



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

March 2, 2021

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CF 20-0600-S83 Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget / Los Angeles Police Department /
Reinvest Funds for Impacted Communities

Honorable Members,

Thank you for the thoughtful response and a revised spending plan that captures some of our highest ideals and aspirations. I am pleased to see an equity formula applied to smart investments in communities that have suffered the worst injustice and inequality throughout our city's history.

Taking on racial injustice in the homelessness crisis, exploring a guaranteed basic income, moving the needle on unarmed crisis and traffic response, creating jobs to green and clean neighborhoods, investing in our kids as they begin elementary school — these initiatives represent many of the bold steps forward that we challenged ourselves to take on behalf of Angelenos pushing for greater justice and equality in our city and communities.

The people of Los Angeles sent us here to lead — and want us to act with greater urgency in putting these resources to use for the good of our families, communities, and future. We are in this together, and I support your plan to expedite this new set of investments without further delay. I am eager to move forward together in allocating these reinvestment dollars thoughtfully and collaboratively — with a mission to accelerate the commitments we made to reimagine public safety and create new strategies for tearing down structural racism and inequality that touches the lives of people across L.A.

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We have a partnership with the L.A. County Department of Mental Health — to create a 24-hour, unarmed crisis response pilot, which will dispatch mental health workers to certain nonviolent 911 calls — that is ready to be implemented now. There is extraordinary potential to expand guaranteed basic income models while strengthening and growing citywide jobs programs for young people of color who may be struggling to get on their feet as we rebuild from the pandemic. There is momentum to begin planting seeds for many ideas whose time has come and point to a future limited only by our imagination: a department for youth development and services; building new models for shared public safety that do not require law enforcement; broadening our response to the intersection of income inequality and COVID-19; confronting the stark racial inequality in the homelessness crisis; and putting forward a meaningful and robust participatory budgeting pilot that allows everyday Angelenos and community organizations working in the social, economic and racial justice space to share directly in decisions that impact their lives, work, and neighborhoods.

Our constituents count on us to work side-by-side with their interests in mind — and share a commitment to their vision for a city defined by justice, equity, and consciousness of the role that local government can play in mending the wounds of history. I appreciate the steps you are taking in that direction, and look forward to us taking many more together in the weeks, months, and years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Garcetti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor