JUL 11 2008
AUDITS & GOVERNMENTAL EFFICIENCY

MOTION

PUBLIC SAFETY
BUDGET & FINANCE

On July 8, 2008, the City Controller released a report examining the recent increase in trash fees and how this funding was applied to the goal of hiring an additional 1,000 officers in the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). Using data provided by the City Administrative Officer (CAO), the Controller conducted an independent analysis of the fee increase with respect to the LAPD's overall budget.

The initial trash fee increase, which took effect September 2006, has provided an additional $137 million in revenue through the close of Fiscal Year 2007-08. During the same period, an additional 366 officers have been hired at a cost of approximately $47.2 million. The Controller reports that the balance of $89.4 million has been used for additional expenses related to various public safety objectives in LAPD.

The Controller's report concludes that the additional funding provided has met Council's original intent to provide sufficient budget options for public safety purposes, including the officer hiring goal. The Controller recommends that, in the future, the City should develop formal criteria and a tracking methodology so that it can be determined whether funds set aside for a specific purpose have been used appropriately.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Controller and City Administrative Officer be requested to report to the Audits and Governmental Efficiency Committee to discuss the findings in the review of trash fee revenues as they relate to funding the City's public safety programs, including: (1) the average cost per new officer (salary, expense, equipment, and other costs); (2) the incremental annual increase in the Police Department budget between Fiscal Years 2004-05 and 2007-08; (3) an estimate of when the 1,000 officer hiring goal will be achieved; and (4) an estimate of the full cost to maintain 1,000 additional officers.

PRESENTED BY: _____
JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY: _____

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JD