

Communication from Public

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Council File No: 15-1033

Comments for Public Posting: Thank you for allowing me to comment on a matter that is extremely important to me. I am asking for Mayor Garcetti's support for the PPT, or Paid Parental Leave for non-DWP LA City civilian employees, as this matter effects me personally and impacts me greatly. To illustrate this, I am going to share personal, financial information (with for all intents and purposes, my employers) that might normally be considered in poor taste - to try to put a human face on an agenda item designated 15-1033. I am a newer LA City Employee who took a position with the city in early 2019. I took this position to allow me to have a family while working - something being a contractor for private companies made difficult. I also took a large deduction in my annual salary in exchange for job security, but I had carefully planned every aspect including expected step increases and future expenses. This year, after many years of planning, my dreams finally come true and I will have my first child and be a single parent. That said, FY 2021-22 has brought some degree of uncertainty to my carefully made plans - as I'm sure it did for every person and institution. My expenses are increasing, due to a forced move at a time when rents are high. And my COLA increases have been deferred, which has probably also saved me from being laid off. In addition, due to a bureaucratic error, the supplemental disability insurance I elected for in 2020 can not be approved now that I am already pregnant. All of this personal financial crisis can be weathered, except that without COLA increases, returning to work and paying for infant child care puts my budget into the red. My plan is to use savings to stay afloat until something changes for the better. How long I can get by on what I make depends upon -- actually changes in relation to -- how much I can save per month, which in turn is impacted by how much of my income is lost while recovering from surgery and taking parental leave. My view is that what may have a small fiscal impact to the City - has a huge, exponential impact on my life and my ability to survive. It puts me right in the danger zone of not making ends meet, if not approved. This is why I ask for your support. As a single parent who will need to recover from a medically necessary Cesarean-section surgery this year with no other means of support than what me and my employer can plan and provide for - I ask you to support 15-1033 and approve PPT.

Thank you, sincerely. Jennifer