

**Los Angeles City Council, Journal/Council Proceeding
Friday, May 12, 2023**

JOHN FERRARO COUNCIL CHAMBER ROOM 340, CITY HALL 200 NORTH SPRING STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 - 10:00 AM

(For further details see Official Council Files)

(For communications referred by the President see Referral Memorandum)

Roll Call

Members Present: Blumenfield, Hernandez, Krekorian, Lee, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (11); Absent: de León, Harris-Dawson, Hutt (3)

Approval of the Minutes

Commendatory Resolutions, Introductions and Presentations - SEE ATTACHED

Multiple Agenda Item Comment

Public Testimony of Non-agenda Items Within Jurisdiction of Council

Items for which Public Hearings Have Been Held

(1) **14-1072-S1
CD 9**

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the South Los Angeles Industrial Tract 2021-2024 (Property-Based) Business Improvement District (BID) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Annual Planning Report .

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that:

- a. The Annual Planning Report, attached to the Council File, for the South Los Angeles Industrial Tract 2021-2024 BID's 2023 FY complies with the requirements of the State Law.
- b. The increase in the 2023 budget concurs with the intentions of the South Los Angeles Industrial Tract 2021-2024 BID's

Management District Plan and does not adversely impact the benefits received by assessed property owners.

2. ADOPT the Annual Planning Report, attached to the Council File, for the South Los Angeles Industrial Tract 2021-2024 BID's 2023 FY, pursuant to the State Law.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Clerk reports that there is no impact to the General Fund associated with this action.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, Lee, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (13); Nays: (0); Absent: de León (1)

(2) **14-0943-S2**

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Los Angeles Tourism Marketing District (Property-Based) Business Improvement District (BID) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Annual Planning Report.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that:

- a. The attached Annual Planning Report for the Los Angeles Tourism Marketing District BID's 2023 FY complies with the requirements of the State Law.
- b. The increase in the 2023 budget concurs with the intentions of the Los Angeles Tourism Marketing District BID's Management District Plan and does not adversely impact the benefits received by assessed property owners.

2. ADOPT the Annual Planning Report for the Gateway to the Los

Angeles Tourism Marketing District BID's 2023 FY, attached to the Council File, pursuant to the State Law.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Clerk reports that there is no impact to the General Fund associated with this action.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, Lee, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (13); Nays: (0); Absent: de León (1)

(3) **12-1543-S1
CD 2**

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Studio City 2020-2024 (Property-Based) Business Improvement District (BID) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Annual Planning Report.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that:

- a. The FY 2023 Annual Planning Report for the Studio City 2020-2024 BID, attached to the City Clerk report dated November 15, 2022, attached to the Council file, complies with the requirements of the State Law.
- b. The increase in the 2023 budget concurs with the intentions of the Studio City 2020-2024 BID's Management District Plan and does not adversely impact the benefits received by assessed property owners.

2. ADOPT said FY 2023 Annual Planning Report for the Studio City 2020-2024 BID, pursuant to the State Law.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Clerk reports that there is no impact to the General Fund associated with this action.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, Lee, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (13); Nays: (0); Absent: de León (1)

(4) **16-0749-S1
CD 11**

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Venice Beach (Property-Based) Business Improvement District (BID) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Annual Planning Report.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that:

- a. The FY 2023 Annual Planning Report for the Venice Beach BID, attached to the City Clerk report dated January 13, 2023, attached to the Council file, complies with the requirements of the State Law.
- b. The increase in the 2023 budget concurs with the intentions of the Venice Beach BID's Management District Plan and does not adversely impact the benefits received by assessed property owners.

2. ADOPT said FY 2023 Annual Planning Report for the Venice Beach BID, pursuant to the State Law.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Clerk reports that there is no impact to the General Fund associated with this action.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, Lee, McOsker, Park,

Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (13); Nays: (0); Absent: de León (1)

(5) **15-0094-S1**
CD 12

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Old Granada Village 2021-2026 (Property-Based) Business Improvement District (BID) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Annual Planning Report.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that:

- a. The FY 2023 Annual Planning Report for the Old Granada Village 2021-2026 BID, attached to the City Clerk report dated February 15, 2023, attached to the Council file, complies with the requirements of the State Law.
- b. The increase in the 2023 budget concurs with the intentions of the Old Granada Village 2021-2026 BID's Management District Plan and does not adversely impact the benefits received by assessed property owners.

2. ADOPT the FY 2023 Annual Planning Report for the Old Granada Village 2021-2026 BID, pursuant to the State Law.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Clerk reports that there is no impact to the General Fund associated with this action.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, Lee, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (13); Nays: (0); Absent: de León (1)

(6) **12-0489-S1**
CD 1

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

REPORT relative to the Chinatown 2021-2025 (Property-Based) Business Improvement District (BID) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Annual Planning Report.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that:

- a. The attached Annual Planning Report for the Chinatown 2021-2025 BID's 2023 FY complies with the requirements of the State Law.
- b. The increase in the 2023 budget concurs with the intentions of the Chinatown 2021-2025 BID's Management District Plan and does not adversely impact the benefits received by assessed property owners.

- 2. ADOPT the Annual Planning Report for the Chinatown 2021-2025 BID's 2023 FY, attached to the Council File, pursuant to the State Law.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Clerk reports that there is no impact to the General Fund associated with this action.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, Lee, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (13); Nays: (0); Absent: de León (1)

Items for which Public Hearings Have Not Been Held - (10 Votes Required for Consideration)

- (7) **23-0474
CD 12** MOTION (LEE - HUTT) relative to funding for services in connection with Council District 12 special recognition of Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month and Hapa Day on May 19, 2023, including the illumination of City Hall and Sixth Street Viaduct.

Recommendation for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

APPROPRIATE \$400 from General City Purposes Fund No. 100/56, Account No. 0947 to the General Services Fund No. 100/40, Account No. 1070 (Salaries-As Needed), for services in connection with the Council District 12 special recognition of AAPI Heritage Month and Hapa Day on May 19, 2023, at City Hall, including the illumination of City Hall and the Sixth Street Viaduct.

Adopted Item

Ayes: Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (10); Nays: (0); Absent: Blumenfield, de León, Lee, Raman (4)

(8) **21-0152-S1
CD 15**

MOTION (McOSKER - PARK) relative to coordinating a street banner campaign for the purpose to beautify the areas near the Port of Los Angeles for the period of May 1, 2023 to May 1, 2024. in Council District 15.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. APPROVE in accordance with Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 62.132, the Street Banner program being coordinated by the Los Angeles Harbor Department, as a City of Los Angeles Non-Event Street Banner Program for the period of May 1, 2023 to May 1, 2024.
2. APPROVE the content of the attached street banner designs.

Adopted Item

Ayes: Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (10); Nays: (0); Absent: Blumenfield, de León, Lee, Raman (4)

(9) **23-0475**

MOTION (BLUMENFIELD - HERNANDEZ) relative to funding requests from the Bureau of Street Services for a series of inter-departmental and intra-departmental transfers to ensure its Fiscal Year 2022-23 budgetary accounts are balanced.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE the Controller to transfer and appropriate funds as follows:

a. \$470,608 from the Street Damage Restoration Fee Fund - Fund No. 41A/50, Account No. 50WVGI entitle Bicycle Lane Repair and Maintenance, to the Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86 as follows:

Account No. 001090, Salaries Overtime (\$77,000)
Account No. 003030, Construction Expense (\$258,900)
Account No. 003040, Contractual Services (\$12,200)
Account No. 006020, Operating Supplies and Expense (\$122,508)

b. \$1,500,000 from the Measure R Fund, Fund No. 51Q/94, Account No. 94WM15 entitled Bicycle Lane Repair and Maintenance, to the Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86 as follows:

Account No. 001090, Salaries Overtime (\$245,400)
Account No. 003030, Construction Expense (\$825,300)
Account No. 003040, Contractual Services (\$39,000)
Account No. 006020, Operating Supplies and Expense (\$390,300)

c. \$7,442,601 from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program Fund No. 59V/50, Account No. 50VC91 entitled Failed Street Reconstruction, to the Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86 as follows:

Account No. 001090, Salaries Overtime (\$1,217,400)
Account No. 003030, Construction Expense (\$4,094,800)

Account No. 003040, Contractual Services (\$193,700)
Account No. 006020, Operating Supplies and Expense (\$1,936,701)

- d. \$1,859,892.96 from the Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86, Revenue Source Code/Account No. 004596 entitled Services to Water and Power, to the Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86 various appropriation account as follows:

Account No. 001090, Salaries Overtime (\$304,200)
Account No. 003030, Construction Expense (\$1,023,300)
Account No. 003040, Contractual Services (\$48,400)
Account No. 006020, Operating Supplies and Expense (\$483,992.96)

- e. \$2,336,688.57 from the Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86, Revenue Source Code/Account No. 004596 entitled Services to Water and Power, to the Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86 various appropriation accounts as follows:

Account No. 001090, Salaries Overtime (\$382,200)
Account No. 003030, Construction Expense (\$1,285,600)
Account No. 003040, Contractual Services (\$60,800)
Account No. 006020, Operating Supplies and Expense (\$608,088.57)

- f. \$400,000 from the Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86, Account No. 001010, Salaries General, to Fund No. 100/86, Account No. 001100, Salaries Hiring Hall.

- g. \$420,000 from Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86, Account No. 003330 entitles Utilities Private Co. to the following accounts within Fund No. 100/86:

Account No. 006010, Office and Admin Expense (\$400,000)
Account No. 002130, Travel Expense (\$20,000)

- h. \$522,000 from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program Special Fund No. 59V/50, Account No. 50WVJO, Sepulveda Boulevard Fire Detection Upgrade, to the Bureau

of Street Services Fund No. 100/86, Account No. 003040, Contractual Services.

- i. \$100,000 from the Capital and Technology Improvement and Expenditure Program, Fund No. 100/54, Account No. 00T790, Mayan Corridor Streetscape Improvement, to the Bureau of Street Services Fund No. 100/86, Account No. 003040, Contractual Services.

- 2. AUTHORIZE the City Administrative Officer and Controller to make any technical corrections or clarifications to the above fund transfer instructions in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion.

Adopted Item

Ayes: Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (10); Nays: (0); Absent: Blumenfield, de León, Lee, Raman (4)

(10) **23-0448**

CONSIDERATION OF MOTION (YAROSLAVSKY – KREKORIAN – McOSKER) relative to requesting the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) to report on the status of the power pole inspection program and related matters.

Recommendations for Council action:

- 1. INSTRUCT the LADWP to report to the Council as soon as the possible on the following:
 - a. The status of "priority one" pole repairs, including how many were classified as priority one at the highest point of the backlog, the number of poles still requiring urgent repairs, the average time to repair new priority poles, and the plan and timeline for completing these urgent repairs.
 - b. The steps the department has taken to address inspections

and ensure that (i) the data collected by internal crews and contractors are reconciled accurately and publicly reported where legally permissible, and (ii) that work is dispatched in a timely manner and properly prioritized.

- c. The status and location of "priority two", or less urgent, pole repairs, and how the Council and residents can be assured that the department is prioritizing potential hazards within that universe of power poles.
- d. A detailed explanation of how a backlog of priority repairs was allowed to develop and the changes to LADWP policies and processes to ensure that no threat to public health or safety goes unaddressed.
- e. What investments the department has made in improving the power distribution infrastructure over the past 10 years and how these critical pole repairs were not made in the context of Power System Reliability Program and other initiatives to improve reliability and resiliency.
- f. What resources will be necessary to ensure the timely completion of the pole repair program.
- g. Specific recommendations to ensure that the now deficient inspection repair program is meeting the safety needs of the public.
- h. Planned ongoing investments to improve reliability and resiliency of the power system.

2. INSTRUCT the LADWP to:

- a. Provide quarterly written reports to Council on the implementation of its Power System Reliability Programs, including the pole inspection program, status of pole repairs, a map with the location of the top priority and secondary priority poles, and compliance with state regulations.

- b. Continue to do so until all of the currently identified second tier priority repairs are fully completed.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

(Energy and Environment Committee waived consideration of the above matter)

Adopted Item

Ayes: Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (10); Nays: (0); Absent: Blumenfield, de León, Lee, Raman (4)

Items Called Special

Motions for Posting and Referral

Council Members' Requests for Excuse from Attendance at Council Meetings

Adjourning Motions

Council Adjournment

ENDING ROLL CALL

Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Krekorian, McOsker, Park, Price Jr., Rodriguez, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (10); Absent: Blumenfield, de León, Lee, Raman (4)

Whereupon the Council did adjourn.

ATTEST: Holly L. Wolcott, CITY CLERK

By

Council Clerk

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

COMMENDATORY RESOLUTIONS

MOVED BY	SECONDED BY	NAME
McOsker	Hernandez	Teacher Appreciation Week
Rodriguez	Blumenfield	Richard Blade Day
Rodriguez	Blumenfield	The Cure Day
Price	Soto-Martinez	USC TRIO Program

ADJOURNING MOTIONS

MOVED BY	SECONDED BY	NAME
Rodriguez	All Councilmembers	Henry Ford

The existing pedestrian crosswalk at Ventura Boulevard and Ventura Canyon Avenue is controlled by an overhead yellow flashing beacon. A recent traffic engineering study conducted by the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) indicates that this location is suitable for Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons. These traffic control devices are designed to help pedestrians safely cross higher-speed roadways at midblock crossings and uncontrolled intersections. The devices are activated when a pedestrian desiring to cross the street pushes the call button which then initiates a yellow to red lighting sequence that directs motorists to slow and come to a stop, and provides the right-of-way for the pedestrians to safely cross the roadway.

On May 4, 2023, the Plan Review Board of the Ventura/Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan voted to support making the improvements noted in the LADOT report. In order to include the project in LADOT's work plan for design and construction, funding must be identified.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council, subject to approval of the Mayor, establish a new capital project entitled "Ventura Boulevard/Ventura Canyon Avenue Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons" and appropriate/transfer \$175,000 from Ventura/Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan Fund No. 523, Available Cash Balance, to Capital Improvement Expenditure Program Fund No. 100-54, new account "Ventura Boulevard/Ventura Canyon Avenue Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons" for the design and construction of pedestrian hybrid beacons at this location.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer be authorized to make any technical corrections or clarifications to the above fund transfer instructions in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion, including any corrections and changes to fund or account numbers.

PRESENTED BY: Nithya Raman
NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: Seetha Subb

ORIGINAL

msr

MAY 12 2023

MOTION

1) CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED

#52

The Sunshine Canyon Community Amenities Trust Fund provides funds for financing community amenities within the City of Los Angeles, within five miles of the Sunshine Canyon landfill.

The Bureau of Street Services, upon the availability of crews, conducts a dedicated street improvement program in Council District 12. This effort is of special benefit for the residents of the City and for Council District 12 and deserves financial assistance from the City.

Sufficient funds are available in Sunshine Canyon Community Amenities Trust Fund which could appropriately be transferred to the Bureau of Street Services.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Controller to transfer and appropriate \$88,000 from Sunshine Canyon Community Amenities Trust Fund No. 699-14, to the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services (BSS) Fund No. 100, Department 86, various accounts as follows for Council District 12 tree removal and related work, sidewalk repair and other improvement projects

Account No.	Account Name	Amount
001090	Salaries, Overtime	\$46,000
006020	Operating Supplies	\$42,000
	Total	\$88,000

PRESENTED BY



JOHN S. LEE
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY



ORIGINAL

MAY 1 2 2023

TO CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED #53

MOTION

The Sunshine Canyon Community Amenities Trust Fund provides funds for financing community amenities within the City of Los Angeles, within five miles of the Sunshine Canyon landfill.

The North Valley Youth Baseball –NVYB creates a fun and safe environment for our youth to learn and develop the fundamentals of baseball. They provide our youth with life long lessons, memories, and friendships.

The organization is seeking to improve its program, their field and are in need of funding. Sufficient funds are available in the Sunshine Canyon Community Amenities Trust Fund which could be used for this purpose.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council RESOLVE that \$25,000 in the Sunshine Canyon Community Amenities Trust Fund No. 699-14 be allocated to assist with improvements at the NVYB.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Clerk be directed to prepare and process the necessary document(s) with, and/or payment(s) to the North Valley Youth Baseball –NVYB, or any other agency or organization, as appropriate, in the above amount, from the above source, and for the above purpose, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form, if needed; and that, if needed, the Council member of the Twelfth District be authorized to execute any such documents on behalf of the City.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Clerk be authorized to make any technical corrections or clarifications to the above fund transfer instructions in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion.

PRESENTED BY 
JOHN S. LEE
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY 

ORIGINAL

MAY 12 2023

TO CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED #54

MOTION

I MOVE that \$400 be transferred / appropriated from the Council's portion of the Heritage Month Celebration and Special Events-Council line item in the General City Purposes Fund No. 100-56 to the General Services Fund 100-40, Account No. 1070 (Salaries-As Needed), for services in connection with the Council District 11 special recognition of FIFA and World Cup 2026 Global Launch at City Hall on May 17, 2023, including the illumination of City Hall.

PRESENTED BY: Traci Park
Traci Park
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

ORIGINAL

MAY 1 2 2023

MOTION

Vista Del Mar is a significant north-south traffic route that is used by vehicles on a daily basis and is even more heavily used during the summer beach season. A recent slope failure has removed the underlying support near 8054 South Vista Del Mar. Repair of the erosion gully and stabilization of the roadway is necessary. The Bureau of Engineering can utilize an emergency on-call contractor to complete the work. A transfer for the required funding is necessary from an existing project account that is not currently needed.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council, subject to approval of the Mayor, establish a new capital project entitled "Vista Del Mar Emergency Slope Repair" and appropriate/transfer \$390,000 within the Capital Improvement Expenditure Program Fund No. 100-54 from "Asilomar Landslide" Account 00W875 to a new account "Vista Del Mar Emergency Slope Repair" for the stabilization of the roadway near 8054 South Vista Del Mar.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer be authorized to make any technical corrections or clarifications to the above fund transfer instructions in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion, including any corrections and changes to fund or account numbers.

PRESENTED BY: Traci Park
TRACI PARK
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

ORIGINAL

msr

MAY 12 2021

MOTION

Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) Station 76 sits on North Cahuenga Boulevard in the Cahuenga Pass. Built in 1951, this small, yet critically important station, the Guardians of the Pass, contend with areas of extreme wildfire risk in a Very High Fire Severity Zone along a busy arterial street with fast speeds and frequent traffic collisions on the roadway.

In fact, a vehicle strike occurred at the station on March 9, 2021, damaging a property perimeter masonry wall. In order to reduce the risk to firefighters working out of Station 76 and to ensure the station can remain in full service, the City should install bollards or other improvements to protect the station from future potential vehicle strikes.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Engineering, with the assistance of the Department of General Services, the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), and any other relevant departments, be instructed to report back within 90 days with a project development plan and potential funding sources to fortify LAFD Station 76 to protect the station from vehicle strikes, including recommendations for the placement of bollards or other protective installations.

PRESENTED BY: Nithya Ramana
NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: Heather Hull

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution guarantees the right to a trial by a jury of peers, but currently most juries tend to be not reflective of our communities' economic or racial diversity; and

WHEREAS, if a juror's employer does not cover their salary, jurors earn nothing on their first day of service and only \$15 per day after that; and

WHEREAS, California has the fourth highest cost of living, followed by Massachusetts, Washington D.C. and Hawaii, all of which pay their jurors at least double than the rate paid in California; and

WHEREAS, since jury pay was enacted in California in the 1950s, the stipend has only been increased one time in 2000, over two decades ago; and

WHEREAS, because many low-income families cannot afford to forfeit days, weeks, or months of their salary, they file a claim of financial hardship and are excused from service; and

WHEREAS, a 2004 report presented to the Judicial Council from the Task Force on Jury System Improvements, the Commission called the rate paid to California jurors for daily service and mileage "insulting"; and

WHEREAS, consequently, jury pools tend to be composed of people who can afford to serve unpaid or whose employers will pay them while they're serving; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 1452 (Ting), which created the "Be The Jury" pilot program at the San Francisco Superior Court, where jury pay for criminal cases was increased to \$100 for low to moderate income San Franciscans; and

WHEREAS, the "Be The Jury" pilot program in San Francisco had the following results: (1) the diversity of program participants matched San Francisco's at-large population, where 63 percent of participants identified as "people of color;" (2) the average household income for participants was under \$40,000, significantly below the \$97,000 area median household income in San Francisco; and (3) 81% of participants said they would not have been able to participate in jury duty without financial assistance from the pilot program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles is one of the most racially diverse cities in the United States, and its leadership is committed to equity and inclusion for all Los Angeles residents, particularly those who are impacted by the criminal justice system; and

MAY 1 2 2023

WHEREAS, AB 881, introduced by Assemblymember Ting in February 2023, would apply the “Be The Jury” program statewide by increasing jury pay for criminal cases to \$100 per day of jury service for low to moderate-income Californians; and


WHEREAS, AB 881 also makes \$15 the base rate of pay—rather than the cap, which it currently is—giving courts flexibility to increase pay for civil or criminal cases should they choose to in order to promote more economically and racially diverse jury panels across the State so that they accurately reflect community demographics; and

WHEREAS, to be eligible for the statewide program, an individual’s income for the past 12 months would have to be less than 80% of the area median income and one of the following additional criteria would have to be met: (1) their employer does not compensate for jury service or for the estimated duration of jury service; (2) they are self-employed; or (3) they are unemployed; and

WHEREAS, AB 881 passed the California Assembly Public Safety Committee with bipartisan support, and is supported by both prosecutors and public defenders across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in the 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 881 (Ting) and urges the California State Legislature and California Governor to pass this bill in order to remove financial hardship barriers to increase the diversity of criminal juries in the City of Los Angeles and across the State of California.

PRESENTED BY: 
NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District


HUGO SOTO-MARTÍNEZ
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

MAY 1 2 2023