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CITYWIDE

#138281

## The Budget: What's in Store for Your Job?

Budget for 2009-10 proposes budget cuts to nearly every department and leasing some City-owned parking lots. Email us your thoughts.

On April 20, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa submitted a budget proposal that closes an expected \$530 million deficit for upcoming fiscal year.

The plan proposes to maintain police buildup and gang reductions efforts while preventing as many as 2,800 layoffs by implementing shared responsibility and sacrifice by all City employees.

"During these extraordinary times, it is the responsibility of all City leaders to recognize that reform is no longer a luxury; it is a necessity," Mayor Villaraigosa said. "The need for shared sacrifice is not just rhetoric; it is a reality."

The budget proposes a 10 cut in personnel costs. At press time, the exact specifications have yet to be detailed.

Rising unemployment, the housing market crash and the credit crisis have caused City revenues to decline in nearly every category. The Mayor's proposal will balance a budget that faced a \$530 million deficit in the upcoming fiscal year with a combination of spending reductions, private investment and efficiencies, including some departmental consolidations.

The mayor proposed to maintain police buildup and gang reductions efforts while preventing as many as 2,800 layoffs through shared responsibility and sacrifice by all City employees.

The mayor proposed an extensive menu of options, to be considered by the City Council, City employees and union leadership, which would prevent the need for layoffs and maintain a high level of City services by reducing the cost of the existing City workforce by more than 10 percent. The options the mayor presented include unpaid holidays, and reforms to mileage reimbursement, healthcare coverage and overtime.

The Mayor's Office has created a Website for City employees to see the menu of options available to balance the City budget. The Website address: [www.keeplaworking.com](http://www.keeplaworking.com)

The mayor announced that he would cut his own salary by 12 percent, freeze his staff's wages and reduce his office budget by 10 percent.

On April 6, the mayor said that the City could save 580 jobs if every City employee took off one unpaid hour of work per week. The City could save nearly 700 additional jobs if each employee contributed two percent more to their retirement benefits. And if every employee agreed to defer scheduled pay raises, the City could save an additional 1,300 jobs and the services they deliver.

**Tell us what you think.** What do you think about the City's current budget crisis, and the proposed budget's challenge? Let us know! Write to *Alive!* at: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

DWP

## Lineman's Rodeo

City Employees are invited to watch the DWP Lineman's Rodeo, a fun event for the family.

City Employees are given a special invitation to watch the DWP lineman doing their thing during the annual DWP Lineman's Rodeo. The event is not open to the general public.

The event is set for 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 16, at the DWP Truesdale Facility, 11760 Truesdale St. in Sun Valley.

The DWP Linemen compete in a number of events. Winning teams will go to regional and possibly national competition.

**The Journeyman skill events include:**

- Pole climb
- Hurt man rescue
- Cross arm changeout
- Jumper installation
- Dead end changeout

**Apprentice events include:**

- Pole climb
- Hurt man rescue
- Secondary parallel
- Temporary service installation

Past activities for the family include a petting zoo, a climbing wall, face painting, jumpers and balloons. Food and drink is expected to be available. The event is free, except for food and drink.

The annual event usually lasts until about 1:30 p.m.



From past years, Hurt-Man Rescue Competition: Hector Avila (Lineman - Palms District) competed in the hurt-man rescue. Other events included the pole climb, crossarm, streetlight, dead-end, insulator, and jumper change-outs.