



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

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May , 2021

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SUBJECT: Measure R Funding Request

Dear Honorable Supervisors:

In March of 2020, voters in Los Angeles County overwhelmingly passed Measure R ("Measure"), which amended Title 3 of the Los Angeles County Code. Among other things, Measure R required the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission ("Commission") to develop a Comprehensive Public Safety Reinvestment Plan ("Plan") and a Feasibility Study ("Study") for its implementation. Both the Plan and the Study were to be completed within seven (7) months of the passage of the Measure.

In line with the mandate provided by the Measure, the Commission established the Measure R ad hoc committee to examine the issues regarding depopulation of the jails, diversion, and non-punitive approaches to mental illness and substance use disorder. The Measure R ad hoc committee is composed of one Commission staff member and four Commissioners. The ad hoc committee, however, cannot complete the enormous task of meeting the requirements of the Measure. Still, the Commission is committed to developing a meaningful and thorough comprehensive Plan and Study within a reasonable amount of time and with the needed resources.

To accomplish our assigned Measure R mandate, the Measure R ad hoc committee sought and received proposals and has interviewed prospective consultants. After a thorough and complete vetting process, the Measure R ad hoc committee has tentatively selected a consultant who is not only capable of undertaking the task placed on the Commission but is also very familiar with the issues outlined in the Measure and the County's vast efforts to address those issues. The consultant submitted an estimate of \$325,000 to assist the Commission in fulfilling the Measure's mandate.

The voters of Los Angeles County overwhelmingly issued a mandate to the Civilian Oversight Commission to address the inequities in our criminal justice system. If funding is not provided, we are concerned that the County is unilaterally undermining the popular will of the voters. This would constitute a troubling precedent that will prevent the Commission from exercising effective oversight of the Sheriff's Department.

Honorable Board of Supervisors

May , 2021

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Based on the aforementioned, the Commission requests that the Board of Supervisors provide sufficient funding for a consultant with the expertise, time, and resources necessary to deliver what the people of Los Angeles County envisioned: a criminal justice system that prioritizes care first, jail last.

Sincerely,

Lael Rubin, Chair
Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

Priscilla Ocen, Measure R Ad Hoc Committee Chair
Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

LR/PO:em