

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Richelle Callies

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2025 12:22 PM

**Council File No:** 15-0850-S5

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, As of today NON of your policies or procedures have included the American Freedman's community. We are Jobless, homeless and dying daily. Your current plan does not include the American Freedman because our Employment Development Department is CLOSED, the Department for Public Social Services is CLOSED and your plan is causing the Homeless Crisis; Within our community CD8. The American Freedman community demand investment into our Small Businesses. Respectfully, Richelle Callies

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2025 02:23 PM

**Council File No:** 15-0850-S5

**Comments for Public Posting:** Up to now, the American Freedmen community has been excluded from any substantive actions, policies or procedures proposed. The American Freedmen community is in crisis: high unemployment rates, homelessness, and preventable death and we don't have a plan, the Employment Development Department and the Department of Public Social Services have been closed, while it appears this alone had no focus on our needs and current crisis has created substantial barriers to stability and life. The difficulty of not being able to address these needs across, and a lack of support, has created homelessness, in Council District 8. The American Freedmen community is demanding a deliberate investment in our small businesses, the opportunity to develop construction and hospitality pathways as we prepare for the 2028 Olympics and the opportunity to create our own law enforcement, emergency response, and training programs for our Transitional Age Youth (TAY). Investing in the American Freedmen community is critical to address the exclusions and inequity that continue to impact our community for generations. Respectfully, Gabrielle Barnes

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2025 03:22 PM

**Council File No:** 15-0850-S5

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, To this point, none of your policies and procedures have directly engaged the American Freedmen community. We are disproportionately homeless, unemployed, and dying not by accident, but by continued refusal to meet our needs. Your plan does not engage the American Freedmen community. Our Employment Development Department is closed. The Department of Public Social Services is closed. These closures are directly causing the homelessness in our CD8 community. We demand targeted investment in our community, including: Investment in small businesses owned by American Freedmen Career streams in construction and hospitality leading to the 2028 Olympics Law enforcement and emergency response training programs for our Transitional Age Youth (TAY) The American Freedmen community will no longer be left out of decisions determining our future. Inclusion is not an option — it is necessary for equity, progress, and justice. Truthfully, Giselle Barnes