

MICHAEL N. FEUER CITY ATTORNEY

April 21, 2022

Honorable Members Budget and Finance Committee City Hall Los Angeles, CA 90012 via Novus

Honorable Members:

As the world begins to reopen after a challenging two years, I remain deeply grateful for the incredible hard work and professionalism of the attorneys and staff in my Office. Their efforts have been complemented by the commitment of our City and community partners, all of whom have helped us continue the progress we have made. I also appreciate your Council and the Mayor for the support and resources provided to our Office these past years. Our success reflects the trust you have placed in those working tirelessly in the Office of the City Attorney.

This year's proposed budget builds on our prior successes, providing critical support to our core operations, including more staff for our litigation units – police and employment – which carry some of the heaviest and most complicated burdens of defending the City; staff for Cannabis advice and enforcement; and, staff for the Administrative Citation Enforcement program. These investments will continue to produce important results for the City and its residents.

There are several areas that will require close monitoring over the course of the next Fiscal Year. Most notably, the chronically underfunded Litigation Expense account will no doubt require supplemental funding at both the mid-year and year end, as in the past. In addition, several significant litigation matters, being handled by outside counsel, will likely require enhanced funding. This includes the HUD False Claims Act case as well as the more than three dozen police protest cases.

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As we prepare to reopen our doors fully in the next few weeks, let us not lose sight of the courage and dedication we have seen these past two years. Our City family has risen to great challenges and is prepared for what lies ahead.

If there is any additional information we can provide, please feel free to contact Municipal Branch Chief, David Michaelson.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL N. FEUER

Los Angeles City Attorney

cc: Matt

Matt Szabo, City Administrative Officer Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst

Raoul Mendoza, Mayor's Office