

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: June 20, 2024

TO: Honorable Members of the City Council

FROM: Sharon M. Tso 
Chief Legislative Analyst

Assignment No: 24-04-0247
Council File No.: 24-0600

Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget Special Studies

SUMMARY

Pursuant to your request, our Office prepared and now transmits for your consideration the attached list of Special Studies requested by the Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee during Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget deliberations. Special Studies include instructions to various City departments to report on Budget-related matters.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt the attached list of Special Studies and instruct the City Clerk to open Council Files for each.



Dora Huerta
Analyst

Attachment: Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget List of Special Studies

Fiscal Year 2024-25 Requested Reports and Special Studies

Aging

- R 1. Instruct the Department of Aging to report to the Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging and Disability Committee with recommendations on how the Department can collaborate with Asian American Pacific Islander nonprofit organizations that use multilingual services through job sharing or contracts to address the Department's language access needs and requests for service.

Animal Services

- R 2. Instruct the Department of Animal Services to report to the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee on opportunities to remodel and repurpose existing space at City shelters to address the current needs including repurposing the bird aviary at the Harbor shelter.
- R 3. Instruct the Department of Animal Services to report to the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee, the Personnel, Audits, and Hiring Committee and the Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee on the classification and funding required for a position dedicated to bringing outside funding to the Department.

Building and Safety

- R 4. Instruct the Department of Building and Safety to report to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee on alternative models for processing nuisance abatement cases and whether these processes would help expedite turnaround times.

Chief Legislative Analyst

- R 5. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer and the Mayor's Office, to report to the Public Safety Committee on the Gang Reduction and Youth Development Program budget including a detailed account of nonprofit partners who administer the program, their scope of work, duration, and metrics used to measure the success of each contract.
- R 6. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, in collaboration with the Bureaus of Engineering and Street Services, Department of Transportation, Department of City Planning, Fire, and the Office of the City Attorney, to develop an implementation plan for Measure Healthy Streets LA (HLA) that will leverage existing funds and attract new grant funding, determine least-cost/best-fit street interventions that meet or exceed design requirements for the mandated elements of the

Mobility Plan, and report to the Mayor and Council within first 90 days of FY 2024-25 with the revised plan for street maintenance and investment.

- R 7. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with assistance from the Department of Building and Safety, to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee and the Planning and Land use Management Committee on the resources required for enforcement of the Home Sharing Ordinance functions that are being transferred from the Department of City Planning to the Department of Building and Safety.
- R 8. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee and the Planning and Land Use Management Committee on the formation of an enforcement task force for the Residential Hotel Ordinance, including how to maximize these dollars.
- R 9. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, to report to the Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging and Disability Committee and the Neighborhoods and Community Empowerment Committee on sources of funding, including Opioid Settlement funding for the Department on Disability's Overdose Prevention Program and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Prevention Services.
- R 10. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst to report to the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee on other potential uses for Opioid Settlement funds, including funding for the Department on Disability's Overdose Prevention Program.
- R 11. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the Housing Department, to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the SB 2 Expenditure Plan and how the \$20 million earmarked for Homekey Program 3.0 is expected to be expended.

City Administrative Officer

- R 12. Instruct the City Administrative Officer CAO to report on the Request for Qualifications to attract privately owned sites for Tiny Homes, Safe Parking, Recreational Vehicle storage, and personal belongings storage.
- R 13. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report on the status of obtaining additional storage space for impounded Recreational Vehicles (RV) along with dedicated resources to help more people feel comfortable with voluntarily giving up their RV homes.
- R 14. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee on any anticipated FY 2024-25 shared revenue from the agreement between the City and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the Metro Transportation Communication Network (C-139852).

- R 15. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Public Works Committee on the transportation infrastructure grants that the City has received with the amount of funding received, the original grant deadlines, any deadline extensions, any funding returned with an explanation, and the current status of grant-funded projects.
- R 16. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Public Works Committee and the Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee on how the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget provides funding and staffing to ensure compliance with all legal requirements for public right-of-way accessibility, including compliance with the City's Willits Settlement and obligations to install or improve curb ramps in relation to street resurfacing.
- R 17. Instruct the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to report to the Personnel, Audits, and Hiring Committee on the personnel, contracting support and other needs to develop a Grants Application and Support unit within the Office of the CAO, the function of which should be to maximize the funding from private or foundation donors, as well as the State and federal government available to the City of Los Angeles. The report should also outline additional streamlining recommendations to ensure that the City is able to apply for and receive awards expeditiously, comply with grant terms and requirements, and focus on preparing for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- R 18. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Energy and Environment Committee on how funds from the General Fund, special funds, and debt issuances are coordinated to support renewable energy systems and greenhouse gas elimination, including a forecast on how renewable carbon-free investments will eventually phase out carbon fuel spending.
- R 19. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report to the Energy and Environment Committee on the feasibility of consolidating the City's various climate impact teams.
- R 20. Instruct the City Administrative Officer to report on the current funding sources and number of Street Medicine Teams deployed in the City and identify alternate funding sources, such as the County and Opioid Settlement funds.

City Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst

- R 21. Instruct the City Administrative Officer and the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and the Community Investment for Families Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on improving coordination with the Los Angeles Continuum of Care on U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funding for the City's domestic violence programs.

City Administrative Officer and Public Accountability

- R 22. Instruct the City Administrative Officer with the Office of Public Accountability to report on a review of the implications of addressing the Low Income/Lifeline Water and Power discount rates.

City Clerk

- R 23. Instruct the City Clerk, with the assistance of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, to report to the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee with an expenditure breakdown of the Neighborhood Council Fund broken down by Neighborhood Council, including potential safeguards to ensure that Neighborhood Councils are using these allocated funds in accordance with their intended purpose.
- R 24. Instruct the City Clerk to report to the Government Operations Committee on whether the Business Improvement District Program is a full-cost recovery program, and if not, provide options to ensure that the program is at full-cost recovery.
- R 25. Instruct the City Clerk to report to the Government Operations Committee on opportunities to use technology to improve the client service management system related to contract payment processing.

Community Investment for Families

- R 26. Instruct the Community Investment for Families Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on whether Measure United to House LA funds can be used for domestic violence shelter beds.
- R 27. Instruct the Community Investment for Families Department to report to the Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee on the feasibility of seeking private funding for the Opportunity L.A. Children's Savings Account.
- R 28. Instruct the Community Investment for Families Department, with assistance from the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Youth Development Department, Department of Aging, Personnel Department, and the Information Technology Agency to report to the Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging and Disability Committee on enhancing the City's Language Access Plan and incorporating the use of technology to accelerate broader implementation across City departments.

Community Investment for Families and Chief Legislative Analyst

- R 29. Instruct the Community Investment for Families Department and the Chief Legislative Analyst to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the positions required to implement the recommendations of Council File No. 22-0799 for the City's homeless program expansion.

Cultural Affairs

- R 30. Instruct the Department of Cultural Affairs to report to the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee on how visitors to the City for the 2028 Olympics can experience the equestrian culture in Council District 7.
- R 31. Instruct the Department of Cultural Affairs to report to the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee on how large-scale Council events can be incorporated into the Department of Cultural Affairs' programming in FY 2023-24, broken down by Council District from the Department's Special Appropriation III Account.

Emergency Management

- R 32. Instruct the Emergency Management Department to report to the Public Safety Committee on the resources needed by the department to cover the 2028 Olympics and other upcoming large events.

Fire

- R 33. Instruct the Fire Department to report to the Public Safety Committee with a multi-year hiring plan that would allow the Department to return to 2010 staffing levels.
- R 34. Instruct the Fire Department to report to the Public Safety Committee with a cost-benefit analysis of borrowing fire apparatus from other cities, instead of purchasing and using City-owned apparatus.
- R 35. Instruct the Fire Department, with the assistance of the Harbor Department, to report to the Public Safety and Budget, Finance and Innovation Committees on the full cost reimbursement for Fire Department personnel assigned to the Harbor area, including personnel assigned to Fire Suppression and Emergency Medical roles who are assigned there to provide coverage to the Harbor while also serving the surrounding area.
- R 36. Instruct the Fire Department to report to the Public Safety and Budget, Finance and Innovation Committees with a plan to fill critical maintenance positions and the impact that filling these

positions will have on the out-of-service rate for Fire Department apparatus. The report should describe the potential savings to the City in the Municipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles Program as a result of increased maintenance and a reduced need for new equipment, as well as the potential to have some of the costs for maintenance reimbursed by proprietary departments that are dependent on the Fire Department for service.

General Services

- R 37. Instruct the General Services Department to report to the Government Operations Committee on the costs associated with maintenance at each animal shelter and animal housing solution, with data broken down by location over the last three years.

Harbor

- R 38. Instruct the Harbor Department to report to the Trade, Travel, and Tourism Committee on additional reimbursements for General Fund positions that provide a service at or near the Port of Los Angeles consistent with the nexus study, and any subsequent modifications or agreements between the Harbor Department and the City.

Harbor and Public Works, Street Services

- R 39. Instruct the Harbor Department and the Bureau of Street Services to report to the Public Works Committee on options to resurface streets in Wilmington that were damaged as a result of cargo movement in and around the Port.

Homeless Services Authority

- R 40. Request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the total number of staff in LAHSA and provide data on salary savings rate, vacancies, and retention rates for all positions. The report should provide the data by administrative and program staff and include the number of positions or full-time equivalents used to administer contracts and data systems reporting.
- R 41. Request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on how outreach teams are deployed in other cities throughout the County of Los Angeles and provide a description of the types of teams deployed and their funding sources.

- R 42. Request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the protocols for monitoring contractors and assessing program performance in accordance with C.F: 23-0890-S1 and how roles and responsibilities for monitoring and managing contracts with service providers are defined for the LAHSA Administrator. The report should include current contract requirements related to reporting and data and include recommendations to expedite payments to service providers.
- R 43. Request the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to report to the Personnel, Audits and Hiring Committee with recommendations to utilize the City's equity job programs such as Targeted Local Hire and Bridge to Jobs to hire its programmatic and administrative staff.

Housing Department

- R 44. Instruct the Housing Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the payment process for the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority contracts, whether it is feasible to transfer the contract payment function to the City Administrative Officer (CAO), and whether the positions responsible for these payments could be transferred to the CAO.
- R 45. Instruct the Housing Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the necessary steps to transfer the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority contracts, including the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grant position, and the USC Street Medicine contracts, to the City Administrative Officer, and identify the positions and funding sources that would need to transfer to effectuate this change.
- R 46. Instruct the Housing Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the steps Council would need to take to transfer the Handyworker Program to the Community Investment for Families Department, identify the positions funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) that would transfer with the program, identify any other CDBG-funded programs that focus on direct service delivery and report on whether they could be consolidated for restructured for efficiency.
- R 47. Instruct the Housing Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on eligible funding sources for affordable housing preservation, including each fund's balance.
- R 48. Instruct the Housing Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the resources required for the Handyworker Program to effectively assist small housing providers to maintain low-income units.
- R 49. Instruct the Housing Department to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the steps Council would need to take to transfer the City Administrative Officer's Affordable Housing Liaison Unit to the Housing Department.

Information Technology

- R 50. Instruct the Information Technology Agency to report to the Government Operations Committee on best practices and lessons learned from large systems projects and systems migrations.

Personnel

- R 51. Instruct the Personnel Department to report to the Personnel, Audits, and Hiring Committee on the City's hiring process, including constraints and recommendations to expedite the process.

Police

- R 52. Instruct the Police Department to report to the Public Safety Committee on Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), including data on how sites are determined to be a good option for a CSP. The report should include measurable outcomes used to assess the programs, the types of youth programming provided within CSPs, the overtime requirements associated with CSPs and the extent to which the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles has contributed funding. The report should also discuss the long-term plan for integrating CSPs into the LAPD's regular deployments.
- R 53. Instruct the Police Department to report to the Public Safety Committee on the cost of using sworn personnel to perform duties that could be performed by civilian staff. The report should break down each program by the number of sworn and civilian staff and the duties performed by each class of employees.
- R 54. Instruct the Police Department to report on a monthly status to the Personnel, Audits and Hiring Committee on police hiring, including the Bounce Program.
- R 55. Instruct the Police Department to report to the Public Safety Committee on the management of security services at City facilities. The report should include information on the Department's current resources in terms of staffing and funding to manage security contracts, the processes in place to review the performance of security services at specific locations in order to expand the scope of services for specific facilities based on security needs, and the feasibility of City departments managing their own contracts instead of contracts being managed within LAPD's Security Services Division.
- R 56. Instruct the Police Department to report to the Public Safety Committee on the resources necessary to administer the City's security contracts, and whether this function should be transferred from the Police Department to another City entity.

Public Works, Board

- R 57. Instruct the Board of Public Works to report to the Public Works Committee on its various clean-up programs and recommendations to improve the CleanLA Program; how to ensure consistency in cleaning Citywide; an explanation of bulky item pick up responsibilities; closing out of 311 tickets; and an assessment of whether there is any duplication of services across cleaning programs Citywide.

Public Works, Board and City Administrative Officer

- R 58. Instruct the Board of Public Works and the City Administrative Officer to report to the Personal, Audits, and Hiring Committee and the Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee with recommendations relative to the creation of a Deputy Petroleum Administrator position within the Office of Petroleum and Natural Gas Administration and Safety, including potential funding sources for this position.

Public Works, Engineering

- R 59. Instruct the Bureau of Engineering, with the assistance of the Bureau of Street Services, to report to the Public Works Committee on opportunities to electrify or use hydrogen gas to meet heating needs or use no-emission renewable energy sources as an alternative to the use of natural gas in the City's production of asphalt.
- R 60. Instruct the Bureau of Engineering to report to the Energy and Environment Committee on the status of the Los Angeles River Valley Bikeways and Greenways Project and funding for each phase of the project.

Public Works, Sanitation

- R 61. Instruct the Bureau of Sanitation to report to the Housing and Homelessness Committee on the staffing and resources needed to ensure equity in CARE+ services provided across all Council Districts.
- R 62. Instruct the Bureau of Sanitation to report to the Energy and Environment Committee on the City's water policy and goal to recycle every drop, including the cause for a 40 percent reduction in funding within the Capital and Technology Improvement Expenditure Program for Clean Water projects and this reduction's impacts to the City's One Water Policy.
- R 63. Instruct the Bureau of Sanitation to report to the Municipal Facilities Committee with an evaluation of the need and logistics of hiring and the necessary facility space support required,

prior to requesting reauthorization of approved Municipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles funding for 2024-25 vehicles.

Public Works, Street Lighting

- R 64. Instruct the Bureau of Street Lighting to report to the Public Works Committee and the Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee on the current assessment fee, including the amount generated by the fee and whether it meets the operational needs of the street lighting system. The report should include recommendations on how to mitigate the General Fund subsidy.
- R 65. Instruct the Bureau of Street Lighting to report to the Public Works Committee on developing a resiliency investment strategy that will combine solar lighting retrofits, hardening of fixtures, conversion to cheaper commodity material wiring, and any other viable strategies to address copper wire theft, and to prepare for reassessment of street lighting maintenance districts to support those investments.

Public Works, Street Services

- R 66. Instruct the Bureau of Street Services to report to the Public Works Committee on the feasibility of designing and installing speed bumps as a part of the resurfacing program.
- R 67. Instruct the Bureau of Street Services, with the assistance of the Board of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, and Department of Recreation and Parks, to report to the Public Works Committee with recommendations to optimize the City's tree policy development, planting, and maintenance programs, including options to partner with non-profits and the feasibility of creating a single department for this purpose.

Recreation and Parks

- R 68. Instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), in consultation with the Community Investment for Families Department, to report to the Neighborhood and Community Enrichment Committee with a plan to transition the provision of childcare operations from the RAP to non-City providers and for its expansion. The report should include: a timeline for the transition, the childcare facilities for which operations will be transitioned to an outside provider, the facilities that the City will continue to operate, the costs for outsourcing childcare services as compared to the costs for services when the City provides them, and current and projected enrollment and capacity for each facility.

Transportation

- R 69. Instruct the Department of Transportation to report to the Transportation Committee on the amount of parking enforcement resources that support homelessness services and operations.
- R 70. Instruct the Department of Transportation to report to the Transportation Committee on the timing to complete the integration of parking enforcement into the MyLA 311 platform.
- R 71. Instruct the Department of Transportation to report to the Transportation Committee with recommendations for realigning positions and programs within the Department to create a unit that comprehensively focuses on traffic calming and other safety improvements to implement the Mobility Plan's network neighborhood.
- R 72. Instruct the Department of Transportation, with assistance from the Bureau of Street Services, to report to the Transportation Committee on the costs and benefits of proactively designing speed humps and/or speed tables for streets on the Neighborhood Network, and installing speed humps/tables in conjunction with resurfacing activities.
- R 73. Instruct the Department of Transportation to report to the Transportation Committee on the equity impacts of eliminating 57 traffic officers, taking into consideration the 13 traffic officers assigned to the Hollywood Sign enforcement.