



Date: November 22, 2016

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilwoman Suzie Price, Third District *SP*
Councilman Daryl Supernaw, Fourth District *DS*
Councilmember Al Austin, Eighth District *al*

Subject: Reallocation of Wage Enforcement Budget Item

INTRODUCTION:

On September 6, 2016 the City Council voted to allocate approximately \$700,000 for the purposes of engaging in enforcement activities related to State minimum wage laws in the city of Long Beach. At that time there was uncertainty expressed by some council members as to whether or not the city was legally able to enforce state wage law.

In making a determination as to any possible role the City could have in effective enforcement of State wage laws, the City Attorney's Office worked with outside legal counsel and determined that the City cannot take any active role in the enforcement of State wage laws. A memorandum to that effect was disseminated to Council on October 18, 2016. This legal determination has now made the allocated monies available to be used to fund other needs in the city of Long Beach.

Council acknowledges the important issue presented with wage theft/enforcement and therefore, urges the City Manager to continue to support the various State and County programs dedicated to the issue of wage theft. Where legally feasible, the City should support State and County efforts to investigate, enforce and adjudicate wage enforcement claims.

RECOMMENDATION:

By way of this item, Council requests that the City Manager to identify specific public safety priorities that can be funded using the money that was previously allocated to wage enforcement. The list of priorities should include restoration of resources, staffing, equipment or any other priority that meets the amount and use limitations associated with the money that was previously allocated to wage enforcement.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no significant fiscal impact with the delivery of this report.