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BUDGET & FINANCE

MOTION

MAR 23 2005

In recent years, the City has made numerous efforts to increase the total number of police officers in the Los Angeles Police Department. At the same time, voters have rejected ballot measures to increase taxes to pay for police hiring. The most recent example was Measure A - the Los Angeles County Public Safety, Emergency Response and Crime Prevention Measure, which would have increased the sales tax by 1/2 cent countywide. Clearly, City leaders must commit themselves to examining internal policies and operational practices so that revenue is redirected toward our public safety goals.

Currently, the City maintains a trust fund for monies seized incidental to arrests. The California Government Code provides that any money remaining unclaimed in the City Treasury for three years or more may become the property of the City after publication of a notice, provided that within the specified period of time, no verified complaint seeking to recover all or a designated part of the money is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction. Further, California Government Code Section 50053 provides that if such money becomes the property of the City, the legislative body may transfer it to the General Fund.

While it has been the general practice of the City to transfer these funds to the General Fund, it is clearly appropriate that these monies be committed to the hiring of additional police officers.

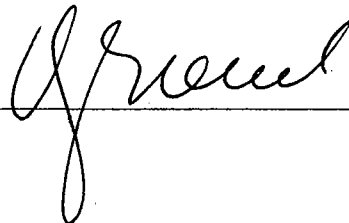
**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the Council request the City Attorney to draft an Ordinance amending Los Angeles Administrative Code, Article 14, Section 5.112, "Trust Fund for Monies Seized Incidental to Arrests," to provide that any unclaimed monies be transferred to the Police Hiring Account within the Special Fund for Efficiency Projects and Police Hiring.

PRESENTED BY

  
DENNIS P. ZINE

Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY





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