

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to a report regarding liability payouts made for claims related to faulty or broken street light infrastructure, and related matters.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Hernandez – Lee):

1. INSTRUCT the City Administrative Officer (CAO), with the assistance of the City Attorney, the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) and Bureau of Engineering (BOE), to report in 30 days with the following:
 - a. The total amount of liability payouts made for claims related to broken sidewalks by Fiscal Year starting in 2019-20 in comparison to the funds budgeted and expended for sidewalk repair per each Fiscal Year;
 - b. The total amount of liability payouts made for claims related to faulty tree upkeep by Fiscal Year starting in 2019-20 in comparison to the amount budgeted and expended for tree trimming per each Fiscal Year.
2. INSTRUCT the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the City Attorney and the Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL), to report in 30 days with the amount of liability payouts made for claims related to faulty or broken street light infrastructure by Fiscal Year starting in 2019-20 in comparison to the amount budgeted and expended for street light repair done by BSL per each fiscal year.
3. INSTRUCT the CAO, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to report back in 30 days with information on effectiveness of outside counsel to support in limiting liability payouts, including information on how often going through litigation leads to lowered damages, as well as how often and by how much outside counsel leads to lowered settlement payments.
4. INSTRUCT the BSL and the BSS to report within 30 days with an updated list of locations where trip and fall liability claims have occurred and been paid out dating back to Fiscal Year 18/19, including a current status of those sidewalks and locations where multiple liabilities have occurred.
5. INSTRUCT BSL and BSS to report to the Public Works Committee on a quarterly basis with the list of locations where trip and fall liability claims have occurred and been paid out, as well as the repair status of each incident location including estimated timeline of completion.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For: North Westwood Neighborhood Council

Summary:

On January 21, 2025, your Committee considered Motion (Hernandez – Lee) relative to instructing the CAO, with the assistance of the City Attorney and the BSL, to report with the amount of liability payouts made for claims related to faulty or broken street light infrastructure by Fiscal Year starting in 2019-20 in comparison to the amount budgeted and expended for street light repair done by BSL per each fiscal year, and related matters.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations in the Motion, as amended, as stated above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
YAROSLAVSKY:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
HUTT:	YES
McOSKER:	YES
HERNANDEZ:	YES

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-