

Communication from Public

Name: Sophat Phea

Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 12:33 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Mayor Bass and Esteemed Members of the Los Angeles City Council: As a harm reduction health worker on the frontlines of responding to the overdose epidemic and preventing the spread of blood-borne pathogens in Los Angeles, I write to express grave concern regarding the proposed 40 percent staffing reduction and corresponding budget cuts to the Department of Disability (DOD). These cuts would disproportionately impact some of the City's most essential public health efforts and imperil thousands of Angelenos, particularly those living at the intersection of disability, HIV risk, and substance use. I respectfully urge the Mayor and Council to: -Immediately withdraw the proposed 40 percent reduction to DOD; -Preserve existing HIV prevention and harm reduction contracts; -Before enacting any changes, engage with community stakeholders, including those with lived experience and organizations impacted by the cuts, to gather community feedback and assess the direct effect this funding contributes towards enriching the lives of vulnerable Angelenos; and, -Conduct a formal equity impact review to evaluate the impact and potential long-term poor health outcomes of this reduction. It's never an appropriate time in history to abandon our City's most oppressed and vulnerable populations. On the contrary, we must double down our financial commitments to guarantee comprehensive care for those who are subjected to health inequities and who face disproportionate risk for fatal overdose and/or contracting preventable STI's, such as HIV.

Communication from Public

Name: Danielle W

Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 01:25 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed budget cut to LA Animal Services will have devastating consequences. Closing 3 shelters and eliminating 60+ staff puts thousands of animals — and entire communities — at risk. These cuts will: • Increase euthanasia • Leave more animals without basic care • Lead to more strays + safety issues • Waste taxpayer investments • Less access to care • Burnout for already stretched staff + volunteers LA cannot turn its back on the most vulnerable. DO WHAT'S RIGHT FOR ANIMALS. Dont let this be the legacy that gets you all voted out of office.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 02:16 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed budget cut to LA Animal Services will have devastating consequences. Closing 3 shelters and eliminating 60+ staff puts thousands of animals - and entire communities - at risk!!

Communication from Public

Name: Ayan Ortega

Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 10:24 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge the city to maintain full funding for Day Laborer Centers. This program provides critical preventative services to workers who are often underserved and who play a vital role on the front lines during natural disasters. Following this year's historic fires, these workers are already facing heightened risks, and any reduction in services would further endanger their health and well-being. Cutting funding now would be a significant setback for both worker safety and public resilience. Day Laborer Centers must continue to operate at full capacity to support those who support us during our most vulnerable times.

Communication from Public

Name: Luz Elena Henao

Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 11:53 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Keep Day Labor Centers Funded! Day laborers have been on the front lines of clean up and community support after the recent wind and wildfire disasters in Altadena, Pasadena, and the Pacific Palisades. They also have played critical roles during climate destruction events and health and political disasters like COVID-19. Day laborers are essential workers but haven't been recognized as an important part of the City of Los Angeles. Mayor Bass defunding day labor centers makes invisible the workers who are operating as Second Responders and their vital contributions to the economy of Los Angeles. Removing funding from Day Labor Centers will impact thousands of day laborers and their families, and all of the employers and small businesses who rely on the labor of Day Laborers every single day. Removing funding will also create ripple effects in the immigrant worker community already facing challenges due to the current federal administration.

Communication from Public

Name: Paloma Bustos
Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 04:01 PM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached.



Loyola Law School
Loyola Marymount University
Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative



May 8, 2025

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Reference: Opposition to Budget Cuts Impacting Day Labor Centers

Dear Esteemed Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

On behalf of the Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative (SJJ), I urge you to oppose budget cuts that would result in the closure of day labor centers.

SJI is a practitioner-led, survivor-informed think tank that advocates for policies to prevent human trafficking. Through our direct work with survivors of labor and sex trafficking, we have witnessed how the lack of safe employment opportunities can push individuals into dangerous and coercive situations. This experience has shown us how important it is to protect safe and reliable job opportunities, like those offered through day labor centers, in order to prevent trafficking before it begins.

Disasters, such as the recent LA fires, do not impact all communities equally. Individuals facing poverty, displacement, or immigration-related barriers, often have few safe options for employment. Without access to the services provided by day labor centers, these workers lose access to basic workplace protections, including wage enforcement, safe hiring practices, and guidance on their rights in the workplace. This creates conditions where trafficking can thrive.

Day laborers have already been on the frontlines of cleanup and rebuilding efforts across Los Angeles in the aftermath of the recent fires. Yet, their contributions remain largely unrecognized. Closing these centers would not only disregard their role in the city's recovery but also place them at greater risk of labor exploitation and human trafficking.

We strongly urge you to continue funding day labor centers and ensure they remain open. Sustaining these centers is an investment in fair employment practices, community safety, and the prevention of human trafficking in our city.

Sincerely,

Paloma Bustos

Paloma Bustos, MSW
Policy Associate

[Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative](https://www.sunitajain.org/)

E-mail: paloma.bustos@lls.edu | Phone: (213) 357-1528

Loyola Law School
Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative
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Communication from Public

Name: Matthew E. DeCarolis

Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 04:57 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Mayor Bass and City Council Members, Bet Tzedek Legal Services strongly opposes the complete elimination of funding for Day Laborer Community Job Centers/Centros Jornaleros in the recently released city budget. This matter is deeply important to our organization. Founded in 1974, the mission of Bet Tzedek (Hebrew for “House of Justice”) is to act upon a central tenet of Jewish law and tradition: “Tzedek, Tzedek, tirdof – justice, justice, you shall pursue.” The doctrine establishes an obligation to advocate the just causes of the most vulnerable members of society. Consistent with this mandate, Bet Tzedek provides free legal assistance to eligible low-income residents of the City and County of Los Angeles. This decision directly contradicts our city's professed values and prior commitments to this vulnerable workforce. It was just in 2019 that Los Angeles proudly declared May 3rd as "Día del Jornalero," recognizing the vital contributions day laborers make to our economy and communities. To now eliminate all funding for these centers represents not just a policy reversal but a betrayal of trust to thousands of workers who depend on these facilities. Day Laborer Community Job Centers provide far more than employment connections. They are essential community hubs that:

- Create safe, organized spaces where workers can connect with employers, eliminating the dangers of street-corner solicitation
- Establish fair wage standards and working conditions, preventing exploitation and wage theft
- Offer crucial educational resources including English classes, literacy programs, and information about health, labor, and immigration laws
- Serve as community gathering spaces that foster dignity, connection, and mutual support
- Function as public safety alternatives, reducing neighborhood concerns while protecting vulnerable workers

Without these centers, we also lose valuable community infrastructure that supports economic mobility and integration. The cost of maintaining these centers is minimal compared to their enormous social and economic benefits. They help ensure that work is performed safely, that proper wages are paid, and that both workers and employers have a structured, dignified system for connecting with one another. Bet Tzedek strongly urges you to restore full funding for Day Laborer Community Job Centers in this year's budget. Respectfully submitted, Matthew E. DeCarolis

Interim Directing Attorney Employment Rights Project Bet
Tzedek Legal Services



May 8, 2025

[FILE NUMBER: 25-0600]

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Bet Tzedek Legal Services strongly opposes the complete elimination of funding for Day Laborer Community Job Centers/Centros Jornaleros in the recently released city budget.

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is performed safely, that proper wages are paid, and that both workers and employers have a structured, dignified system for connecting with one another.

Bet Tzedek strongly urges you to restore full funding for Day Laborer Community Job Centers in this year's budget.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew DeCarolis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" being more prominent than the last name "DeCarolis".

Matthew E. DeCarolis
Interim Directing Attorney
Employment Rights Project

Communication from Public

Name: Katherine C.

Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 05:03 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed budget cut to LA Animal Services will have devastating consequences. Closing 3 shelters and eliminating 60+ staff puts thousands of animals - and entire communities - at risk. These cuts will leave more animals without basic care, lead to more strays and safety issues, and cause burnout for already stretched-thin staff and volunteers.

Communication from Public

Name: Kevin Riley

Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 05:12 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding proposed elimination of funding for day laborer centers in the City of Los Angeles. As a public health professional with over 20 years experience in the field and current director of the UCLA Labor Occupational Safety and Health (LOSH) Program, I have witnessed firsthand the critical functions that these centers fulfill in service of public health and worker safety, often for some of the most vulnerable members of our society. In addition to helping individuals with employment support, these centers are highly trusted resources for training and education, information dissemination, legal assistance, and navigation of public resources. In the earliest days of the COVID-19 pandemic, these centers transformed virtually overnight into sites for distribution of food and supplies to families left without work during business shutdowns; they subsequently became ongoing hubs for COVID-related information, PPE distribution, and successful vaccination drives. Following the January 2025 wildfires, these centers have similarly stepped up to provide much needed information and resources to day laborers who are being hired by property owners and contractors for cleanup and debris removal -- often dangerous work requiring advanced training and PPE beyond those needed in more conventional residential work contexts. Indeed, given the enormous demands for workers to carry out the wildfire recovery efforts and the potential worker health catastrophe that could result from day laborers and others being assigned to handle toxic debris without the proper protections, there is perhaps no worse time for the City to consider eliminating funding from these centers. Among other things, moving forward with the proposed funding cuts represents a disinvestment in a vital community-based public health infrastructure whose benefits far exceed the costs for day-to-day maintenance and operations. This short-sighted strategy is likely to have serious consequences for the safety, health, and wellbeing of day laborers, domestic workers, and the broader communities that they serve through their work. I urge the City to reconsider these proposed cuts. Thank you for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Katherine Ellis

Date Submitted: 05/08/2025 10:32 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed budget cut to LA animal shelters is horrific!! It puts so many innocent lives as well as communities at risk. Please don't do this. These innocent animals need our help!! It will only lead to negative outcomes. I urge you deeply to reconsider. Thank you.