On September 10, 2021, at approximately 3:30 p.m., Jason Cortez, a 29-year-old male was hiking on a trail inside Ernest E. Debs Regional Park when he was shot in the back by an unknown suspect. Paramedics arrived but Mr. Cortez succumbed to his injuries on the trail. A witness came forward who provided a sketch of a suspect he saw in the bushes holding a rifle. A thorough canvass of the area has resulted in no new leads and as of this date, no new witnesses have provided information.

The person or persons responsible for this crime represent an ongoing threat to the safety of the people of Los Angeles; therefore, it is appropriate for the City of Los Angeles to offer a reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the death of Jason Cortez.

I THEREFORE MOVE that by adoption of this Motion, the City Council provide an offer of reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension, and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the death of Jason Cortez on September 10, 2021, and in support thereof, make the following findings pursuant to Division 19, Chapter 12, Article 1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code:

- 1. That the death of Mr. Cortez was caused by the willful misconduct of one or more persons.
- 2. That this offer of reward is consistent with and taken for the immediate protection of the public peace, health and safety of local residents, as well as visitors to the City, and is consistent with the need to arrest and convict the person who, because of not being apprehended, could by their actions further terrorize and present a continuing and immediate menace to the rights of persons in the City.
- 3. That what happened to the victim is an especially disturbing crime and therefore, as a matter of public policy, the City hereby offers a reward as an added inducement for persons to come forward with information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the death of Jason Cortez.
- 4. That the sum of \$50,000 shall be the aggregate maximum sum of any payment or payments of a City reward in this instance.
- 5. That the offer of reward shall be in effect for six months from the date of the advertisement of the reward by the City Clerk.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Clerk be directed to cause notices and/or advertisements to be duly published according to the requirements of Division 19, Chapter 12, Article 1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, and to thereby cause the offer of reward to become effective.

PRESENTED BY:

GILBERT A. CEDILLO Councilmember, 1st District

Distriction, 1 Distric

SECONDED

abg

LEC 0 3 2021