

MOTION

PERSONNEL

OCT 24 2007

The Mayor recently appointed an Interim Executive Director, Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). In addition, the Mayor contracted with a consultant to assess the activities of CSW and to develop recommendations to improve its effectiveness in meeting its mission. That mission is to assure that women have the opportunity for full and equal participation in the affairs of city government and to promote the general welfare of women in the Los Angeles community.

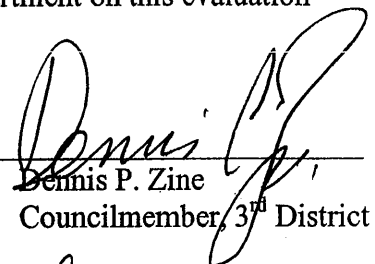
The City Council has an equal interest in assuring the effectiveness and operational efficiencies of each department. If an assessment of a department's operations is being conducted, the Council should be an equal participant. This can only be done through a collaborative process so that the resultant recommendations reflect the joint efforts and input by representatives of both the Mayor's Office and Council.

With the fiscal challenges facing the City, it is critical to evaluate whether activities overlap or duplicate those performed by other departments so that limited resources are not being squandered. As part of the collaboration with the Mayor's Office, an assessment should be conducted of the activities performed and programs administered by CSW, such as discrimination investigation and consultation, domestic violence, Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Human Trafficking, and Young Women: From Adversity to Resiliency (YWAR) Program. These activities appear to overlap or duplicate the functions performed and programs administered by the Personnel Department, City Attorney, Police Department and Community Development Department. For each program, an objective evaluation should be conducted of the respective roles of CSW and the affected departments, along with the qualifications of the staff assigned to perform those functions, to determine which is most qualified and would be most effective in providing service delivery of each program.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), City Administrative Officer (CAO) and Personnel Department to report back on the following in 60 days so the findings can be considered by the Mayor in preparation of the 2008-09 Budget: (1) Evaluation of the activities and programs administered by the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) to determine if they overlap or duplicate those performed by other departments; (2) Evaluation of the qualifications of the staff of the Commission and similar activities performed by other departments and determine which would be most qualified and effective in providing service delivery; and (3) Recommendations to improve the effectiveness and operational efficiencies of the CSW, including more clearly defining its activities and role, and a possible reorganization.

I FURTHER MOVE that representatives of the Mayor's Office, including the consultant, be requested to collaborate with representatives of the CLA, CAO and Personnel Department on this evaluation process.

OCT 24 2007

PRESENTED BY 
Dennis P. Zine
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY 

07-3425