

MOTION

The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) plays a crucial role in safeguarding public safety in the City. Their responsibilities range from fire suppression and prevention, emergency medical services, and hazardous materials safety. Accordingly, the availability of staffing for the LAFD can affect delivery of several vital services and can result in lowered response times and lower response quality.

Drastic budget reductions during the Great Recession had a notable impact on resources available to staff fire stations and respond to calls for services across the City. Although the federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants assisted in offsetting reductions and the restoration of some fire stations, challenges relating to resource availability remain. These funding and personnel challenges have been further exacerbated by attrition, hiring obstacles, and climate change, with increasing calls for service year by year. The City must ensure that due diligence has been conducted and all possible options to secure resources needed by the LAFD have been explored and considered.

The Fiscal Year 2019-20 Adopted Budget included \$400,000 for a Fire Standards of Cover Analysis which would focus on the optimization of sworn resource deployment and address Citywide fire suppression and emergency medical needs. The comprehensive overview this report will provide on the distribution of LAFD resources will also assist in identifying communities that may be underserved.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Los Angeles Fire Department be instructed to report with an update on the status of the Standards of Cover analysis, as well as state or federal funding that may be available for the restoration of fire stations or services.

PRESENTED BY: 
TIM McOSKER
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY: 

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