

Los Angeles City Council, Journal/Council Proceeding

Friday, March 21, 2025

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, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Jurado, McOsker, Nazarian, Padilla, Park, Price Jr., Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (12); Absent: Lee, Raman, Rodriguez (3)

Approval of the Minutes

Commendatory Resolutions, Introductions and Presentations

Multiple Agenda Item Comment

Public Testimony of Non-agenda Items Within Jurisdiction of Council

Items for which Public Hearings Have Been Held

(1) 24-0458

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the August, September, October, November, December 2024, and January 2025 Investment Reports.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the Office of Finance reports dated October 3, 2024, October 24, 2024, November 27, 2024, January 3, 2025, and January 28, 2025, attached to Council file No. 24-0458, relative to the August, September, October, November, and December 2024 Investment Reports.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Jurado, Hutt, McOsker, Nazarian, Padilla, Park, Price Jr., Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (12); Nays: (0); Absent: Lee,

Raman, Rodriguez (3)

(2) **22-0016-S6
CD 15**

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the annual report for Fiscal Year 2023-24 Community Facilities District No. 11 (Ponte Vista) Special Tax Bond, Series 2021.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the City Administrative Officer report dated February 6, 2025, attached to Council file No. 22-0016-S6, relative to the Senate Bill 165 annual report for Fiscal Year 2023-24 Community Facilities District No. 11 (Ponte Vista) Special Tax Bond, Series 2021, inasmuch as it is for informational purposes only and no further action is necessary.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Jurado, Hutt, McOsker, Nazarian, Padilla, Park, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (11); Nays: (0); Absent: Lee, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez (4)

(3) **22-0691-S4
CD 7**

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the annual report for Fiscal Year 2023-24 for Community Facilities District No. 8 (Legends at Cascades) Special Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2022.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the City Administrative Officer report dated February 6, 2025, attached to Council file No. 22-0691-S4, relative to the Senate Bill 165 annual report for Fiscal Year 2023-24 for Community Facilities District No. 8 (Legends at Cascades) Special Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2022, inasmuch as it is for informational purposes only and no further action is necessary.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Jurado, Hutt, McOsker, Nazarian, Padilla, Park, Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (11); Nays: (0); Absent: Lee, Price Jr., Raman, Rodriguez (4)

(4) **23-0357**

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the 2023 Annual Statement of Investment Policy.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the Office of Finance report dated March 21, 2023, attached to the Council file, relative to the 2023 Annual Statement of Investment Policy.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Jurado, Hutt, McOsker, Nazarian, Padilla, Park, Price Jr., Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (12); Nays: (0); Absent: Lee, Raman, Rodriguez (3)

(5) **24-1416**

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the 2024 Annual Statement of Investment Policy.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the Office of Finance report dated November 13, 2024, attached to the Council file, relative to the 2024 Annual Statement of Investment Policy.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Jurado, Hutt, McOsker, Nazarian, Padilla, Park, Price Jr., Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (12); Nays: (0); Absent: Lee, Raman, Rodriguez (3)

(6) **23-0652-S8**

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Homelessness Emergency Declaration 2024-25 Third Quarterly Report.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the City Administrative Officer report dated February 21, 2025, attached to Council file No. 21-1216, relative to the Homelessness Emergency Declaration 2024-25 Third Quarterly Report.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Jurado, Hutt, McOsker, Nazarian, Padilla, Park, Price Jr., Soto-Martínez, Yaroslavsky (12); Nays: (0); Absent: Lee, Raman, Rodriguez (3)

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

(7) **25-0030**

RESOLUTION (HARRIS-DAWSON - BLUMENFIELD) relative to the Declaration of Local Emergency by the Mayor dated January 7, 2025, and Updated Declaration of Local Emergency by the Mayor dated January 13, 2025, due to the windstorm and extreme fire weather system and devastating wildfires in the City of Los Angeles (City), pursuant to Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) Section 8.27.

Recommendation for Council action:

ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTION, dated January 14, 2025, to:

1. Resolve that a local emergency exists resulting from ongoing windstorm and extreme fire weather system and the devastating

wildfires in the City within the meaning of LAAC Section 8.21, et seq., as set forth in the Mayor's January 13, 2025 Updated Declaration of Local Emergency, which incorporated the declaration of emergency dated January 7, 2025, which the City Council hereby ratifies.

2. Resolve that because the local emergency, which began on January 7, 2025, continues to exist, there is a need to continue the state of local emergency, which the City Council hereby ratifies.
3. Instruct and request all appropriate City departments (including proprietary departments), agencies, and personnel, in accordance with LAAC Code Section 8.21 et seq., to continue to perform all duties and responsibilities to represent the City in this matter to respond to and abate the emergency and prevent further harm to the life, health, property, and safety, and receive, process; and, coordinate all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain whatever State and Federal assistance that may become available to the City and/or to the citizens of the City who may be affected by the emergency.
4. Instruct the General Manager, Emergency Management Department, to advise the Mayor and City Council on the need to extend the state of local emergency, as appropriate.
5. Resolve that, to the extent the public interest and necessity demand the immediate expenditure of public funds to safeguard life, health, or property in response to the local emergency and to support the emergency operations of the City and its departments (including its proprietary departments), agencies, and personnel (including mutual aid resources) in responding to the declared local emergency, the competitive bidding requirements enumerated in City Charter Section 371, and further codified in the LAAC, including LAAC Section 10.15 be suspended until termination of the state of emergency and solely with respect to purchases and contracts needed to respond to the declared state of emergency.
6. Direct and request City departments and agencies making purchases pursuant to the authority granted in paragraph five (5), above, to report every two weeks to the City Council regarding the

purchases and contracts made during the prior two week period on the reasons justifying why such purchase or contract was necessary to respond to the emergency, including why the emergency did not permit a delay resulting from a competitive solicitation for bids or proposals, and why competitive proposals or bidding was not reasonably practicable or compatible with the City's interests.

7. Request all City departments and agencies who have the authority to investigate and/or enforce any/all forms of price gouging, fraud, and theft by deceit, as described in the California Penal Code, to do so to the fullest extent permissible under federal, state, and local law.
8. Instruct the City Clerk, unless and until Council directs otherwise or discontinues the state of emergency, to timely agendize this matter so that Council may consider whether to continue the state of emergency.
9. **Instruct the City Clerk to forward copies of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of California, the Director of the Office of Emergency Services of the State of California, the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.**

Adopted Item

Ayes: Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Jurado, Hutt, McOsker, Nazarian, Padilla, Price Jr., Raman, Soto-Martínez (11); Nays: (0); Absent: Lee, Park, Rodriguez, Yaroslavsky (4)

Items Called Special

Motions for Posting and Referral - SEE ATTACHED

Council Members' Requests for Excuse from Attendance at Council Meetings

Adjourning Motions - SEE ATTACHED

Council Adjournment

ENDING ROLL CALL

Blumenfield, Harris-Dawson, Hernandez, Hutt, Jurado, McOsker, Nazarian, Padilla, Price Jr., Raman, Soto-Martínez (11); Absent: Lee, Park, Rodriguez, Yaroslavsky (4)

Whereupon the Council did adjourn.

ATTEST: Petty F. Santos, INTERIM CITY CLERK

By



Council Clerk



PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ADJOURNING MOTIONS

MOVED BY	SECONDED BY	NAME
Hutt-Price-Harris-Dawson	All Councilmembers	Dr. Ludlow B. Creary
Hutt	All Councilmembers	Susan Harris
Hernandez	All Councilmembers	Stevan Skendzic, Jr.
McOsker	All Councilmembers	Michael George Markulis
Harris-Dawson	All Councilmembers	B'Elma Simmons Claiborne
Jurado	All Councilmembers	Dr. Paula Bagasao-Butka

MOTION

Dharma Educational Institute, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, d/b/a New Horizons Charter Academy, or a related or successor entity (Borrower), has requested that the California Enterprise Development Authority (CEDA) issue one or more series of its revenue bonds or other obligations, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 (Obligations) for the purpose of financing, and/or refinancing the construction, improvement, installation, furnishing, and equipping of the educational facilities (Facilities) located at 14701 W Friar St., Van Nuys, California 91411, in Council District 6.

No City funds are or will be pledged to support this project. The Obligations are payable solely from revenues or other funds provided by the Borrower. The City does not incur liability for repayment of the Obligations. The City is required by federal law to review and approve the issuance of bonds or revenue obligations for projects within its jurisdiction and conduct a public hearing.

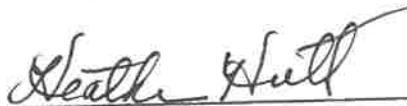
In accordance with the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (TEFRA) and as part of the issuance of the Obligations, the Borrower has requested that the City conduct the required public hearing (TEFRA Hearing) and approve the issuance of the Obligations by CEDA.

I THEREFORE MOVE that City Council allow the California Enterprise Development Authority to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 to provide financing and/or refinancing for the construction, improvement, installation, furnishing and equipping of educational facilities, located at 14701 W Friar St., Van Nuys, California 91411, in Council District 6; and hold a TEFRA Hearing and adopt the attached TEFRA Resolution at the City Council Meeting to be held on April 1, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., located at 200 North Spring Street, Room 340, Los Angeles, California 90012.

PRESENTED BY:


IMELDA PADILLA
Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

MAR 21 2025

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN THE MAXIMUM AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$10,000,000 BY THE CALIFORNIA ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING AND/OR REFINANCING THE COST OF CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENT, INSTALLATION, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF DHARMA EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE AND/OR A RELATED OR SUCCESSOR ENTITY, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO HEREIN SPECIFIED

WHEREAS, Dharma Educational Institute, a nonprofit public benefit corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of California and an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), d/b/a New Horizons Charter Academy, and/or a related entity (the "Borrower"), has submitted and the California Enterprise Development Authority (the "Authority") has accepted, an application requesting the Authority to issue revenue bonds in the aggregate principal amount of \$10,000,000 (the "Obligations") pursuant to Joint Exercise of Powers Act, comprising Articles 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of the Government Code of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the proceeds of the Obligations will be loan to the Borrower and applied for the purpose of (a) financing and/or refinancing the cost of construction, improvement, installation, furnishing and equipping of certain educational and ancillary facilities located at 14701 W Friar St., Van Nuys, California 91411 (the "Facilities"), (b) funding a debt service reserve fund, working capital and capitalized interest with respect to the Obligations, if needed; and (c) paying certain costs of issuance and other related costs in connection with the issuance of the Obligations; and

WHEREAS, the issuance of the Obligations must be approved by the governmental unit on behalf of which the Obligations are issued and a governmental unit having jurisdiction over the territorial limits in which the Facilities located pursuant to the public approval requirement of Section 147(f) of the Code; and

WHEREAS, the Facilities are located within the territorial limits of City of Los Angeles (the "City") and the City Council of the City (the "City Council") is the elected legislative body of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Facilities will be operated by the Borrower as public charter school facilities in connection with its mission of providing students with a comprehensive education that will give them the skills to succeed; and

WHEREAS, the Authority and the Borrower have requested that the City Council approve the issuance of the Obligations by the Authority and financing the Facilities with the proceeds of the Obligations pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Code; and

WHEREAS, the Facilities provide significant benefits to the City's residents through the educational services provided by the Borrower to the City's residents and the Facilities will also create and retain employment opportunities for the City's residents; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's issuance of the Obligations will result in a more economical and efficient issuance process because of the Authority's expertise in the issuance of conduit revenue obligations; and

WHEREAS, it is intended that this Resolution shall comply with the public approval requirements of Section 147(f) of the Code; *provided, however*, that this Resolution is neither intended to nor shall it constitute an approval by the City Council of the Facilities for any other purpose;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Code, the City Council of the City, following notice duly given, held a public hearing regarding the issuance of the Obligations and now desires to approve the issuance of the Obligations by the Authority; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the City's objective of addressing the needs of residents with disabilities, the Borrower has agreed that (a) any Facilities to be constructed with the proceeds of the Obligations will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 12101 *et seq.* and the 2010 ADA Standards, Chapter 11 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, (b) the Borrower will not discriminate in its programs, services or activities on the basis of disability or on the basis of a person's relationship to, or association with, a person who has a disability and (c) the borrower will provide reasonable accommodation upon request to ensure equal access and effective communication to its programs, services and activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED by the City Council of the City as follows:

Section 1. The City Council hereby finds and determines that all of the recitals are true and correct. The City Council finds that the Facilities will provide the significant benefits set forth in the recitals above. The City Council hereby approves the issuance of the Obligations by the Authority, which Obligations may be tax-exempt and/or taxable as approved by the Authority in its resolution, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 to finance the cost of the Facilities and to pay financing and costs of issuance of the Obligations. This resolution shall constitute "host" approval of the issuance of the Obligations within the meaning of Section 147(f) of the Code; *provided, however*, that this Resolution shall not constitute an approval by the City Council of the Facilities for any other purpose. The City shall not bear any responsibility for the tax-exempt status of the Obligations, the repayment of the Obligations or any other matter related to the Obligations.

Section 2. All actions heretofore taken by the officers, employees and agents of the City with respect to the approval of the Obligations are hereby approved, confirmed and ratified, and the officers and employees of the City and their authorized deputies and agents are hereby authorized and directed, jointly and severally, to do any and all things and to execute and deliver any and all certificates and documents which they or special counsel may deem necessary or advisable in order to consummate the Obligations and otherwise to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption.

BB

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

#52

On February 16, 2019, Council concurred with the actions taken by the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners to facilitate the development and construction of the Reseda Skate Facility (C.F. 14-1174-S31; Blumenfield). The Reseda Skate Facility is currently well into the construction phase and in need of funds immediately to complete construction by January 2026.

The Bureau of Engineering is in the process of obtaining Capital and Technology Improvement Expenditure Program (CTIEP) funds to cover budget increases associated with multiple change orders, but those funds will not be available to continue construction after June 2025. They are expected to be available by the end of 2025. The project needs funds immediately to ensure there are no pauses or delays in construction.

I THEREFORE MOVE that \$1,058,689 in the AB1290 Fund No. 53P, Account No. 281203 (CD 3 Redevelopment Projects - Services) be transferred / appropriated to General Fund 100-54, Account No. 00T785 (Reseda Skate Facility) with the understanding that any portion of this amount not used for the stated purposes shall be returned to its source.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Clerk be authorized to make any technical corrections, clarifications or revisions to the above fund transfer instructions, including any new instructions, in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion, and including any corrections and changes to fund or account numbers; said corrections / clarifications / changes may be made orally, electronically or by any other means.

PRESENTED BY:


BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

MAR 21 2025

TRANSPORTATION

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, California Vehicle Code Section 22507(a) allows local authorities, by ordinance or resolution, to prohibit or restrict the stopping, parking, or standing of vehicles on certain streets or highways, during all or certain hours of the day; and

WHEREAS, Section 80.69 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code authorizes the Department of Transportation to prohibit the parking of vehicles when the unrestricted parking of vehicles would create a hazard or detrimentally affect public welfare; and

WHEREAS, the segment of Inglewood Boulevard that sits beneath the California State Route 90 (SR 90) overpass has become a site for parked vehicles during all hours of the day and night; and

WHEREAS, there have been vehicle fires and multiple calls for police and fire services and there are growing public safety concerns;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council, pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 22507(a) and Los Angeles Municipal Code 80.69, hereby instructs the Department of Transportation (LADOT) to install red curbs and "No Stopping Anytime" signage along both sides of Inglewood Boulevard, beneath the SR 90 overpass and up to the creek channel, between Bray Street and Hammack Street.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LADOT be authorized to make technical corrections or clarifications to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

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

BB
SECONDED BY: [Signature]

ORIGINAL

BB

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

MOTION

On February 28, 2025, the County of Los Angeles (County) Homeless Initiative (HI) released a report in response to the County Board of Supervisors' motion to report on next steps to implement the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness Report Recommendation No. 1 to establish a new County Department dedicated solely to serving people who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of becoming homeless. The County motion also instructed the HI to report on streamlining responsibilities of Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) by pulling all County funding from LAHSA and having them only retain the function of being the Continuum of Care lead.

The County HI report includes three phases of implementing the recommendations of the Blue-Ribbon Commission's report on establishing a department for homelessness services. The Report states that Phase I of the implementation plan would establish a consolidated County department by July 1, 2025 which would merge the County's Housing for Health program and Homeless Initiative. Phase II of the plan would transfer LAHSA funding and related staff to the new department by July 1, 2026. Phase III would include the integration of programs and services from all other County departments beyond HI and Housing for Health.

As the County contemplates these plans to transition funding from LAHSA and create an in-house homeless services department, there will be impacts to the homelessness services in the entire region, but especially on the City. LAHSA has been operating in the region as the administrator of City, County, State, and federal funding sources. It is imperative to understand what the implications of LAHSA losing a large part of their funding, if the County approves the plan in the HI Report. The City needs to do an independent analysis on how the homeless response system would be impacted as a whole, how the City's programs would be impacted, and alternative organizational solutions for the City. It will be important to evaluate what options the City has if the County were to take this step. The City will need to determine whether an agreement needs to be made with the County if it assumes the role of the administrator of the homelessness services system, instead of LAHSA, whether LAHSA should continue to administer programs for the City, or whether the City should administer its own programs, for example. These options become particularly important if County becomes the entity that holds all data on homeless services Countywide, or alters service requirements that are not consistent with City needs, or establishes criteria for the distribution of resources in a way that disadvantage homeless residents in the City.

The County's actions call into question the jurisdictional relationships of the region's Homelessness Response System, including the role and need for all of its institutional components, including LAHSA, the Continuum of Care, and other organizing bodies, as well as service providers, health care providers, educational institutions, philanthropy, and all of the other participants in the system. The City must be prepared to engage with the changes that may emerge in the system to ensure that people experiencing homelessness are not harmed by changes in administrative systems and that the City's resources are able to help them.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst and the City Administrative Officer to report on the implications of the establishment of a new County Department for homelessness and its impacts on the City's homelessness contracts with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority; and

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I FURTHER MOVE that the Council instruct the CLA and the CAO to report on options for pathways the City can take if the County were to establish the department, especially in terms of coordinating services, sharing data, and managing a regional homelessness response system without the participation of LAHSA.

PRESENTED BY:

Nithya Raman

NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY:

Bob Blumenfeld

ORIGINAL

23

TRADE, TRAVEL AND TOURISM

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

MOTION

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

The proprietary departments of the City of Los Angeles, including the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), the Port of Los Angeles (POLA), and the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), provide essential services and infrastructure but have historically faced challenges of efficiency, transparency, and alignment within the larger city family when it comes to governmental operations and oversight.

Recognizing the need for continued modernization and alignment with best practices in public service delivery, and in accordance with the goals outlined in Council File 10-1791, it is incumbent upon the City Council to take further steps to address specific matters related to the proprietary departments. In light of ongoing budgetary constraints, and as the Charter Reform Commission begins review of areas for reform, it is essential that these departments are thoroughly evaluated to meet the evolving needs of the City.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to review the current organizational structures, operations, and budgeting processes of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), the Port of Los Angeles (POLA), and the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) to identify inefficiencies, overlaps, and opportunities for reform. The report should include the 2024 policy measures referred by the City Council to the Charter Reform Commission.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council direct the CLA and the CAO to report on recommended reforms, potential cost savings, and strategies to ensure that these departments are operating in a way that prioritizes both fiscal responsibility and quality service delivery. Additionally, these recommendations should include timelines needed for implementation for potential reforms to be considered for the 2026 ballot measure.

PRESENTED BY:



TIM McOSKER

Councilmember, 15th District

For Traci Park Arnold 

TRACI PARK

Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

MAR 21 2025

BB

BUDGET & FINANCE

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

MOTION

As we lean into recovery from the devastating wind and wildfires, the City of Los Angeles is facing a structural budget deficit, increasing liability obligations, and declining revenue projections that demand urgent action. The Third Financial Status Report (FSR) released by the City Administrative Officer (CAO) on February 28, 2025, identified more than \$300 million in overspending for the current fiscal year, including a \$95 million shortfall in the Liability Claims Account alone. Additionally, the City has drawn heavily on its Reserve Fund to cover budget shortfalls, depleting it to levels that could soon require an "urgent economic necessity" declaration.

The City Controller's Revenue Forecast, released on March 3, 2025, paints an equally sobering picture. The report estimates that General Fund revenue for the current fiscal year will fall \$140 million short of projections, with continued revenue declines expected in FY 2025-26. Key revenue sources, including business taxes, sales taxes, and grant reimbursements, are underperforming, and projections indicate that the City must make structural changes to protect the delivery of core services.

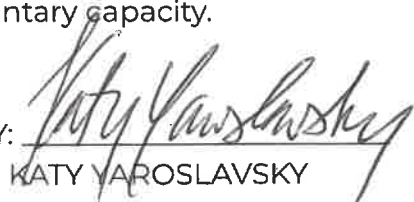
Without meaningful reforms to how the City manages its budget, maximizes its assets, and provides essential operations, Los Angeles will continue to face an annual crisis that creates spiraling instability. This moment requires the City Council to rethink how we reverse this trend - avoiding one-year fixes to produce a balanced budget - and fundamentally improve how we engage our residents and make decisions about managing public resources, generating revenue, delivering more responsive and efficient services, and controlling costs. In one of the most creative cities of the world, we should engage the expertise around us to map out the structural changes needed to establish fiscal stability, activate city-owned capital, speed up development, stimulate entrepreneurship and business growth, and ensure the delivery of essential services in the years ahead.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council establish an Advisory Group on the City's Finances and Budget, to assess the city's financial status and advise the Budget and Finance Committee on steps to secure the long-term fiscal health of the City. The Advisory Group will be made up of members of the public, with specific and relevant expertise as described below, led by five members to be named by the Budget and Finance Chair (2), Council President (2), and Council President Pro Tempore (1). The Advisory Group will report not less than quarterly to the Budget and Finance Committee, with a duration not to exceed 18 months. This Advisory Group will also explore and implement recommendations for greater transparency, engagement, and participation by residents in the City's budget process, to include emerging best practices, including community (or "citizen") assemblies.

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The Advisory Group will be responsive to the Budget and Finance Committee, and prepare recommendations on topics including but not limited to maximizing the city's property and assets, novel revenue generation, efficient and transparent delivery of public services, liability reduction, debt utilization, public-private partnerships, reforms to the City Charter and codes required to effectuate the recommendations, and engaging the community in setting long-term budget priorities. The Advisory Group will collaborate with philanthropic, private, and non-profit partners, including third-party consultants, to augment their capacity to deep-dive into specific city processes in need of reform. The Advisory Group members shall have substantial professional experience in municipal finance and budgeting, economic development, real estate, liability management, government efficiency, deliberative democracy, and/or civil service systems. Members will serve in an unpaid, voluntary capacity.

PRESENTED BY:


KATY YAROSLAVSKY
Councilwoman, 5th District


MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY:







ORIGINAL

MOTION

On March 7, 2025, the Mayor announced the launch of an online application process for the Charter Reform Commission. Established under Ordinance No. 188303, the Charter Reform Commission will have the authority to conduct a comprehensive review of the Charter, including specific issues referred by the Council. The Charter contains foundational matters involving City operations, including contracting rules, employment provisions, and budgetary procedures, among other issues. The Charter is essential for a well-functioning and responsive government. Charter reform will necessitate that commissioners engage in ample deliberation before offering amendments.

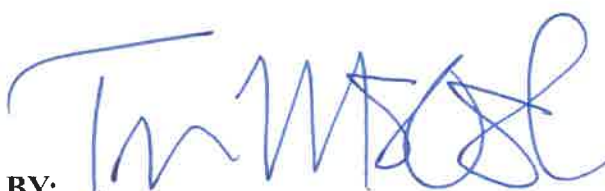
The Charter Reform Commission is also responsible for soliciting public input regarding its work program. The Commission will be required to meet with a wide variety of individuals and organizations, including members of the public, City officials and departments, experts, academics, and others as part of its review process. To ensure there is sufficient time to develop potential Charter amendments and to present these matters to the public, Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 8.335 (b) specifies that

Appointments to the Commission shall be made no later than in every year ending in the number four so that the Commission may develop Charter proposals in time to be submitted to the voters at an election held in a year ending in the number six.

As the 2024 Charter Reform Commission application process is incomplete, additional time will be necessary to accommodate the selection and appointment of the remaining membership.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the City Attorney to prepare and present an amendment to Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 8.335 (b) to provide an additional 60 days from the date of adoption of such amendment, or a date specific, to allow for the appointment of members to the 2024 Charter Reform Commission. The amendment shall only apply to this 2024-2025 appointment cycle.

PRESENTED BY:


TIM McOSKER

Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

MAR 21 2025

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WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles, with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, in *People v. Reynoza* (2024) 15 Cal.5th 982, 1013, the California Supreme Court decided that a violation of Penal Code section 136.1(b)(2) for attempting to dissuade or intimidate a victim or witness from assisting the prosecution only applied to acts that occurred prior to the filing of criminal charges.

WHEREAS, in *People v. Reynoza*, the California Supreme Court held, “where criminal charges have already been filed, postcharging dissuasion alone does not constitute an offense under section 136.1(b)(2).” (*Id.* At 1013.); and

WHEREAS, when Penal Code section 136.1 was first enacted in 1980, the Legislative Analyst’s analysis suggested that section 136.1 would apply after criminal charges are filed and make it a violation “to knowingly and maliciously prevent or dissuade (or attempt to prevent or dissuade) a witness to, or victim of, a crime from (1) attending or giving testimony at any legal proceeding or (2) assisting law enforcement or prosecution activities.” (Legis. Analyst, analysis of Assem. Bill No. 2909 (1979-1980 Reg. Sess.), May 10, 1980, p. 1 (emphasis added)); and

WHEREAS, the ability to prosecute attempted witness intimidation and dissuasion is essential to the proper functioning and integrity of the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of Penal Code section 136.1 was intended, in part, to protect victims and witnesses so they would report crimes; and

WHEREAS, the intimidation and dissuasion of witnesses and victims, especially in the context of a domestic violence case, frequently occurs after criminal charges have already been filed; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill (AB) 535 (Schiavo), introduced on February 11, 2025, clarifies that a violation of Penal Code section 136.1(b)(2) would apply after criminal charges are filed by prohibiting anyone from preventing or dissuading, or attempting to prevent or dissuade, a witness or victim from either causing a complaint, indictment, information, or probation or parole violation to be sought and prosecuted, or assisting in the prosecution thereof; and

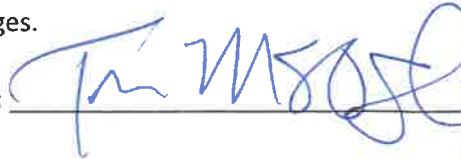
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2024-2025 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 535 (Schiavo) which would restore legal protections for victims and witnesses and protect the necessary role of crime victims and witnesses in the criminal justice system at all stages of the process, not just at the discrete moment during which an offender anticipates the filing of criminal charges.

PRESENTED BY:


BOB BLUMENFELD

Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:



MAR 21 2025

ORIGINAL

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles strives to be an inclusive and equitable city that supports all of its residents, regardless of racial, ethnic, or cultural background; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles is home to a large Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) community from different nationalities, all contributing to the City's cultural, economic, and social fabric; and

WHEREAS, the MENA community in Los Angeles has been instrumental in shaping the local economy, particularly in the business, healthcare, technology, education, and service industries; and

WHEREAS, data from the Census is inaccurate due to the lack of state-level methods to reach, engage, and collect data surrounding the MENA community; and

WHEREAS, the State of California is home to the largest MENA population in the United States, yet state and local agencies have historically failed to disaggregate data for MENA individuals, thereby limiting their access to health, education, and economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, representational data is critical for ensuring that MENA communities have a voice in policymaking, civic engagement, and advocacy efforts, allowing for more inclusive and equitable governance; and

WHEREAS, currently pending in the State legislature, AB 91 (Harabedian), the MENA Inclusion Act, would require that starting January 1, 2026, state agencies, board, and commissions in California that collect demographic data on ancestry or ethnic origin must include separate categories for MENA groups; and

WHEREAS, AB 91 seeks to create a MENA category for more accurate demographic representation and equitable distribution of resources in the State of California;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-2026 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 91 (Harabedian), which would require state and local agencies that collect demographic data on ancestry or ethnic origin to include separate categories and tabulations for major Middle Eastern or North African groups.

PRESENTED BY:

ADRIAN NAZARIAN
Councilmember 2nd District

SECONDED BY:

WILLIAM BROWN

ORIGINAL

MOTION

The Los Angeles City Council faces competing duties. It has the legal and moral duties to hear directly from members of the public, consistent with the Ralph M. Brown Act and state constitution. It has the legal and moral duties to provide forums where members of the public are free to participate and exercise their constitutional right to petition their government. And it has the legal and moral duties to protect its staff and members of the public from working and participating in a hostile environment.

These duties come into conflict when some members of the public in their comments to Council and its Committees use certain offensive epithets. At their worst, these members of the public refer to black members of the public, City staff, and Council members using the “N-word” and to female members of the public, City staff, and Council members using the “C-word.” These two epithets, the N-word and C-word, are also, unfortunately, the most frequently used offensive and injurious epithets at Council and its Committees. Members of the public who choose to use these modes of expression do so not because these epithets are necessary to convey their viewpoints but for the sake of offense and injury itself.

Use of these offensive epithets is inherently harmful, attacking the humanity of their targets. As the Supreme Court found in *Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*, 315 U.S. 568 (1942), certain words “by their very utterance inflict injury or tend to incite an immediate breach of the peace.” “It has been well observed,” the Court continued, “that such utterances are no essential part of any exposition of ideas, and are of such slight social value as a step to truth that any benefit that may be derived from them is clearly outweighed by the social interest in order and morality. Resort to epithets or personal abuse is not in any proper sense communication of information or opinion safeguarded by the Constitution.” The harm only increases in a formal public meeting where some members of the public unfortunately receive the false impression that the City condones use of these words.

Use of these injurious epithets is also disruptive. On many occasions, speakers’ utterances of these two epithets have compelled other members of the public in the Council chamber to shout in objection. At least twice, utterance of the N-word would have triggered not merely verbal but, as *Chaplinsky* anticipated, physical altercations but for the intervention of sergeants-at-arms who prevented fights that were on the cusp of breaking out. Besides inciting, or threatening to incite, verbal and even physical altercations, these epithets disrupt Council and Committee meetings by deterring public participation. By creating public spaces many constituents find repellant, these toxifying modes of expression make it intolerable for many members of the public to attend and participate in the meetings. This denies elected officials the benefit of hearing from these constituents, and so subverts the function of the public comment period. It also suppresses the constitutional right of many members of the public to freely petition their government.

The Council thus has a compelling interest in amending its rules of decorum to proscribe use of the N-word and C-word, and their variations. The amended rules, consistent with the First Amendment, must be viewpoint-neutral, prohibiting utterance of these two epithets, and their variations, regardless of the viewpoint the speaker is expressing with the words. The amended decorum rules should not restrain the modes of expression members of the public may use in written comments submitted to Council. Nor should the amended rules provide for criminal or monetary sanctions. Finally, in order to avoid any potential chilling effect on a speaker, when a public speaker first uses one of these two disruptive epithets, or its variation, that speaker should receive a warning and be ordered not to use the epithet, or its variation, ever again in that or any subsequent Council or Committee meeting. If the speaker disobeys that order and the presiding officer stops a meeting to address the violation and re-issue the order, then the speaker has actually disrupted the meeting and should be subject to already-existing rules regarding disruptions.

MAR 21 2025

I THEREFORE MOVE, in light of the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, and pursuant to Rule 77, that the Council adopt the following changes to the Rules of the Los Angeles City Council, with these changes to come into force on DATE.

Add the following to the end of Rule 7:

Prohibition on Use of N-word and C-word Epithets

A public speaker may not use the N-word or C-word, or any variation of either of these words, in a Council or Committee meeting. To avoid ambiguity, the N-word is spelled "n" followed by "i" followed by "g" followed by "g" followed by "e" followed by "r." The C-word is spelled "c" followed by "u" followed by "n" followed by "t." Examples of variations of these epithets include, but are not limited to, the words' plural forms and words created by adding "-ish," "-y," "-ly" or "-ing" to create related adjectives, adverbs, verbs, or gerundives. Public speakers are prohibited from using the N-word and C-word and their variations even though the speakers would use the words to express a non-offensive, non-vulgar viewpoint.

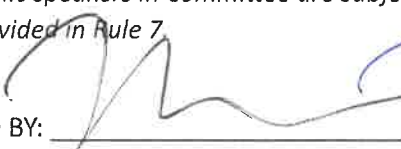
The first time a public speaker in a Council or Committee meeting uses the N-word or C-word, or its variation, the staffing City Attorney or presiding officer shall issue a warning to the public speaker that the word and its variations are proscribed and may not be used again in any Council or Committee meeting. If the speaker who received the warning uses the word or its variation again in that or any future Council or Committee meeting, the presiding officer shall re-issue the order, note that the officer's need to stop the meeting to re-issue the order has actually disrupted the meeting, and cut off the speaker's time to speak for the remainder of that meeting. The disruptive speaker is additionally subject to possible removal and exclusion as other provided in this Rule.

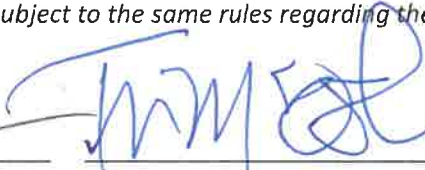
Add the following to the end of Rule 63:

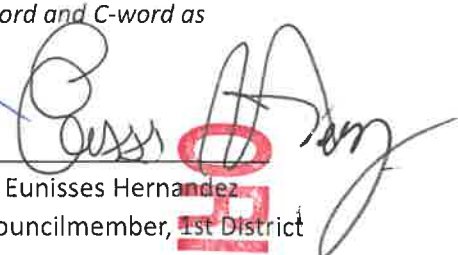
Prohibition on Use of N-word and C-word Epithets

Public speakers in Committee are subject to the same rules regarding the N-word and C-word as provided in Rule 7

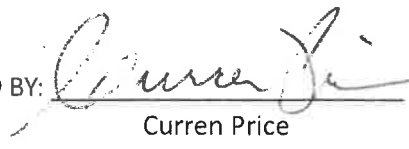
PRESENTED BY:

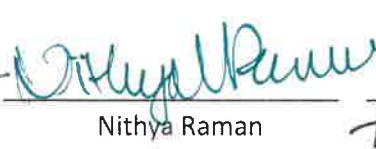

Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Councilmember, 8th District

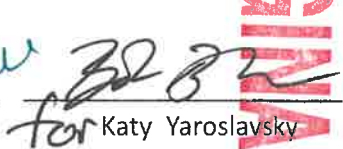

Tim McOsler
Councilmember, 15th District


Eunisses Hernandez
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY:


Curren Price
Councilmember, 9th District


Nithya Raman
Councilmember, 4th District


for Katy Yaroslavsky
Councilmember, 5th District


Imelda Padilla
Councilmember, 6th District