

Communication from Public

Name: Betty Marín

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 10:03 AM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Betty Marín and I am a constituent of Council District 15 and member of the Invest In Youth Campaign through my work with the Alliance for California Traditional Arts. Our work in the campaign has been about collecting the stories of youth and families by writing traditional songs carrying these stories, through corridos, a traditional Mexican storytelling song form you may be familiar with! In the different parts of the city that we have held workshops in, whether it was Boyle Heights, Pacoima, South Central, Downtown and others we have currently heard of lack of investment, stories of young people in already under resourced neighborhoods with parents who are fighting for their children without the support they need to succeed. We know our communities are resilient, but it's time for the city to provide the long term investment and planning for youth that is urgently needed. Establishing a Youth Development Department, focusing on youth between the ages of 10-25 would allow for our youth and communities to receive academic support, more opportunities to better their economic prospects through training and college preparedness, and arts and cultural programs that can feed their wellbeing, and support them as whole individuals with a sense of identity and readiness to support their communities. For this reason, I urge you to support the recommendations for a youth development department written by the Youth Development Task Force. Supporting this report means supporting the demands of youth and community members who were actively involved in the process of writing and gathering data for this report. Your support of this report and establishing the youth development department will ensure that young folks have a seat at the table when it comes to discussing matters that impact them directly now and into the future.

Communication from Public

Name: Belinda Campos Bresnahan

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 10:15 AM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Belinda Campos Bresnahan and I am Program Manager for Public Health Advocates. I have an amazing youth group at Roosevelt High School called Healthy Teens on the Move. These students and others around Los Angeles have advocated for the the past 7 years for an LA Youth Department. There is a HUGE need right now for a direct investment of funds to create this department. Addressing the needs of youth under the department would not only ensure the proper accountability for funding youth investment. I urge you to stand with the youth and make a LA a better place for youth. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Nikko

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 10:37 AM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: I support Los Angeles having a youth development department.

Communication from Public

Name: Lucy Herrera

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 01:55 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Lucy Herrera and I am a constituent of Council District 14 and a member of the Invest In Youth Campaign. I am giving public comment on Council File # 21-0223 I am happy that after years of advocacy we finally have a motion for the creation of a Youth Development Department. I work at a youth development center and I work with youth directly. The youth of LA ages 10-25 deserve and need investment and long-term intentional planning on how we as a city will support them. For this reason, I urge you to support the recommendations for a youth development department written by the Youth Development Task Force. Supporting this report means supporting the demands of youth and community members who were actively involved in the process of writing and gathering data for this report. It's time for the City of Los Angeles to Step-Up and provide the long term youth investment that has been denied for far too long. Your support of this report will ensure that young folks have a seat at the table when it comes to discussing matters that impact them directly.

Communication from Public

Name: Monica Rodriguez

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 03:53 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Monica Rodriguez and I am one of the youth appointees on the task force who lives in Council district 8 who supports the Invest in Youth Coalition and their demand for equitable Invest in young folks. I have read the report written by the Youth Development Taskforce and know all these recommendations are long overdue. I urge you all to support all recommendations because young people need a youth development department. As someone who lives from South LA, I've seen the need for drastic measures to be taken to help youth succeed. From my understanding, measure J did pass and ensuring the safety of young folks by providing safe spaces and enrichment programs are all a part of reimagining public safety, therefore these are potential funds you all can look into before some council members say there is no money. The framework is all there, the work is laid out for you all, now it's time for the Council to step up to the plate and make it happen. NO MORE CONVERSATION ABOUT US WITHOUT US! Support the Taskforce blueprint and implement the Youth Development DPT.

Communication from Public

Name: Emmanuel Deleage

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 09:16 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: Hello Councilmembers my name is Emmanuel Deleage, I am the Executive Director of Casa 0101 theater in Boyle Heights, Council District 14 and a resident of Council District 4 and I'd like to give public comment on item council file #21-0223. I have two teenagers who attend LAUSD. In such a large school district they are lost. Trying to set up an appointment with a college counselor is very hard, requiring multiple emails and phone calls from both they and I. As rapidly growing up young men, they need more support, more activities, more mentorship opportunities than their school provides. Also as the director of a non-profit organization in Boyle Heights that serves a low income community, everyday I see young people who need role models, who need access to more support and activities. As a society, we need to invest in our youth more and prepare them to become healthy, well balance contributing members of society with the soft and hard skills needed to thrive. I support the Youth Development Task Force recommendation for a stand alone Youth Development Department.

Communication from Public

Name: Lesly Valenzuela

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 05:52 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, my name is Lesly Valenzuela, and I would like to give public comment on council file 21-0223. I am a constituent of Council District 14 and a youth leader of the Invest In Youth Campaign. I am also one of the youth that has been part of the campaign since 2014 when the campaign began, when I was 14 years old. I am now 20 years old and continue to be a part of the Invest In Youth Campaign because I continue to believe in what the campaign represents which is the need of more investment toward positive youth development programs. After many years, I continue to believe that the City of Los Angeles does not invest enough on youth. As the future of the City of Los Angeles, there are not enough resources to support ALL youth not only academically but in providing other positive youth development programs that the city does not provide for youth because of the lack of investment. This is why I am urging you all to support the creation of the Youth Development Department. The creation of a Youth Development Department in the City of Los Angeles will in so many ways change the lives of all youth because of the resources and opportunities that it will bring upon the youth. Youth need to be prioritized, we need to be invested in and we need a Youth Development Department now! As a youth from Ramona Gardens, I was part of positive youth development programs as a high school student at Legacy LA where I was provided with tutoring, mentorship, taught leadership skills and more importantly they provided resources that guided me into getting accepted into a university that I have never thought I would have the chance to get into. Organizations like Legacy LA and so many others that have been providing positive youth development programs for all youth show the importance of investing in youth. We need you to support the blueprint provided by the task force and implement the Youth Development Department. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Angel Mortel

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 06:12 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Angel Mortel and I am a community organizer with LA Voice. I am an adult ally and LA Voice is a core member of the Invest in Youth Coalition. I fully support the Coalition's demand for equitable investment in young folks. I have read the report written by the Youth Development Taskforce and know all these recommendations are long overdue. I urge you to support the recommendations in the report, especially because they are directly from youth who are clear about what they need and want. I believe we must listen to the youth and allow our future to be shaped by their dreams and desires. After all, it is their future ultimately. Members of LA Voice, in partnership with several coalitions, helped to pass Measure J with the idea that the designated resources would be invested in our communities. We reimagined an LA in which young people would be ensured safety, services, and opportunities to thrive. Please seriously consider these monies as you look to fund a Youth Development Department.

Communication from Public

Name: Kasandra Cordova

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 06:20 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, My name is Kasandra, I am a constituent of Los Angeles, and I would like to give public comment on council file 21-0223. As a student, young person, and youth organizer, I need all my City Representatives to support this motion calling for a youth development department. This Pandemic has highlighted the desperate need for community investment in Black and Brown Communities. Young people and several youth-serving nonprofits across the city worked alongside the Executive Youth Development Task Force to ensure that their report and recommendations represent the values and resources young people want to see. This Report and the overwhelming number of young people this council serves are what pushed this motion's creation. Establishing a youth development department that will equitably and holistically serve young folks in your city is the absolute bare minimum. Los Angeles is one of the only major cities in the country that has not created a department solely to support young folks. We know the pandemic has brought unprecedented needs, but this council needs to take matters into its own hands and reevaluate the city budget's priorities. Pass and support the motion to create this city's first-ever youth development department.

Communication from Public

Name: Jasmine Cordova

Date Submitted: 02/26/2021 07:06 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I'd like to give public comment on council file #21-0223. My name is Jasmine Cordova and I am a young person who attends Legacy LA in district 14. I support the Invest in Youth Coalition and our demand for equitable investment in young folks. Legacy LA has supported me through my education, applying for college, and having a mentor who can answer questions I have and it is so disheartening to know that not all young people have a place like Legacy LA. I have attended LAUSD schools my entire life and know my peers and I can use support and resources. Also, I have read the report written by the Youth Development Taskforce and know all these recommendations are long overdue. As a young person living in the City of Los Angeles, I need you to pass this motion and establish a youth development department that will work with all youth-serving entities on a city level.