LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS + EMAIL TEMPLATE TO ADOPT THE PEOPLE'S BUDGET

Council Member Emails:
https://www.lacity.org/government/popular-information/elected-officials/city-council

Best to send individually with their names personalized!

— REMOVE ABOVE SECTION —

Hi Council Member [NAME],

I am reaching out to you today because, as a representative of the City Council, you play an important role in decision-making for the entire city of Los Angeles. I want to share my thoughts on the current budget being proposed for our city.

I firmly stand behind the People's Budget that has been proposed for the city, which significantly reduces the amount of funding allocated to Law Enforcement and Police, and I want to tell you why.

Years of research on social outcomes in cities illustrate that the current budget (with $3 Billion allotted to Law Enforcement and Policing) represents a maladaptive, band-aid approach to the systemic problems that threaten community safety. The $100-150 million that Mayor Garcetti has proposed to remove from the LAPD and reinvest in communities of color simply is not enough. These communities have been facing years of disinvestment and this amount is barely a drop in the bucket! We need to get serious about making real, meaningful changes in our city. These issues are deep-rooted and require new, community-based models.

We need universal aid and crisis management, community safety models, and improvements to our built environments. We need better education, better healthcare, and better mental health services. The overfunded policing model that is currently in place just does not work - it is based in violence and threatens those who need our assistance most.

When communities have what they need, neighborhoods thrive. Take a look at our well-funded communities like Los Feliz. It's not a matter of opinion. I know you must agree on some level; why else would you have chosen to be a public servant, if not to improve public life for the communities that call your city home? This is what we should be aiming for… Thriving communities, not the continued over-policing of frustrated, disenfranchised communities of color.

I challenge you to be the Council Member that acknowledges the underlying causes of oppression, especially the unevenly dispersed resources that create the disparities that disproportionately impact communities of color. BE the change we need. BE remembered as a champion of the people.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]