

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

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> HOLLY J. MITCHELL CHAIR, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

May 4, 2022

Ms. Kelly King President Marina del Rey Lessees Association c/o Tim Riley & Associates 8537 Wakefield Avenue Panorama City, CA 91402

## RE: Response Letter to Marina del Rey Lessees Association's Request for Discretionary Funding for Two Sheriff's Deputies in Marina del Rey

Dear Ms. King:

I appreciate the dedicated work of the Marina del Rey Lessees Association to ensure Marina del Rey (Marina) remains a premiere destination for recreation and travel. I am also grateful for your warm welcome to the Marina del Rey community.

I am in receipt of your letter expressing concern about potential staffing decisions by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD). To start, I would like to provide additional information regarding the funding that Supervisor Janice Hahn previously provided in Marina del Rey. That funding covered overtime payment for existing Marina del Rey Sheriff deputies, which was broadly described as additional support for beaches and harbors and crime suppression, it did not fund additional positions. While the overtime funding will expire June 30, 2022, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's (Sheriff) current budget proposal includes these two positions, and the deputies will maintain their positions with LASD. Further, the two deputies will continue to serve the Marina if the Sheriff chooses to re-assign them to that area. The LASD budget is approximately \$3.5 billion dollars, and we continue to encourage that those funds and other County funding sources be managed in a manner that is transparent and equitable.

It has also come to my attention that based on the information that my office has reviewed, it does not appear that there was a reduction in crime in Marina del Rey despite the additional hours of law enforcement in the community. Therefore, I suggested to LASD that we consider other approaches that may serve the community better and more efficiently. I am committed to improving public safety and believe that with additional alternatives and resources we can, in fact, see improved outcomes.

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This commitment aligns with the "Care First, Jails Last" (CFJL) vision, which is to implement community-based intervention and prevention approaches to respond to crime and neighborhood disturbances rather than use the carceral-driven responses that have historically failed our communities. Our goal is to provide a safe, supportive, and optimal public safety apparatus to reduce (if not eliminate) petty and serious crimes. To aid in accomplishing this, I will direct discretionary funding to community-based intervention and prevention strategies that are trauma-informed, health-driven, and equitable. In turn, it is my expectation that the Sheriff address budgetary staffing needs, including those of the Marina del Rey Station, through the County's budget process.

My office is prepared to work collaboratively with LASD and the Marina del Rey Sheriff's Station specifically. Our team is already scheduled to meet with LASD leadership to assess the key needs of the community, identify local organizations that provide applicable services, and discuss the funding of alternative approaches to address crime.

I appreciate your reaching out and I want to assure you that I am committed to public safety in our community. I look forward to your support and knowledge in actualizing public safety in Marina del Rey.

Sincerely,

Mitchell

Holly J. Mitchell Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Supervisor, Second District

(JM/NR:sw)

cc: Chief April Tardy, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Captain Chris Johnson, Marina del Rey Sheriff's Station