

Communication from Public

Name: Matthew Maldonado
Date Submitted: 06/18/2025 09:19 AM
Council File No: 25-0607

Comments for Public Posting: TO: Personnel Committee, Los Angeles City Council FROM: Matthew Maldonado, Executive Director, AFSCME District Council 36 DATE: June 18, 2025 RE: Support for Motion to Assess Impacts of Medical Clinic Closures in LAPD Detention Facilities (Council File 25-0607) Councilmembers, AFSCME District Council 36, representing approximately 10,000 Los Angeles City workers, writes to express our strong support for the motion introduced by Councilmember Nithya Raman regarding the proposed suspension of medical services at the 77th Street and Van Nuys LAPD detention facilities. We are deeply concerned about the potential consequences of these closures, not only for the individuals being processed through the City's jails, but for the safety and efficiency of our broader public systems. On-site medical care is an essential component of a humane and functional detention system. The proposed suspension would remove immediate access to care for detainees—many of whom arrive with preexisting conditions or in crisis—and instead shift the burden onto an already overwhelmed Metro Detention Facility. This risks delaying care, increasing transportation demands, and diverting law enforcement officers from patrol duties, ultimately compromising public safety. Furthermore, any decision of this magnitude must be made with full transparency and a clear understanding of its implications. We commend the motion's directive to require a 30-day report assessing health, staffing, cost, and operational impacts. We believe this is a necessary and prudent step to ensure the City's actions are informed by both data and the lived realities of our frontline workers. We urge the Committee and the full Council to adopt this motion and keep equity, safety, and responsibility at the center of any decisions regarding medical services in our detention facilities. These services are not optional—they are critical to the wellbeing of the individuals in custody and to the effective operation of our City's public safety infrastructure. Sincerely, Matthew Maldonado Executive Director AFSCME District Council 36



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TO: Personnel Committee, Los Angeles City Council

FROM: Matthew Maldonado, Executive Director, AFSCME District Council 36

DATE: June 18, 2025

RE: Support for Motion to Assess Impacts of Medical Clinic Closures in LAPD Detention Facilities (Council File 25-0607)

Councilmembers,

AFSCME District Council 36, representing approximately 10,000 Los Angeles City workers, writes to express our strong support for the motion introduced by Councilmember Nithya Raman regarding the proposed suspension of medical services at the 77th Street and Van Nuys LAPD detention facilities.

We are deeply concerned about the potential consequences of these closures, not only for the individuals being processed through the City's jails, but for the safety and efficiency of our broader public systems. On-site medical care is an essential component of a humane and functional detention system. The proposed suspension would remove immediate access to care for detainees—many of whom arrive with preexisting conditions or in crisis—and instead shift the burden onto an already overwhelmed Metro Detention Facility. This risks delaying care, increasing transportation demands, and diverting law enforcement officers from patrol duties, ultimately compromising public safety.

Furthermore, any decision of this magnitude must be made with full transparency and a clear understanding of its implications. We commend the motion's directive to require a 30-day report assessing health, staffing, cost, and operational impacts. We believe this is a necessary and prudent step to ensure the City's actions are informed by both data and the lived realities of our frontline workers.

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Sincerely,
Matthew Maldonado
Executive Director
AFSCME District Council 36