Budget Forestalls Layoffs, for Now

Budget

Continued from Page 1

At the same time, the budget encourages the growth of the LAPD, and proposes that housing, libraries and neighborhood councils will receive funding increases. At least parts of those three initiatives — housing, libraries and neighborhood councils — are meant to help the LAPD bolster its anti-gang measures.

The LAFD can expect to see more firefighters and paramedics if the budget passes as-is.

The hiring freeze currently in place will remain, according to the proposed budget. If that happens, approximately 400 unfilled positions currently on the books will be erased, in effect asking current employees to fill the gap by producing what those unfilled positions would have been expected to produce.

The budget also calls for more aggressive collection of a number of fines.

One of the reasons for the mood of austerity was a report issued at the beginning of the year by City Administrator William J. Fujioka, which warned of a projected loss of income for the City. The State of California was saying that it might have to take funds from the vehicle licensing fees, costing the City of Los Angeles an estimated \$175 million. Mayor Hahn's proposed budget does not account for that possible shortfall. Were the State of California to make good on that warning, the City budget would have to be rethought, according to Hahn.

Read more about the proposed budget at http://www.ci.la.ca.us/

Wanna be heard?

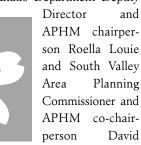
What do you think of next year's proposed budget? Too lean? Too generous? Let us know, and we'll print your reply: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Newsbriefs

ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mayor Jim Hahn today kicked off the citywide celebration of Asian Pacific Heritage Month throughout the City of Los Angeles and designated the month of May as Asian Pacific Heritage Month (APHM).

The Asian Pacific Heritage Month celebrations were co-ordinated with the help of retired Cultural Affairs Department Deputy



Iwata.

Asian Pacific Heritage Month highlights the significant accomplishments of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. During the

kickoff celebration,

Mayor Hahn

honored 13 Asian Pacific Americans for being role models in the areas of government, leadership, business, sports, entertainment, and media. Recipients include Assemblywoman Wilma Chan, Assemblywoman Judy Chu, Assemblywoman Shirley Assemblywoman Carol Liu, Assemblyman Alan Nakanishi, Assemblyman George Nakano, Assemblyman Leland Yee, Taryn Rose Shoes President Taryn Rose, Native Software President Roland Tseng, Los Angeles Galaxy player Hong Myung Bo, Los Angeles Dodgers Assistant General Manager Kim Ng, University of Southern California Football Offensive Coordinator Norm Chow, and KABC-TV news anchor David Ono.

For a calendar of events, go to: www.apahm.org.

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PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION

Mayor Hahn has proclaimed May as Public Service Month. It's intended to educate the public about governmental services, and to

recognize outstanding public service notable achievements. Two major activities scheduled for the Civic Center: a Career Service Awards Presentation



Ceremony, at 10 a.m. Friday, May 9; and City Departments Showcase, exhibits of various department activities and services, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, May 14 and 15. Information: (213) 847-9800.

WINTER HOMELESS SHELTERS

City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo and Councilwoman Jan Perry urged state legislators to obtain additional funding from the Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2002 to keep the Winter Shelter



Program in Los Angeles open all year.

The Winter Shelter program provides emergency shelter to the homeless during the coldest months of the year. The program, which provides approximately 2,000 beds a night during a 15-week period, was initiated in the 1980s as the "Cold/Wet Weather program" to address the serious public health and safety issues related to homelessness.

Delgadillo and Perry have been working with the Mayor's Office, the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Shelter Partnership and several services agencies to expand the emergency shelter system currently operating in Los Angeles County.