

Communication from Public

Name: Jaime Flores

Date Submitted: 03/04/2025 01:03 PM

Council File No: 23-1027-S3

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Jaime Flores, and I strongly support Motion 23-1027-S3, which calls for an analysis of transitioning Los Angeles to a biennial budget cycle. As a policymaker, urban advocate, and macro social worker, I have seen how budgeting decisions directly shape the quality of life in our communities, especially in historically underserved areas like Southeast Los Angeles. A two-year budget cycle would provide greater fiscal stability, long-term strategic planning, and deeper community engagement. Too often, critical priorities—such as safer streets, equitable housing development, and youth programming—are left vulnerable to short-term political and financial fluctuations. A biennial budget ensures that transformative policies receive the necessary time, resources, and public input to generate lasting value. Crucially, this motion highlights the need for stronger public participation. I urge the City to embrace participatory budgeting models that engage youth, working families, and historically marginalized communities. The budget should not just be an accounting tool—it should be a vehicle for equity, transparency, and meaningful community transformation. I urge the Council to support this motion and ensure that the transition to a biennial budget is guided by accountability, community-driven priorities, and a vision for a more inclusive and sustainable Los Angeles. Thank you.