

MOTION

In September 2020, the City Council took several actions with respect to the Los Angeles Justice Fund (LAJF), which was due to sunset June 30, 2020 (C.F. 17-0046-S2). The Council authorized a \$1 million allocation in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Adopted Budget as the City's share for a one-year extension of the LAJF from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 to allow program grantees to continue to provide legal representation services to individuals at risk of deportation, detained and non-detained, including new cases. Collectively, the LAJF received an additional \$4 million to support the program from LAJF funding partners.

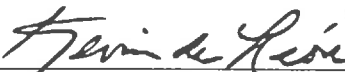
The City Council also instructed the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to report on a longer term multi-year program for removal defense and on a plan that would include a Memorandum of Understanding with the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer Affairs – Office of Immigrant Affairs.

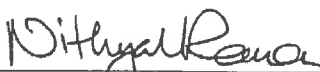
Representatives from the CLA and the CAO have been meeting regularly with other LAJF partners, including, the County, the California Community Foundation (CCF), and the Weingart Foundation to negotiate a future immigrant services program and monitor the LAJF during the extension period. During this time, CCF commissioned a study by Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees to report and make recommendations relative to a long term multi-year immigrant services program. The USC Dornsife Equity Research Institute was also tasked with gathering data and reporting on progress during the extension period. Both entities reported major challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly the "stay-at-home" orders and its impact on immigration detention centers and immigration court protocols that precluded cases from advancing.

Recognizing the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and evolving federal immigration laws, rules, and protocols, the City should authorize a one-year, no-cost contract extension to allow program grantees to continue to provide legal representation services to individuals at risk of deportation in accordance with the scope of work, reporting requirements, and program deliverables as specified in the contract administered by the CAO.


I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council authorize the City Administrative Officer to negotiate and execute an amendment to the agreement with the California Community Foundation for continued implementation of the Los Angeles Justice Fund in accordance with the scope of work, reporting requirements, and program deliverables for an additional one-year term with no funding, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, subject to compliance with City contracting requirements, and the review of the City Attorney as to form.

PRESENTED BY:


KEVIN DE LEÓN
Councilmember, 14th District


NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY:


MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilmember, 7th District

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