

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS LINDSEY P. HORVATH

July 15, 2025

AND JANICE HAHN

Reaffirming the County’s Commitment to Measure J

In 2020, the voters of Los Angeles County approved Measure J which committed the County to the Board’s “Care First, Jails Last” vision by dedicating no less than ten percent of the County’s locally generated unrestricted funding to address the disproportionate impact of racial justice through community investments such as youth development, job training, small business development, supportive housing services and alternatives to incarceration. In 2024, our Los Angeles County voters also approved comprehensive governance reform in the form of Measure G.

We recently learned that because the County Charter was never updated in 2020 to reflect the passage of Measure J, the Charter Amendment language used in the passage of Measure G, did not incorporate Measure J as it should have. The result being that as a technical matter Measure J was unintentionally repealed by Measure G effective December 2028.

Because these changes were the result of an unintentional administrative error,

MOTION

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MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____

and because the voters fully intended to give effect to both Measure J and Measure G, this Board should take steps to reverse this error as soon as is practicable. In doing so, the Board can, and should, reaffirm its commitment to honoring the will of the voters with respect to both Measures J and G.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors suspend Section 22.1 of the Rules of the Board for the limited purpose of considering this motion.

WE, ALSO, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct County Counsel to explore and report back to the Board in two weeks confidentially on potential legal actions, including the possibility of declaratory relief, that would confirm the will of the voters and ensure that Measure J remains in effect beyond 2028.
2. Direct County Counsel and the Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs & Intergovernmental Relations to report back in 10 days on whether changes in State law could be made to correct the administrative error and implement both measures in the County Charter without the expense of a ballot measure.
3. Direct the Executive Officer and County Counsel to evaluate what led to this error, what should have occurred, and use that evaluation to develop policies and procedures to ensure that the County Charter is promptly updated to accurately reflect all amendments in effect and approved by the voters. A draft Board policy is to be presented to the Board for approval in 30 days.
4. Direct County Counsel to prepare an ordinance ensuring the continued implementation of Measure J beyond 2028, when the elected County Executive takes office, and return it for consideration by this Board in 30 days.

5. Direct County Counsel to report back to the Board with a proposed Charter Amendment to incorporate Measure J into the new governance structure for continued implementation beyond 2028 and the necessary steps to place the proposed Charter Amendment on the 2026 ballot.

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