

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE**

**MAY 1, 2007**

Gang violence in Los Angeles County exacts a devastating toll on our children, families, communities and schools. Recent tragedies, such as the fatal shootings of 23 year old Demetrius Perry at Charles Drew Middle School and 14 year old Cheryl Greene in Harbor Gateway, dramatically illustrate how innocent lives and communities are at the mercy of a gang culture focused on violence, intimidation and control.

The Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department reports that overall gang related crimes has increased 13% between 2005 and 2006 with 1,076 documented gangs and 80,757 gang members county-wide. While suppression of gang activity is a necessary approach to bringing about safety in our communities, prevention and intervention efforts are equally as critical if we want to stem the tide of at risk youth seeking the refuge of gangs as a safe harbor and a group with whom they can identify. Preliminary data gathered by the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee (CCJCC) estimates that the County spent approximately \$94 million in FY 2005-06 to address gang violence. Of those dollars, approximately \$76.5 million was spent on suppression efforts.

**-M-O-R-E-**

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____

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Our Chief Administrative Officer also recognizes the need for more resources to be allocated to this problem and has proposed \$6.4 million in additional funding in FY 2007-08 for 47 positions in the Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's office and the Probation Department. However, as evidenced by the steady increase of gang violence, a more comprehensive approach to gang violence in our county is critical.

On January 17, 2007, Connie Rice submitted to the Los Angeles City Council Ad Hoc Committee on Gang Violence and Youth Development, the Advancement Project Report: *A Call to Action: A Case for a Comprehensive Solution to LA's Gang Violence Epidemic*. The report provides in detail 1) the contributory conditions that allow gangs to exist and thrive; 2) the lack of coordination and resources aimed at addressing the problem and 3) national best practice violence prevention and gang reduction strategies. Finally, the report puts forth recommendations on how to combat gang violence in our communities. While the report focused on the City of Los Angeles, it also emphasized the need for a multi jurisdictional, regional solution that would require close collaboration between the City of Los Angeles and the County. On April 18, 2007, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa released his Gang Reduction Strategy, which utilizes the Advancement Project's recommendation and also focuses on a multi-jurisdictional approach to combating gang violence.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer, working in concert with the CCJCC and key department heads, to review the findings and recommendations in the Advancement Project Report and the Mayor's Gang Reduction Strategy, with emphasis on recommendations for a collaborative multi-jurisdictional approach toward combating gangs throughout the County of Los Angeles;

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**I, FURTHER MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Direct the CAO to develop recommendations for a comprehensive implementation plan, including a cost analysis and the identification of funds necessary to successfully implement the plan; and report back to this Board with the comprehensive implementation plan for final review and approval within 120 days.

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