

Communication from Public

Name: Carrie Broadus

Date Submitted: 06/26/2023 01:59 PM

Council File No: 21-1187

Comments for Public Posting: ITEM (8) 21-1187: BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING Public Comments By Carrie Broadus LA REPAIR June 26, 2023 - L A City Budget and Finance Committee Meeting ? Good afternoon, my name is Carrie Broadus, and I am writing about the LA REPAIR Participatory Budgeting Report from LA Civil Rights. ? The Committee and Council YES vote on the report ensures that the voices of our communities are being heard. The program also serves as a tool to practice voting for communities that have been historically marginalized from civic engagement. ? This is LA's first Participatory Budgeting project - the FIRST TIME that communities had an opportunity to step up and share their ideas. These ideas, made real by community-based organizations, ? The proposals before you were ideas prioritized and voted on by regular people who live, work, and study in Boyle Heights, Southeast LA, and Mission Hills-Panorama City-North Hills. Residents (citizens and non-citizens) identified rental assistance, community health, and after-school programming as priorities. ? I urge the City Council to approve this report and support more participatory budgeting projects in the future. ? I also urge the Council to increase the funding for this program. The report notes, "the lack of financial support to Advisory Committee members is a significant barrier to their full participation and is antithetical to the program's core values of empowering marginalized communities." ? We should not ask people to work for free to support underserved communities. I know your intentions are to help empower disenfranchised and under-resourced communities. You can accomplish this goal by increasing funding, including supporting Advisory Committee members. The pilot has proven to be successful! ? Again, YES on LA REPAIR Participatory Budgeting. Vote YES on these community ideas. Vote YES on people's power! Thank you. Carrie Broadus

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- Good afternoon, my name is **Carrie Broadus**, and I am writing about the LA REPAIR Participatory Budgeting Report from LA Civil Rights.
- The Committee and Council **YES vote** on the report ensures that the voices of our communities are being heard. ***The program also serves as a tool to practice voting for communities that have been historically marginalized from civic engagement.***
- This is LA's first Participatory Budgeting project - the FIRST TIME that communities had an opportunity to step-up and share their ideas. These ideas, made real by community-based organizations,
- The proposals before you were ideas prioritized and voted on by regular people who live, work, and study in Boyle Heights, Southeast LA, and Mission Hills-Panorama City-North Hills. Residents (citizens and non-citizens) identified rental assistance, community health, and after school programming as priorities.
- I urge the City Council to approve this report and support more participatory budgeting projects in the future.
- I also urge the Council to increase the funding for this program. As the report notes, "the lack of financial support to Advisory Committee members is a significant barrier to their full participation and is antithetical to the program's core values of empowering marginalized communities."
- We should not ask people to work for free to support underserved communities. I know that your intentions are to help empower disenfranchised and under resourced communities. You can accomplish this goal by increasing funding, which is inclusive of supporting Advisory Committee members. ***The pilot has proven to be successful!***
- Again, **YES** on LA REPAIR Participatory Budgeting. Vote **YES** on these community ideas. Vote **YES** on people power!

Thank you.

Carrie Broadus

Communication from Public

Name: (name withheld)

Date Submitted: 06/28/2023 11:45 AM

Council File No: 21-1187

Comments for Public Posting: Council File Number 21-1187 This comment is in support of Agenda Item #34 LA REPAIR. I urge the Council to vote in support of the June 2023 report from Civil + Human Rights, and Equity Department (CHRED), and the recommendations to endorse full-funding for Cohort 1 Programs. I encourage every Council Member to dedicate a few minutes to review the June 2023 Report's Attachment 2 (Original Ideas) and Attachment 3 (Summarized Ideas), both of which provide snapshots of community concerns in our REPAIR Zones. While this pilot program will initially fund only the winning projects, these attachments provide you -- our elected officials -- with an invaluable 'boots-on-the-ground' view of what we need to make our neighborhoods safe places where we can thrive. . Importantly, in 2 of 3 REPAIR Zones, community-identified needs in infrastructure investments outnumbered (out-prioritized) service needs. Please keep this in mind when you review funding and prioritization for infrastructure improvements. Our community members are more likely to be pedestrians, bicyclists, and waiting transit-riders than elsewhere in LA; therefore, our neighborhoods should have the safest, most amenable streets in LA. Yet continued lack of investment in our underserved communities means we have markedly fewer trees and shade, less streetscaping, more noise/dust/pollution, and more tragic vehicle accidents affecting pedestrians and bicyclists. . As unpaid volunteers, my fellow Advisory Committee members and I worked alongside our Community Engagement Partners to uplift the perspectives of our neighbors, most of whom just can't navigate the hurdles and roadblocks to reach out to elected officials and civil servants, to get to committee hearings or neighborhood council meetings, or to follow the complicated process of trying to be heard. We're living in a time where trust in government is falling: we are paying more in taxes yet urban decay increases; where profit-mining speculators are treated like saviors as they exploit our remaining affordable neighborhoods; while our hard-won rights for public input are continually threatened for "efficiency". Yet if we want LA to succeed as a great city in which to live, we need to stop sacrificing the quality of life of residents while rewarding "pay-to-play" representation at City Hall. Participatory Budgeting, as we have demonstrated

with LA REPAIR, is a start in that direction. Through our efforts, we have not only identified gaps in services and community needs, we have proposed solutions and handed them, neatly packaged, back to the City. . Please support LA REPAIR and these programs developed through an inclusive, community-building process of Participatory Budgeting, and approve the funding which will begin to fulfill promises toward equity and acknowledgment of institutional racism in our least supported neighborhoods. Thank you.