



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

Agenda #	Relate To	Position	The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
82.		Oppose	Brian Kaneda	<p>The CEO is proposing \$49.6 MILLION to "remodel" unacceptable conditions in County jails. We should not be investing in the carceral state or the sheriffs. We should instead look at viable ways to fund decarceration efforts.</p> <p>We are gravely concerned about funding set aside to "improve" LA County Jails. As CURB have uplifted, "friendlier" jails do nothing to address the systemic racism and violence that jails and prisons perpetuate.</p> <p>Rather than investing in communities, the recommended budget released is pushing for over \$10B to go towards the carceral system. This is unacceptable. The recommended budget uses the framing "Care First, Jails Last" yet the CEO's office is continuing to prioritize investment in jailing vs. investment in alternatives to incarceration.</p> <p>The most effective way to address overcrowding and inhuman conditions in any portion of the jail system, is to decrease the number of people going in and release people who are already inside. One way the county can reduce the flow in is by reducing the number of Sheriff's deputies patrolling and arresting our community members. One way the county can increase the flow out of the jails is by aggressively investing in mental health treatment beds provided by ODR. These are just two actions that the Board can take this budget cycle that will be more effective than an expensive remodeling project that may take years to complete.</p> <p>The county is spending nearly 1 Billion dollars every year to incarcerate almost 15,000 people. Right now, over 50% of the jail population is pretrial, many of whom are detained simply because they can't afford to pay bail. The county is spending nearly 1 billion dollars to incarcerate people who have not been convicted of any crime. What a shame and waste of funds! This money is undoubtedly better spent with an investment in building a robust pretrial services system outside of the probation department.</p>
			Megan Castillo	<p>Honorable members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:</p> <p>For four years, numerous Los Angeles-based community organizations, advocacy groups, and individuals have come together as the Reimagine LA Coalition to focus on organizing, advocacy, and analysis of the promise of community reinvestment. We are deeply concerned about the current FY 2024 -2025 recommended budget allocations and the over investment in policing and incarceration and under investment in care first solutions. Given the appellate court decision affirming the constitutionality of Measure J, there is greater urgency for the Budget to reflect the will of the voters and fully invest in our community.</p>

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Since the board has adopted the ATI Workgroup Final Report foundational recommendations in March of 2020, little has moved. In three years, the County's ATI Initiatives have made minimal progress compared to the scale of LA County's crisis of incarceration. Expectant and invested Angelenos have seen the County Board underutilize and deprioritize these community-led ATI recommendations while witnessing continued harm.

Los Angeles County is home to the largest jail system in the country. Of the more than 13,000 people who are detained in the county jail on any given day, many of whom are legally presumed innocent and detained pretrial. Though the County has committed itself to a Care First vision for Los Angeles, it is no secret that the jail population continues to rise and thousands of Angelenos are not receiving the critical services and resources they need. Our jails are overcrowded with people who are severely struggling with housing insecurity, poverty, mental illness, substance use, and addiction, and because the justice system is not adequately equipped to respond to these conditions, many people continue to cycle in and out of the legal system rather than receiving the support direly needed. Many people are also dying while being denied their freedom. In 2023 more than 30 people detained in the county jail died while in custody; more than half were detained pretrial.

This year we have another opportunity to allocate funding towards some of the most transformational services and programs our county has ever seen.

The Re-Imagine LA Coalition and our partners assert the following Care First Budget Proposals followed by specific coalition demands needed to realize Care First opportunities in LA County:

PROPOSAL 1: LA County must reduce investment in law enforcement, and scale up investment in non-law enforcement responses to crises and community needs. Many of our residents continue to go without even basic support, and yet our county continues to put our dollars towards incarceration instead of community-based care. Spending on law enforcement continues to climb while the county reduces its own spending on Diversion and Re-entry by 20% compared to last year. In recent years, the County has invested over \$1.75 billion of residents' tax dollars towards the Sheriff's budget. In contrast, the county has allocated only \$62 million of its own funds to Diversion and Re-Entry.

PROPOSAL 2: LA County must make the promise of Youth Justice Re-Imagined by ending investment in failed youth detention and supervision. This year the county plans to spend over \$400 million on incarcerating our youth. Meanwhile, the CEO has only recommended \$74 million to the Department of Youth Development. It is time we invest in supporting our children, not caging them.

PROPOSAL 3: LA County must scale up funding for community-based diversion for people with unmet mental health needs. On any given day,



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approximately 40% of the people currently being incarcerated in LA County jails have a diagnosed mental illness. We cannot incarcerate our way out of a mental health crisis.

PROPOSAL 4: LA County must continue to fund pretrial services that are community-based and non-carceral, and move us swiftly towards permanent jail closure. The currently proposed allocation for non-carceral pre-trial services is insufficient for the level of programming needed county-wide.

PROPOSAL 5: LA County must invest full funding of Care First funding streams such as AB109 and CFCI into non-carceral services based on community-led recommendations. In the first year, the county allocated \$100 million to CFCI but estimated only \$21 million was spent. The next year, the county budgeted \$279 million for CFCI, including new money and rolled over funds but then estimated they only spent \$81 million of those funds. This year, the county's budget shows \$300 million allocated to CFCI but nearly half of that is rolled over money that CFCI failed to invest in needed community resources in prior years. The county must adequately fund services at the foundation of implementation and commit to administering the funds in a timeline manner.

PROPOSAL 6: LA County must heed calls for gender justice and implement the recommendations of the Gender Responsive Advisory Committee Report. Women of color and LGBTQ+ individuals continue to be overrepresented in our prisons, and face sexual and physical violence at all stages of our criminal legal system.

PROPOSAL 7: LA County must commit to implementing the County's Care First vision through authentic community collaboration, power sharing, and participatory budgeting to ensure consistent equitable investment.

And our demands remain the same:

DEMANDS:

Close Men's Central Jail by setting a concrete timeline that leads to closure, reducing the jail population to less than 8,500 people, allocating \$275 million for mental-health treatment beds, and fully funding an independent pretrial services agency.

Fully fund Measure J by allocating at least \$900 million annually in dollars from the County budget.

Fund the Care First Budget by leveraging dollars from Measure J, CFCI and other local, state, and federal resources.

Fund Youth Justice Reimagined by shifting a minimum of \$75 million out of probation (6% of the department's \$1.36 billion annual budget) as part of the Care First Budget.

LA County must choose to prioritize its commitment and comply with the law to a Care First and Jails Last vision with investments that will improve lives



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			and safety in our communities. The Board now has an opportunity to reflect its ongoing Care First commitment in the FY23-24 Budget. We write with great urgency to say, pass a Care First budget now. We know that in order to actually reimagine Los Angeles County, it is necessary to fully invest in a Care First infrastructure that will reduce our incarceration rates, allow the County to swiftly close the deadly MCJ, and usher us towards an era of effective care rather than a continued reliance on incarceration that has devastated Angeleno families for years.
			Megan Castillo
		Other	<p>Monisha Parker</p> <p>Dear Chief Executive Officer,</p> <p>I am writing to present my 2024-25 Recommended Budget focused on ending homelessness, ensuring public safety, providing affordable housing, and addressing reparations for Black Americans. As a concerned citizen and advocate for social justice, I strongly believe that these issues require immediate attention and investment from both the government and private sector.</p> <p>Homelessness is a pressing issue that affects millions of individuals and families across the country. It is a complex issue with various contributing factors, such as poverty, lack of affordable housing, mental illness, and substance abuse. I believe that a comprehensive approach is needed to effectively end homelessness. Therefore, I recommend allocating a significant portion of the budget towards providing affordable housing options, mental health services, and job training programs for homeless individuals. Additionally, funding for homeless shelters and outreach programs should be increased to provide immediate assistance to those in need.</p> <p>Ensuring public safety is crucial for the well-being of our communities. In recent years, there has been an alarming increase in gun violence, hate crimes, and police brutality. It is imperative that we address these issues and invest in initiatives that promote community policing, de-escalation training for law enforcement, and mental health support for first responders. I urge you to allocate a substantial portion of the budget towards these programs to create safer and more inclusive communities for all.</p> <p>Affordable housing is a basic human right, yet it remains out of reach for many low-income families and individuals. The lack of affordable housing has contributed to the rise in homelessness and has forced many families to live in substandard conditions. I recommend investing in the development of affordable housing units and providing rental assistance programs to help low-income individuals and families secure stable housing. This will not only improve the living conditions of those in need but also stimulate the local economy.</p>

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				<p>Lastly, I would like to bring attention to the issue of reparations for Black Americans. The legacy of slavery and systemic racism continues to have a profound impact on the Black community. Therefore, I recommend allocating funds towards initiatives that address the racial wealth gap, provide access to quality education and healthcare, and support Black-owned businesses. These investments will help promote economic and social justice for Black Americans and begin to repair the damage caused by centuries of discrimination.</p> <p>In conclusion, I strongly urge you to consider my recommendations and prioritize these critical issues in the 2024-25 budget.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to consider my suggestions.</p> <p>Sincerely, Monisha Parker</p>
			Sean Villegas	<p>Good Morning All,</p> <p>?I am a representative of Bay Valley Tech, which is a non-profit that runs Tuition-Free Tech Training. Our main goal is to bridge opportunities to careers in high tech and ensure that access to education and training is accessible to everyone.</p> <p>We really are the Complete Solution because we work with our Employers to train students and provide hands-on experience. While listening I noticed that there has been many funding requests and Historically, we have noticed our partners at county and workforce levels, have California for all grant money available, in our case to better serve their residents in their county with paid internships and training. I am interested in hearing if there is a need, and if CFA funding is available for projects like ours.</p> <p>??Currently we opened our program a few months ago, and we have 100 applicants, and 10 students in our cohorts</p>
		Item Total	5	
Grand Total			5	



BAY VALLEY TECH
Code Academy
www.bayvalleytech.com

2023 IMPACT AT A GLANCE

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, EMAIL:
INFO@BAYVALLEYTECH.COM

**FREE TECH
ACADEMY**

**Digital Design
Software Development
Paid Internships**



51,396

Hours Students Served



Your donations will
enable Bay Valley
Tech to create
opportunities for
more students

www.bayvalleytech.com/donate

683

Certificates
Awarded

392

Individuals
Trained

45%

Enrollment
increase in 2023

55%

Students from
Low-Income
Families

Students Served

67% 36%

BI-POC

Women

OUR MISSION

Bay Valley Tech (BVT), the training entity of Bay Valley Foundation (BVF), proudly offers free, low-barrier Code Academy and digital design programs, equipping adults and youth with essential coding languages and digital skills. With a strong focus on promoting diversity and inclusion in the tech sector, BVT is dedicated to providing opportunities for underrepresented communities to thrive in the digital age. Through our collaborative efforts, we are transforming lives and bridging the opportunity gap.



Code Academy | 7-month program)
Digital Design Bootcamp (6-month program)
Paid Internships (3 to 6 months)
Volunteering & Community Service

BVT nurtures an inclusive tech ecosystem, supported by a comprehensive range of resources tailored to students and alumni alike. We believe in providing a supportive community where every individual can thrive, fostering collaboration in the ever-evolving tech industry. These resources include mentorship programs, immersive project experiences, comprehensive career development services, and streamlined job placement assistance. Our students specialize in diverse fields such as web development, digital design, UI/UX, and digital marketing, achieving certificates of completion in their chosen domains. Continuously advancing, BVT is strategically broadening its curriculum to enrich its educational offerings.

OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

Student demographics underscore our commitment to addressing the underrepresentation of minorities, women, and economically disadvantaged individuals in the teaching industry. By providing opportunities, we bridge the gap and cultivate a more diverse and inclusive workforce.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

At BVT, we highly value community engagement and giving back. We take great pride in our partnerships with esteemed organizations, including Stanislaus County Workforce Development, County Offices of Education, California State University, The Salvation Army, NAACP, Bank of Stockton, Oak Valley Community Bank, and various city governments and adult schools. These collaborations allow us to actively contribute to the betterment of our community by providing valuable educational and career development opportunities. By working hand in hand with these organizations, we aim to make a meaningful impact and create pathways to success for individuals seeking to thrive in the teaching and design fields.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: KIDS BOOTCAMP



Through our partnership with the Salvation Army Modesto, Bay Valley Tech empowers low-income at-risk children with free coding and design bootcamps to empower these individuals, we're committed to fostering equal opportunities

"The Salvation Army Modesto Red Shield witnessed kids embracing the world of innovation thanks to Bay Valley Tech's coding bootcamp. Our children didn't just have fun, their minds were opened to a new world of digital possibilities with each engaging class. Their enthusiasm is a testament to Bay Valley Tech's innovative approach, sparking a passion for technology that will empower them for the future."

- Glafira Rodriguez, Modesto Red Shield Program Manager