



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

June 16, 2020

To: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn

From: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

REPORT BACK ON BUILDING A SYSTEM OF ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION (ITEM NO. 2, AGENDA OF MARCH 10, 2020)

On March 10, 2020, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved a motion to work toward building a system of alternatives to incarceration, helping the Board achieve the vision of providing "care first, jail last." The motion directed the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to: 1) establish an Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Initiative (Initiative), and take immediate steps to hire a Director to lead it (with additional report backs from the Director once hired); 2) report back to the Board during final changes with recommendations for a funding and staffing plan; and 3) report back to the Board with a preliminary analysis of the fiscal, legal, and operational components of the ATI recommendations, with a final written analysis due in 180 days.

As you know, the Board directives for ATI occurred immediately before the COVID-19 crisis, and the County's subsequent emergency stay-at-home orders, hiring freeze, and closure of County buildings. The ensuing crisis severely impacted the financial landscape for the County. It also completely occupied the attention of the CEO's budget staff, who have had to redirect their efforts to developing a plan to close the FY 2019-20 budget, completely rebuilding the FY 2020-21 budget, working with the several County departments on various curtailment scenarios, and estimating those departments' revenue losses. This same budget staff are also those who would otherwise be responsible for the ATI-related fiscal analyses required by the Board in its March 10, 2020 motion.

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While we cannot provide a reasonably accurate timeframe for completion of the assessments required by the March 10, 2020 motion, we will continue to monitor the County's fluid financial landscape, and the associated bandwidth of the CEO's budget and finance staff. We will report back after the supplemental budget phase when we have a clearer path to complete the analysis. Further, even as the fiscal analysis has not been completed, we will continue to work with your offices on the meaningful actions that can be taken in the meantime to move forward the very important work related to the March 10, 2020 motion.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me directly, or your staff may contact Tiana Murillo, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, at (213) 974-1186 or via email at TMurillo@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:FAD
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c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel