

Communication from Public

Name:

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Council File No: 23-0600-S9

Comments for Public Posting: EAA Union submits a letter of support for the LA Sanitation rate increase.



ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION

August 26, 2024

To: Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council

Re: CF 23-0600-S9 2023 Budget Recommendation / Sanitation / Fee Study /
Preserve Operations

EAA Union is in support of LA Sanitation and Environment's proposed sewer service charge rate adjustment.

It is understood that LASAN maintains 6,700 miles of sewer lines throughout the city. This infrastructure is aging and will require upgrades in order to continue functioning as required to protect public health and the environment. We are informed that the anticipated cost of these necessary improvements will exceed \$3 billion. It is important that the City's wastewater system operates with efficiency and reliability. It's also important to provide adequate and safe resources for city employees to effectively carry out these upgrades.

According to LASAN, this rate increase will help provide the following benefits, which are crucial to the continued, proper operation of the sewer system:

- 24/7 Operation and Maintenance of the System
- Environmental Monitoring
- Management of Beneficial Resources
- Community Education
- Reduced Odor and Air Emissions
- Updates to Aging Infrastructure to Reduce Sewage Spills
- Improved Water Quality
- Opportunity Through Job Creation
- Redundancy and Resiliency
- Construction of New Facilities and Projects

LA's public health and environment are important to the members of EAA Union who are tasked with many of the duties that assure Angelenos have safe, clean water. Angelenos deserve nothing less than a healthy environment where communities can thrive. Rate increases are always difficult, but the above objectives are too critical to delay. Therefore, we support LASAN's proposed sewer service charge rate increase.

Sincerely,

Marleen Fonseca
Executive Director, EAA Union