

Communication from Public

Name: Lindsey

Date Submitted: 02/25/2021 10:01 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Lindsey and I would like to give public comment on council file 21-0223. I am a community member of Council District 9 and a member of the Invest In Youth Campaign. I want to highlight that we need investment and long-term planning for youth and want to urge you to consider establishing a Youth Development Department. The creation of this department will help students across different backgrounds and communities to have access to opportunities and resources that have not been traditionally accessible. Across the nation, the city of Los Angeles leads in finding bold and innovative solutions to problems happening across the country. But when it comes to a parent's most important concern: opportunities for their child to succeed, Los Angeles does not lead, particularly, when it comes to investing in youth outcomes. Because my community invested in me and believed in me enough to dedicate their energy and time into my future, I was able to experience many educational opportunities I would've never otherwise had access to. Unfortunately, community organizations cannot do it alone. The city must help them and with the creation of the Los Angeles youth development department, many more youth can be helped and be invested in. I urge you to think about how the choices that you will make today will affect thousands of youth living in your community. An investment in this department, is an investment in the city. Prove that you stand by us, the youth, by supporting us. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Sergio Ortiz

Date Submitted: 02/25/2021 11:03 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: I whole heartedly believe and trust that the city of Los Angeles needs to create a department solely focused on youth. The city celebrates triumph and cheers, “youth are the future” but leave youth to figure life on their own. The city does very little to create safe spaces, provide employment training and opportunities, support college and careers and help youth reconnect back to a life of hope and positivity. The city leaves it up to the invalid correctional system, low funded schools and small community organizations to do the work. These small community organizations can only do so much without the cities funds and authentic support. So, I urge you to present next steps to create a budget and leadership for a youth development department for a city that cheers, “youth are the future.” Let’s make it happen.

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle Benavides

Date Submitted: 02/25/2021 02:24 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: Hello My name is Michelle Benavides, I am a constituent from Council District 14 and I would like to give public comment on council file 21-0223. As a campaign lead and youth leader who has BEEN with the invest in youth campaign since I was a senior in high school back in 2014 I have seen the NEED for a youth development department that serves the needs of ALL youth in the city of LA. We have been here time after time calling and meeting with you to see this happen. To GET A SEAT AT THE TABLE and be given the funding we deserve. Councilmembers, I would like to see you support the creation of a stand-alone youth development department that has been in the works for years by youth leaders all over LA. The task force represents our voice and years of advocacy. A youth development department is a step in the right direction to Combat the historical injustices, inequalities, inequities, and exclusion that generations of youth especially youth of color have had to face. Our city needs to prioritize youth and our city budget must reflect that. We need to include youth in the process because we have been left out of the conversation for far too long. You always say that we are the future and that we will lead the change, it's time to see that reflected in the policies you pass. We will continue to fight, and we will make our voices heard. The frame work is laid out for you now it's your turn to step up to the plate!

Communication from Public

Name: Leslie Montoya

Date Submitted: 02/25/2021 03:32 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, The city of Los Angeles is in desperate need for a youth department. I am a Chicana youth in this big city, and I can't even walk to the store in peace without getting flashed or profiled by LAPD. You have the budget for this department. Stop making excuses and start giving the youth of this city what they deserve. We are tired of being served crumbs.

Communication from Public

Name: Marisol Medina

Date Submitted: 02/25/2021 06:14 PM

Council File No: 21-0223

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, my name is Marisol Medina; I am a student, a youth organizer, and a member of the Invest In Youth Campaign. I'd like to give public comment on agenda Item # 21-0223 This campaign's work strives to highlight much needed investment and long-term planning for youth. We urge you to consider establishing a Youth Development Department that will focus on protecting young people. I believe that we need this department because our voices can and should be substantial in government. Youth in underserved communities have suffered for far too long. All students deserve prosperity and a real shot at achieving our dreams. In order for youth to succeed, we need safe communities, we need an equitable education, and most of all, we need politicians who will defend our livelihoods. I have read the report written by the Youth Development Taskforce and know all these recommendations are long overdue. It is your call now. Make way for the Youth Development Department. A better and brighter future starts now, when we support and invest in the leaders of tomorrow.