutting all the funding they need to run is shortsighted and a smack in the face to the young population of Los Angeles and shows the Mayor does not care about their future. There are many other ways to achieve cost savings that don't cause people to lose their jobs or make getting services in LA nigh impossible. Furloughs have been successful in the past, and many if not all employees would take a small pay cut to keep their jobs, and would allow City services to run smoothly at full capacity. Cutting the Department that is the cause of the deficit (namely LAPD) seems the most fair. However, the Mayor seems only interested in making the City of LA into a police state and palatable to foreigners and tourists and cares very little for the citizens that live here day to day. If the layoffs go through, there is no way I will ever vote for Mayor Bass in reelection. I had high hopes for her as Mayor but from her mismanagement of the fires and the City budget, I cannot in good conscience allow her to drive this City into the ground.

Communication from Public

Name: Louie Padua

Date Submitted: 04/22/2025 03:49 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We are NOT okay with these proposed layoffs. We did not cause this crisis, and we should not be expected pay the price for others' mismanagement.