

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

CAROLYN M. HULL
GENERAL MANAGER

**ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**



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ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

April 22, 2022

Budget and Finance Committee
Los Angeles City Council
c/o Mandy Morales
City Clerk
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**SUBJECT: REVISED ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
COMMENTS ON THE MAYOR'S FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 PROPOSED BUDGET**

The Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) has reviewed the Mayor's Proposed Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget (Proposed Budget) and respectfully submits this correspondence to discuss the newest opportunities and the Department's resources provided in the Proposed Budget.

The EWDD welcomes and appreciates the resources provided in the Proposed Budget as the Department moves forward from two of the most challenging years in recent history to reposition itself as a vibrant economic and workforce development agency that creates new opportunities to expand and enhance its services, strategically applies a diversity, equity and inclusion lens to service and program delivery for Angelenos, and is data-driven,

This budget cycle presented unique opportunities to achieve savings through strategic budget reductions while enhancing existing services and establishing new functions and offices requested by the Council and Mayor. While a large segment of EWDD's budget requests were approved in the Mayor's Budget, the EWDD respectfully requests further consideration of the following:

Pay Grade Advancement of one (1) Principal Accountant I to a Principal Accountant II in the EWDD's General Administration and Support Program: This position manages staff and is responsible for, among other functions, fiscal reviews of contracts and agencies to ensure financial compliance with terms and conditions of City agreements, federal and state laws, and rules and regulations. This position also works directly with the City Attorney's Office, other City departments, and federal and state officials. The current PA I position performs the functions of the former Departmental Chief Accountant II in the EWDD's Audit Section. It is critical to have the pay grade advancement of a PA I to PA II to avoid unnecessary turnovers and retraining costs.

Summer Youth Employment Program Funding: The Mayor's Proposed budget allocates \$2,800,000 for this program in the General City Purposes budget. Prior to the announcement of the minimum wage increase, EWDD requested \$3 million to maintain our goal of funding 1,000 subsidized jobs for youth while increasing the slot cost to ensure increased salary costs were taken into consideration. In light of the announcement of the minimum wage increase from \$15.00 to \$16.04 effective July 1, 2022, EWDD is now requesting \$3.3 million to sustain critical services for 1,000 youth.

Gang Injunction Curfew Settlement/ LARCA 2.0 Funding: The Mayor's Proposed budget allocates \$104,974 in Salaries, General for one Senior Project Coordinator currently overseeing the program. The proposed funding will cover partial EWDD program oversight costs anticipated during Fiscal Year 2022-23, however will not provide additional funding to continue program services to classmembers during the agreed upon settlement extension period (see C.F.: 17-0026).

EWDD is requesting a total of \$6.0 million to continue career and education services to classmembers through the settlement expiration of June 27, 2023. This funding will provide \$5.4 million for service providers and \$600,000 for EWDD program and administrative costs.

Business Response Unit - Incubators and Accelerators: The Mayor's Proposed budget adds six-months funding and resolution authority for one Senior Management Analyst I. The EWDD requests that the authority be upgraded to a Senior Management Analyst II as the level of responsibility is more appropriate for a pay grade II. The Senior Management Analyst II will implement the Jobs and Economic Development Incentive (JEDI) Zones, Good Food Zones, Business Response Unit, Sidewalk Vending, Legacy Business, and Facade Improvement programs, and prepare written reports to the Mayor's Office, City Council, and other stakeholders on the development and implementation of the strategy. The incumbent will also 1) lead the rollout of the implementation plan Citywide, including, marketing of the programs and the related metrics to measure success, 2) coordinate meetings, and 3) disseminate relevant information to implementing departments and relevant community stakeholders.

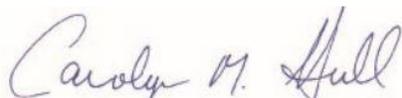
Lastly, the Senior Management Analyst II will direct, supervise, and coordinate the activities of subordinate staff, including Sr. Project Coordinators, Management Analysts, Project Coordinators, and clerical staff. This includes reviewing drafts of contracts, reports, information bulletins, and directives to providers, project status reports, vendor evaluation reports, expenditure plan approval letters, and other memos and letters. The incumbent will manage the work assignments of the programs and projects, develop and implement the outcomes related to the program and various funding streams that support the program, and collaborate and coordinate with other local, county, state and federal public agencies to build a successful program.

CONCLUSION

We are pleased with the continued support of the EWDD's many workforce and economic development programs, as well as the continuation of critical positions formerly identified for deletion. The continuation of the Summer Youth Employment Program funding, the EWDD's LA:Rise Homelessness program, and the Day Laborer Program will continue to support the ability of these vital services to address the needs of the City's homeless and underserved populations. Lastly, the EWDD appreciates the Mayor's support in providing the continued General Fund funding for the EWDD's HireLA, YouthSource Centers, and Cash for College programs.

We thank you for your time and consideration and look forward to discussing EWDD's proposed FY 2022-23 budget.

Sincerely,



CAROLYN M. HULL
General Manager

CH:AS

cc: Kevin Keller, Deputy Mayor, Mayor's Office of Economic Development
Brenda Shockley, Deputy Mayor, Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity
Raoul Mendoza, Budget Director, Mayor's Office of Budget and Innovation
Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer
Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst