



# CALIFORNIA CONTRACT CITIES ASSOCIATION



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*Executive Director*

July 24, 2020

Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street, Suite 869  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Items 2 and 3 pertaining to a call for Special Election on November 3, 2020 of the proposed County Charter Amendment shifting budget priorities to revitalize under-resourced and low-income communities**

Dear Chair Barger and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I am writing on behalf of the California Contract Cities Association (CCCA) to express our concern regarding the process in which the Board will vote to place a charter amendment on the November 3, 2020 ballot.

This hastily proposed charter amendment circumvents long established processes and does not provide the public and cities with an opportunity to weigh-in on acceptable alternative programs and services, nor does it allow the public and County staff to properly assess unintended consequences the amendment would have on the County's budget and public safety for more than 10 million Angelenos.

Agencies, such as the Sheriff's Department, District Attorney, and the Los Angeles Superior Court depend on the County's funding. Simply placing the budget before voters without evaluating the full impact could result in serious consequences to our justice system and the safety of our residents. Further, it would hamper the current and future Board's ability to exercise its full authority of the budget as it has met during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During this time in our nation's history, we are all asked to meet the moment and help transform our justice system through meaningful investments in our communities. This call to action is grounded in the systemic problems that exist in our justice system and requires thoughtful deliberation from all stakeholders. The proposed county charter amendment would direct at least 10 percent of locally generated unrestricted revenues to support reinvestment and alternatives to incarceration. While the County has taken bold steps to transform our justice system, the instantaneous nature of the charter amendment's introduction raises serious concerns for CCCA's members.

For these reasons, CCCA strongly urges the Board to reconsider placing the charter amendment on the November 3, 2020 ballot and seek thoughtful input from all stakeholders, as it has been the tradition of the Board for many years. It is imperative

that the vital needs of all residents are considered when contemplating substantial changes to County programs. Should you have any questions, please contact me via email at [marcel@contractcities.org](mailto:marcel@contractcities.org) or (562) 622-5533.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Rodarte', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Marcel Rodarte  
Executive Director

Cc: CCCA membership  
Los Angeles Sheriff Alex Villanueva  
LASD Contract Law Bureau