


MOTION

Over recent months, there have been reports of an increased number of hate crimes in the City, with 62 hate crimes being reported in April 2021 alone. A number of these crimes are directed at Asian-Americans, but other minority groups have also been targeted, including individuals of Jewish faith, and those of African-American descent. The Police Department (LAPD) takes these crimes seriously and uses every investigative tool possible to solve them and to hold perpetrators to account.

The Administrative Code allows the Council to issue offers of cash rewards for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of persons responsible for some crimes, and the LAPD will often request rewards be issued as well. Rewards encourage otherwise reticent individuals to provide key information on serious crimes to investigators, and also serve as a valuable tool to draw attention from the media and others to these crimes to generate investigative leads. While the Council can clearly issue rewards for information related to more serious hate crimes, such as assault or murder, it is not clear that the existing reward program can be used for other, less violent hate crimes.


I THEREFORE MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the City Attorney, be instructed to report on the ability of the City to use its existing special reward program to offer rewards leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of persons who commit hate crimes, and on any potential need for a new reward program to cover hate crimes not covered by the existing reward programs of the City.


PRESENTED BY:



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SECONDED BY:





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