

Language Access Coalition of Long Beach



While the 9-2-14 staff report re: the LAP provides additional information about funding the Policy, it still falls short of funding the Policy at a sufficient level to create a meaningful start to implementation. Moreover, it is unclear why the staff report limits its analysis to an additional \$100,000.00 for implementation. This limited analysis is contrary to the Council's motion, which directed staff and the BOC to consider funding the LAP without a funding cap.

The total cost for LAP implementation is \$1.2 million. The Language Access Coalition is merely asking that the Policy be funded at an incomplete, but meaningful level. **The Policy could be funded at a sufficient level (incomplete, but a good start) in FY 15 if the City Council dedicates an additional \$209,700.00 to the Language Access budget. (In total, the Policy should be funded at \$359,700.00.)**

Here are the calculations:

- a. Some vital documents translated into 3 languages: **\$30,270.00** (cost from 8-12-14 Staff Report)
- b. Document translation into Tagalog, for documents that already exist in Spanish and Khmer: **\$7,455.00** (cost from 8-12-14 Staff Report)
- c. Automated Voicemails in 3 languages: **\$197,350.00** (cost from 8-12-14 Staff Report)
- d. Translation of the 25 most commonly used webpages into 3 languages: **\$5,625.00** (cost estimate based on 8-12-14 Staff Report, which indicates \$75.00 cost per web page)
- e. Training for staff acting as interpreters: **\$56K** (cost from Policy)
- f. Notice of the Policy shall be circulated in Spanish Khmer and Tagalog so that community members are aware of the Policy and can utilize its benefits **\$13K** (cost from Policy)
- g. Utilize Language Line City-wide, **not just for Public Works, and utilize it for ALL languages, not just Spanish, Khmer and Tagalog**, when a bilingual employee is not available (**approx. \$50K**) (cost estimate based on the Health Dept.'s pilot program where Language Line was only utilized 3 times in a 4 month period.)

***Total cost of these items = \$359,700.00**

***Minus \$150K already included in budget for interpretation and translation**

*** Difference = \$209,700.00 in additional dollars needed for language access**

***The vast majority of these costs are one time start-up costs.**

We respectfully request the Council to: Add \$209,700.00 in additional dollars to the Language Access budget from the one-time oil revenues.