

Communication from Public

Name: Jean Byers

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 11:01 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I live and reside near Griffith Park. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I respectfully request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within city Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Griffith Park is a special place, it is unique in the world. Let's keep it that way.

Communication from Public

Name: Maria Altamira

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 11:13 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Maria Altamira and I am an organizer with the Invest in Youth Campaign. I will like to give public comment on item #1. I strongly support the proposed budget's 1.1 million allocation to create the City's 1st ever youth development department. This investment is the first step to fully funding a department that will serve the City's youth. I also want to UPLIFT that while this first step is so important we will need all of your support to ensure that there is long-term investment and a funding stream for this youth department. We need to have a centralized youth department to support us in receiving the programming and resources our young people need throughout LA. We need city council to support and make sure this happens and we want to make sure it is reflected in our city's budget to support the over 3,000 youth experiencing homelessness, the over 480,000 living in poverty, and stop the 18,753 youth arrests. It is for this reason that we need to fully fund the Youth Development Department.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Willson

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 07:27 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Sarah Willson and I live in Council District 5. Because of my love for city parks, and especially Griffith Park, I ask the Committee to take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks staff positions.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 07:37 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We support funding for all wildlife related positions and moving forward with both informal and formal wildlife corridors. This is essential or we'll end up with nothing but imported fox squirrels and cockroaches!!! We support restoring and filing positions at Rec&Parks. There also must be training. A person instructed in trash collection is not qualified to use saws and power tools on trees (just one example).

Communication from Public

Name: Brian Wakil

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 08:24 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thanks for considering this! Brian Wakil

Communication from Public

Name: McKenna Rowe
Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 08:44 AM
Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is McKenna Riwe and reside in Council District 4. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. I have always been a lover of nature and especially over the pandemic I have spent a lot of solo hikes which have drawn me even closer to our city's parks and wildlife. I'd hate to see what will happen if so many of the people who maintain and care for them are laid off.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 08:58 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

Communication from Public

Name: Frank Galassi Ph.D

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 09:18 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Dr. Frank Galassi. I have been both a client and facilitator in Senior Services at the LALGBT Center for ten years. I respectfully appeal to you for a continuance of financial assistance for our Senior Services. Our appreciation to Council Member Nithya Raman. Funding for our Senior Services had made a truly significant difference. COVID has made a particular impact on LGBT Seniors because of our historic marginalization. Traditionally, we serve a lunch five days per week in our dining area and it has been there that sitting with my peers that I heard so many stories of financial, medical, housing, and deeply personal struggles. Please help our low income LGBT Seniors. They have significant needs. Thank You. Frank Galassi, Ph.D.

Communication from Public

Name: Frances Glenn

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 11:44 AM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: For too long the City of Los Angeles has delayed helping wildlife that is part of the city. There have been more freeways and sound barrier fences to improve the environment for citizens with NO thought as to the impact on wildlife. I understand that our city has it's problems that doesn't mean that it should overlook the wildlife of Griffith Park and the Santa Monica Mountain. When you cut off the migratory path of wildlife you force them deeper into the city, where they become more of a problem than if they could stay in their own habit.

Communication from Public

Name: Sylvia Stachura

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 12:23 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please protect Griffith Park and all its natural places for all of us to enjoy and even help to preserve. We like to volunteer to plant and helps things grow in our Cities Park. Sylvia Stachura

Communication from Public

Name: Charles Lourtie

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 12:31 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hire more park staff. One of the safest spots in Los Angeles is a city park, relatively free of Covid-19.

Communication from Public

Name: jill ause

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 12:44 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am Jill Ause and reside in Porter Ranch, but frequently enjoy the resources of Griffith Park along with my family. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. The ordinance will discourage tall fencing, create safe wildlife passages and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions, otherwise deferred maintenance will cost the City far more over the long term. LA City Parks must continue to be safe environments, and if they're not well-maintained, equitable access becomes more limited.

Communication from Public

Name: Linda Fleishman Skelton

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 01:31 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am Linda Skelton, residing in Westchester, Los Angeles 90045. In reference to Council File Number 21-600: Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Most sincerely, LMF Skelton

Communication from Public

Name: Maria Melo

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 03:36 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Chair Krekorian, Hello, my name is Maria Melo, my pronouns are she/her, and I am a Policy and Operations Manager with the Los Angeles LGBT Center. I strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to support additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund that ensures due process for ALL, no matter an individual's background or residency. In order to truly commit to universal representation, the fund must not have ANY exclusions and must be a multi-year program. A permanent and universal LAJF would extend that same promise to anyone facing deportation in immigration court. LA can once again be a national leader in affirming due process rights for all. The Los Angeles LGBT Center is proud to be a grantee and offer the nation's only LGBT-specific, publicly funded, legal rep service to LGBT asylum seekers. Our Legal Services Department serves the legal needs of all LGBT people with a special focus on survivors of violence, undocumented immigrants, homeless youth, and transgender people. Thanks to the Los Angeles Justice Fund we have also been able to provide legal rep to an increasingly growing number of LGBT asylum seekers with deep ties to the City of Los Angeles. Most have faced anti-LGBT violence and anti-LGBT laws in their country of origin. While there are many immigrant communities in need, the lack of the most basic support systems has presented a unique hardship for the Los Angeles LGBTQI immigrant community. Where others may have financial, social, or emotional support from family, LGBTQI immigrants are almost always left on the margins of society. We are proud to also provide them with linkage to LGBT-specific primary care, trans care, and HIV care at the Center, and linkage to services for those experiencing homelessness, as 50% of our clients come to our offices in Boyle Heights and Hollywood experiencing homelessness. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full-scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000. Make no mistake: the work remains as critical as ever as LA families continue to feel the impacts of immigration enforcement and border instability. At a time when the City should be growing the LA Justice Fund from

a pilot to a permanent program, the Mayor's proposed budget places the City's investment – and its immigrant residents – in limbo. It does so by allocating an amount that is both too little (just \$1 million) and too temporary (just one year of funding). The detailed Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees' (GCIR) report sets a clear course for a sustainable LA Immigrant Community Defense Program. The City should do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City Council should stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LA Justice Fund that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. As the most diverse and immigrant-rich city in America, LA should be leading the effort to sustain and expand deportation defense programs, not falling behind. Several jurisdictions—including Long Beach and Denver—have substantially expanded their programs this year. Others, like San Diego, are poised to make multi-million dollar commitments to launch new programs. Los Angeles must do better. The City Council should embrace a holistic LA Justice Fund by eliminating criminal exclusions and loosening residency requirements. All people facing deportation in LA courts deserve due process. By excluding people with criminal convictions, we perpetuate the racial discrimination that the program was created to fight against. By turning our backs on asylum seekers and those who have been pushed out by high housing costs, we compromise our values and ignore the economic realities of our essential immigrant workers. A holistic program is both the moral and cost-efficient way forward. Respectfully,

Communication from Public

Name: renee garcia

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 03:43 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Chair Krekorian, Hello, my name is Renee Garcia, my pronouns are she/her, and I am the development and communications manager at ImmDef and resident of Highland Park. I strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to support additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund that ensures due process for ALL, no matter an individual's background or residency. In order to truly commit to universal representation, the fund must not have ANY exclusions and must be a multi-year program. A permanent and universal LAJF would extend that same promise to anyone facing deportation in immigration court. LA can once again be a national leader in affirming due process rights for all. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000. Make no mistake: the work remains as critical as ever as LA families continue to feel the impacts of immigration enforcement and border instability. At a time when the City should be growing the LA Justice Fund from a pilot to a permanent program, the Mayor's proposed budget places the City's investment – and its immigrant residents – in limbo. It does so by allocating an amount that is both too little (just \$1 million) and too temporary (just one year of funding). The detailed Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees' (GCIR) report sets a clear course for a sustainable LA Immigrant Community Defense Program. The City should do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color

bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City Council should stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LA Justice Fund that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. As the most diverse and immigrant-rich city in America, LA should be leading the effort to sustain and expand deportation defense programs, not falling behind. Several jurisdictions—including Long Beach and Denver—have substantially expanded their programs this year. Others, like San Diego, are poised to make multi-million dollar commitments to launch new programs. Los Angeles must do better. The City Council should embrace a holistic LA Justice Fund by eliminating criminal exclusions and loosening residency requirements. All people facing deportation in LA courts deserve due process. By excluding people with criminal convictions, we perpetuate the racial discrimination that the program was created to fight against. By turning our backs on asylum seekers and those who have been pushed out by high housing costs, we compromise our values and ignore the economic realities of our essential immigrant workers. A holistic program is both the moral and cost-efficient way forward. Respectfully, Renee Garcia

Communication from Public

Name: Mariana

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 03:56 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Chair Krekorian, On behalf of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA), I strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to support additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund that ensures due process for ALL, no matter an individual's background or residency. In order to truly commit to universal representation, the fund must not have ANY exclusions and must be a multi-year program. A permanent and universal LAJF would extend that same promise to anyone facing deportation in immigration court. LA can once again be a national leader in affirming due process rights for all. Since 2017, the City of Los Angeles has piloted a legal safety net for immigrant Angelenos to defend against deportation and separation of families. That pilot has been incredibly successful, providing full scope representation to 568 community members and access to legal services to over 2,000. Make no mistake: the work remains as critical as ever as LA families continue to feel the impacts of immigration enforcement and border instability. At a time when the City should be growing the LA Justice Fund from a pilot to a permanent program, the Mayor's proposed budget places the City's investment – and its immigrant residents – in limbo. It does so by allocating an amount that is both too little (just \$1 million) and too temporary (just one year of funding). The detailed Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees' (GCIR) report sets a clear course for a sustainable LA Immigrant Community Defense Program. The City should do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. The LA Justice Fund is an essential program that combats racial injustice in our City. The disparate racial impacts of the criminal system flow directly into the immigration system; immigrants of color bear the double oppression that comes from over-policing by both law enforcement and immigration enforcement. The City Council

should stand with communities of color by divesting from police and meaningfully investing in programs like the LA Justice Fund that combat this unjust system by ensuring due process and accountability. As the most diverse and immigrant-rich city in America, LA should be leading the effort to sustain and expand deportation defense programs, not falling behind. Several jurisdictions—including Long Beach and Denver—have substantially expanded their programs this year. Others, like San Diego, are poised to make multi-million dollar commitments to launch new programs. Los Angeles must do better. The City Council should embrace a holistic LA Justice Fund by eliminating criminal exclusions and loosening residency requirements. All people facing deportation in LA courts deserve due process. By excluding people with criminal convictions, we perpetuate the racial discrimination that the program was created to fight against. By turning our backs on asylum seekers and those who have been pushed out by high housing costs, we compromise our values and ignore the economic realities of our essential immigrant workers. A holistic program is both the moral and cost-efficient way forward. Respectfully,

Communication from Public

Name: Katheryn Eller Barton

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 04:38 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am Katheryn Barton and reside in Council District 4. Due to the Pandemic, many Angelenos have a new-found appreciation of our precious open spaces, and Griffith Park must be the crown jewel of the system. On behalf of those who found comfort and respite this last year in our too-rare City Parks, and especially on behalf of those of us who use and love Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

Communication from Public

Name: Danielle Rayne

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 08:23 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am Danielle Rayne and I reside in Glendale, CA. Because of my love and appreciation for City Parks, especially Griffith Park which is a mile from my home, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget:

1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation.
2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

Thank you very much for allowing me to weigh in on this vital aspect of my community and my well-being. Danielle Rayne

Communication from Public

Name: Alma V. Marquez

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 08:57 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Chair Krekorian, Hello, I am Alma V. Marquez, founder of La Comadre Network, a network of Latina women throughout the state of California, Texas and Colorado. Though our network is in different states, the largest part of our network is in Los Angeles. We were founded here in 2015 and we represent thousands of Latinas and their families in the City of Los Angeles. As advocates for Latina women who have historically felt the burden of inhumane immigration policy and have been subjected to severe financial hardships as a result, we urge you to be a bold leader for the Los Angeles Justice Fund. We urge you to move this program from pilot to permanent. There is incredible political support for this kind of sound public policy, especially after the years of terror that immigrants lived in under the Trump administration. I strongly urge the Budget and Finance Committee members to support additional multi-year funding to the Los Angeles Justice Fund that ensures due process for ALL, no matter an individual's background or residency. The fund must not have ANY exclusions and must be a multi-year program. A permanent and universal Los Angeles Justice Fund would protect all human beings facing deportation in immigration court. LA must lead the rest of the country with this fund. While the Mayor's budget does not reflect a commitment to immigrants and due process, we urge you and other genuine leaders to move the LA Justice Fund from a pilot program to a permanent one. It is one thing to say that our city of Angels protects immigrants, our budget must reflect our values. We cannot allow immigrants who have suffered the most and given the most during the Pandemic to continue to be vulnerable to unjust federal policies. Leaders, like you, have an opportunity to invest in long-term and systemic solutions to help the most vulnerable Angelenos. We implore you to do the right thing- fully fund this critical civil and human rights infrastructure. The City should do its part by allocating one-third of the program costs: \$6.42 million over the next two years, with \$3.16 million earmarked for Year 1 and \$3.26 million for Year 2. This amounts to only .00028% of the City's annual \$11.2 billion budget (and about .01% of the LAPD's \$3+ billion budget). Multi-year funding is essential to address the scale of the problem and the realities of immigration court proceedings, which often last years. Without a multi-year investment, it is impossible to build capacity

and grow the program to ensure critically-needed representation. Our La Comadre Network has experienced how other cities where we have a presence, including Long Beach, Denver and San Diego, have made a significant commitment to these types of deportation defense programs. Los Angeles can and must do better. Los Angeles should once again be the leader in immigrant protections- especially because this city is built on the back of immigrants. We have a moral obligation to do the right thing. Funding the LAFC is also a cost-effective strategy to support Angelenos and their families, who need and deserve institutional support as they have given so much to the economic welfare of our city. Respectfully, Alma V. Marquez, Founder, La Comadre Network

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 10:37 PM

Council File No: 21-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am Briana F. and reside in Council District 3. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Our city parks and surrounding nature and wildlife are what make LA so unique. Our parks need desperate attention and updating so they can be safe havens for people and animals alike. Maintenance, cleanliness, signage replacement, picnic areas, restrooms, playgrounds, environmental education opportunities, and regular security are required to ensure our parks are providing outdoor spaces we can be proud of, feel safe in, and most importantly assist our animal neighbors by ensuring they have healthy and strong habitats as they continually navigate around increasing human activities. Thank you.