

**AUDITS & GOVERNMENTAL EFFICIENCY
MOTION**

FEB 13 2007

Although the City Council along with the Los Angeles Police Department have made significant strides to improve the safety of City residents, the impact of gang violence to children and families remains a pervasive threat in far too many of our neighborhoods.

Last week, the Ramona Gardens community in Boyle Heights suffered two possible gang-related shootings in the span of four days.

These events have left Ramona Gardens residents reeling with children and families of that community feeling frustrated by decades of neglect and broken promises.

It is clear that the City needs to reassess its role and investment in protecting children from gang violence. The area around Ramona Gardens, in particular, lacks the programming and service infrastructure necessary to nurture and support children who are often grappling with a range of economic, educational, and health challenges.

The Advancement Project's proposed Gang Reduction Strategy shows that the City is investing over \$80 million in programs to combat gangs. Unfortunately, the bulk of that funding is directed towards suppression activities rather than prevention and intervention programs.


Providing positive, genuine alternatives to gang life is the best long-term investment that the City can make to stop the cycle of gang violence.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst prepare an inventory of gang prevention/intervention and youth development programs in the Boyle Heights community, with particular attention to the area immediately surrounding Ramona Gardens, including, but not limited to, programs through the Commission for Children, Youth and Their Families; Community Development Department; Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles; LA's BEST; the Department of Recreation and Parks; and the Los Angeles Unified School District;

I FURTHER MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst assess the nature and breadth of the outreach being conducted around those programs; and

I FURTHER MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst and the City Administrative Officer report back to the Ad Hoc Committee on Gang Violence and Youth Development and the Audits & Governmental Efficiency Committee on identified gaps in resources and potential funding sources to fill voids as identified by review of the City's prevailing gang prevention and intervention programs.

PRESENTED BY:



JOSE HUIZAR
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SECONDED BY:



Tony Cardenas

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