Costs of Los Angeles City Council Expansion

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Data

- Los Angeles City Controller
 - Raw Data extracted for Council Department payroll
 - 2020 to Current
- California Controller
 - Raw Data as reported to and extracted from the the state of California controller
 - 2020 to 2021
- Controller Data used here because it includes all retirement and health benefits
 - Salary data corroborated with adopted budget report for Los Angeles

LA Council Department Salaries and Benefits

- Department Employees:
- 2021 Salary Total:

\$36.4 Million

621

• 2021 Benefits and Retirement:

\$14.4 Million

• 2021 Total Employment:

\$50.8 Million

LA Council Department Employees



LA Council Department Employees

Council Aids (II-VII): 548
Council Members: 15
Legislative Analysts (All): 36

• Support Staff:

22



Potentially Excluded From Expansion Costs

31

- Legislative Analysts (I-V):
- Chief Legislative Analyst:
- Assistant Chief Legislative Analyst: 4



Salaries and Benefits - W/O Legislative Office

- Department Employees:
- 2021 Salary Total:

\$31.7 Million (was \$36.4M)

• 2021 Benefits and Retirement:

: \$12.7 Million (was \$14.4M)

585

• 2021 Total Employment:

\$44.4 Million (was \$50.8M)

Methodology

- Determine average personnel cost per district
- Determine average council aide cost per field house
- Straight line determination based on number of proposed districts
 Variation provided based on number of proposed field houses per district
- Assumptions
 - Number of council aides per district is evenly distributed between City Hall Office and Field Offices
 - Assume proportional increases in costs associated with expansion

Average Cost Per Council Member



 Current Average Cost Per District: \$2.96 Million

• Does not include changes to Legislative Department

Assumes each member has roughly the same staff as now. In 2021 dollars.

Average Cost Per Council Member



• Current Average Cost Per District: \$3.39 Million

 Includes changes to Legislative Department

Assumes each member has roughly the same staff as now. In 2021 dollars.

Future Paths- Questions to Consider

- Smaller Districts = Lower Pay?
- Is city hall equipped to handle more council members, or is a renovation expense required?
- One future path is to visit or contact a few field offices to identify the proportion of staff that are employed at the field offices relative to the main office, as well as the pay grade of the staff.
 - This will result in expansion estimates of higher fidelity.

Back-Up