



To: Council President Nury Martinez

Honorable Paul Krekorian, Chair

Honorable Bob Blumenfield

Honorable Kevin de Leon

Honorable Monica Rodriguez

Honorable Curren D. Price, Jr.

FROM: The Make Los Angeles Whole Coalition

SUBJECT: Doubling Down on Our Invitation

DATE: May 9, 2022

DOUBLING DOWN ON OUR INVITATION: \$300 MILLION INVESTMENT IN COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & LAUNCH PERMANENT COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND

We, the undersigned labor, community, and civil rights leaders, call on the City to fulfill its promise and support a vision to Make Los Angeles Whole. The City has an opportunity to lead the nation and be a model for sustaining equitable programs that place people and communities first. Our proposal centers upon uplifting women, families, and their children.

As an active voice on behalf of the community during this budget season, we are doubling down on our collective vision and call on the City of Los Angeles to direct a \$300 million investment toward poor and working-class families hit the hardest by the pandemic and decades-long disinvestment in high-need communities. We ask that the City restore last year's historic \$170 million investment in the priorities advanced by the Make LA Whole Coalition. The Make LA Whole Coalition demands that the City invest an additional \$130 million to expand these vital programs and roll over any unspent funding back into these initiatives.

We also call on the City to establish a permanent community investment fund to support and

sustain vital equity initiatives. This protected minimum funding requirement would ensure programs that support family care for all, housing security, year-round youth employment, and guaranteed basic income are funded every year. And while we ask the City to expand community driven safety programs, we adamantly oppose the LAPD from receiving any additional funding.

While we understand the urge to backfill budget holes and add to our reserves, we must lead this moment with a commitment to restore our families that continue to suffer from deep-rooted inequities in access and opportunities across Los Angeles.

There is no time like the present. The City must acknowledge all the powerful organizing and advocacy efforts underway to build an inclusive and equitable LA. These recommendations reflect the current and ongoing work in communities across the City.

As Dr. King reminded us years ago, “The time is always right to do what’s right.” We invite the City to invest in what is right and reinvest dollars into the people and communities who have saved us time and time again.

SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS: DOUBLE DOWN & PROTECT VITAL COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

We ask that the City protect last year’s \$170 million dollar investment in The Make LA Whole priorities and invest an additional \$130 million to grow and launch important community-based efforts. These investments are outlined in Table 1 and Table 2.

Restore and Protect Adopted 2021-2022 Community Programs (Table 1)

Program	2021-2022 Adopted Budget
Guaranteed Basic Income: LA Economic Assistance Pilot	\$5,000,000 (\$29MM Total)
Child Care and Learning Centers	\$20,000,000
Utility Assistance Debt Relief	\$10,000,000
Business Assistance Program (includes JEDI Zones Program)	\$25,000,000
Rec and Parks Staffing for Community Programs	\$6,000,000
Senior Meals Program	\$10,000,000
Universal Broadband Services	\$10,000,000
Child Care Business Assistance	\$10,000,000

Rec and Parks Facilities—Deferred Maintenance	\$75,000,000
Total	\$171,000,000

Double Down and Grow Programs (Table 2)

Program	2021-2022 Adopted Budget
Guaranteed Basic Income: LA Economic Assistance Pilot	\$50,000,000
Child Care and Learning Centers	\$5,000,000
Utility Assistance Debt Relief	\$20,000,000

Gang Reduction and Youth Development	\$15,000,000
Saturday Night Lights Program	\$12,000,000
Youth Employment	\$10,000,000
Youth Development Department	\$5,000,000

EWDD: Women of Color Business Program *new program	\$5,000,000
LA REPAIR	\$5,000,000
Office of Racial Equity	\$2,000,000
Total	\$129,000,000

Signed,

Alberto Retana, President & CEO, Community Coalition

April Verrett, President, SEIU 2015

Charisse Bremond Weaver, President & CEO, Brotherhood Crusade

Maria Brenes, Executive Director, InnerCity Struggle