Communication from Public

Name:	Community Warriors 4 Peace
Date Submitted:	03/20/2023 06:02 PM
Council File No:	17-0026-S1
Comments for Public Posting:	Community Warriors 4 Peace is in support of Council File# CF 17-0026-S1 Christian Rodriguez Settlement extension. Please see attached letter for additional details.



March 15, 2023

Council Member:

Eunisses Hernandez-CD1

<u>RE:</u> Support for CF 17-0026-S1 Rodriguez Settlement Extension

Dear Respectable City Council Member Eunisses Hernandez,

This letter is to respectfully ask for your support of a Rodriguez Settlement Extension

We are not only looking for your support but to also have this motion scheduled for vote.

We are leaving more than 75% of the 6,000 class members behind. Only 987 of the 6,000 class members (or eligible relatives) have been assisted and the program has only expended \$13,301,863 of the \$30 million settlement amount. Annual program participant numbers show an unacceptably low participation rate that imply recruitment flaws, lack of needed service delivery and resource options, the service providers that we are required to send claimants to are not understanding the population they are serving and have poor retention efforts along with almost nonexistence follow up.

The original intent of the settlement must be honored by supporting those affected by the gang Injunctions through resources and services. This is the only way we can restore faith in the City after this violation of rights. This is an opportunity we do not take lightly. This committed funding and the associated resources can assist in reducing gang violence and save lives.

The City must involve and fund partners like ourselves trusted members and credible messengers fluent in gang intervention strategies and services that support those impacted by the gang injunctions and their families, taking the lead on identifying class members and supporting them through the process of service provision. Next, the City must implement necessary changes to the current program by expanding service delivery and resource options. Services and resources provided must include childcare, housing/ rental/ utility assistance, food, and other essential living expenses. Also for those on the list and are now deceased we must make every effort to offer these same supports to their families.

We respectfully ask for your support of the extension of the Rodriguez Settlement. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tina Padilla

Tina Padilla, BA

Program Director

Community Warriors 4 Peace a Project of Community Partners



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