Resolution No. 19:040

Senate Bill (SB) 2 Planning Grants Program Application

City Council October 15, 2019



Background – SB 2

- September 2017 Governor Brown signed SB 2
- SB established recording fee of \$75.00 on real estate transactions
- Funds intended to increase supply of affordable housing
- 50% of SB 2 funds go to local governments to update planning documents



Background – SB 2

- 2019 HCD issued notice of availability for SB 2 funds
- Technical & financial assistance to cities to update planning documents & land use ordinances
- Examples general plans, community plans, specific plans
- Requires resolution authorizing staff to sign & submit the program application



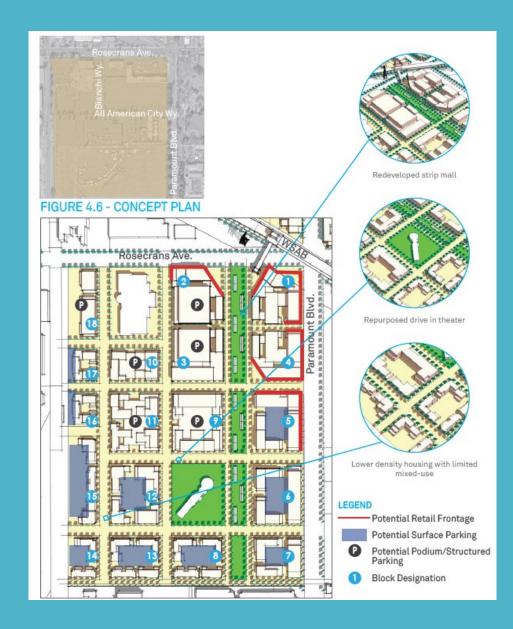
Clearwater East Specific Plan

- 1987 City Council adopted Clearwater East Specific Plan
- May 2019 City Council amended Clearwater East Specific Plan
 - Allowed for housing and added development standards



Paramount/South Gate Station Area Plan

- Reviewed by the City Council in April
- Conceptual blueprint for transit-supportive development
- Link residential development with infrastructure
- Reduce VMT and GHG
- Business incubator









Recommended Action

Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 19:040

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Senate Bill (SB) 2 Planning Grants Program Application

City Council October 15, 2019



AMENDMENT TO PROMISSORY NOTE – 8421 ADAMS STREET

BACKGROUND

- Request to amend a promissory note
 - Senior housing project at 8421 Adams Street
- City gave the developer a loan of \$948,500 from Federal HOME funds
 - Development of a 35-unit senior housing project
 - 9 units to rented at an affordable rate for 20 years
 - Project completed in 2013



REQUEST

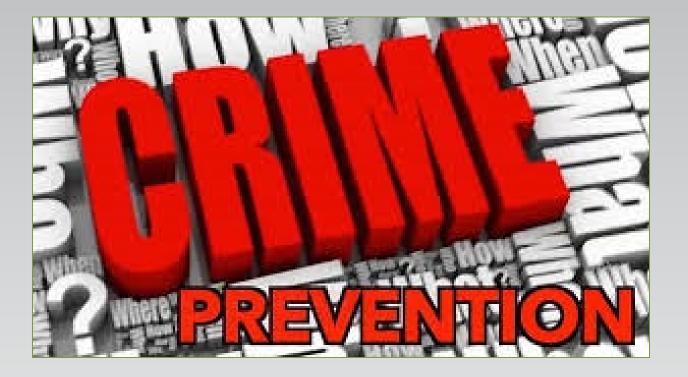
- Amendment requested to convert a yearly audit to alternative reporting procedures
- MDG Associates, the City's HOME fund consultant, has reviewed the request
- MDG has determined that an alternate financial review can be conducted to meet Federal HOME guidelines
 - Alternate review involves the yearly submittal of financial statements related to income, residual receipts, and reserve balances
- The City Attorney has approved the amended promissory note

RECOMMENDED ACTION

 Approve the amendment to the promissory note for the senior housing project at 8421 Adams Street

AMENDMENT TO PROMISSORY NOTE – 8421 ADAMS STREET

City Council Meeting



October 15, 2019

CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS

- October is National Crime Prevention Month
- The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) received a proclamation at the October 1, 2019 City Council meeting
- LASD and Public Safety staff scheduled specific community engagement events in October
- On-going Crime Prevention efforts



CRIME PREVENTION MONTH

Community Engagement Events

- *Coffee with a Deputy* October 3, 2019
- Tacos with a Deputy October 16, 2019
- Safety Tips via Social Media Outlets





ON-GOING CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS

D Enforcement

- 5 Special Assignment Officers (BEAT Map)
- Parole, Probation, and Truancy Operations
- o L.A. County Deputy District Attorney

Supplemental Enforcement

- Overtime Hours to Address Crime Trends
- Dedicated Vehicles to Assist Patrol Deputies
- Decoy Vehicles



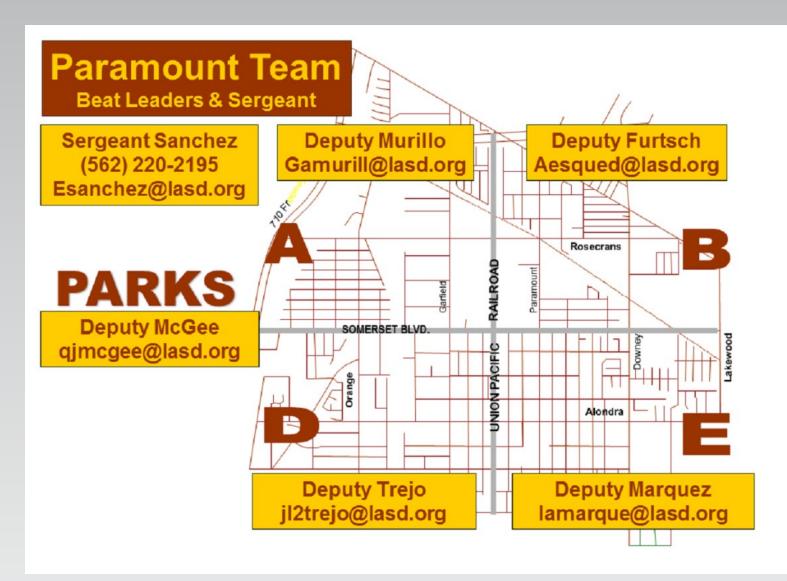
ON-GOING CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS

Community Engagement

- Neighborhood Watch Meetings
- Homeless Outreach Efforts
- Good Neighbor Program (GNP)
- Home Security Rebate Program
- Code Enforcement Division
- Community Service Officers
- Extended Station Hours



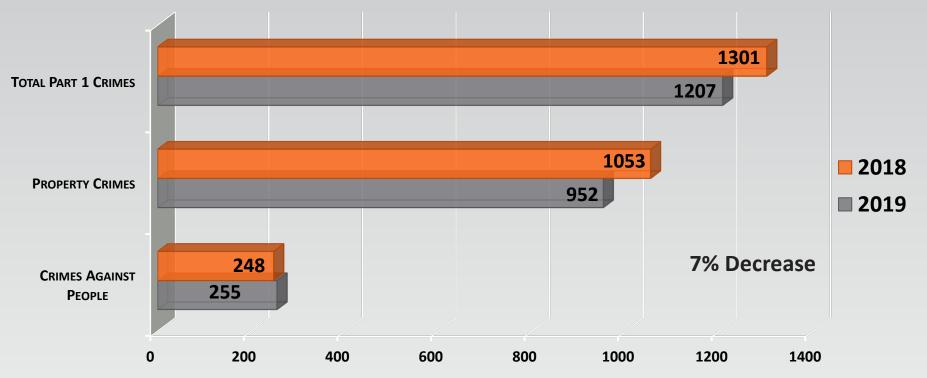
ON-GOING CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS



CRIME PREVENTION EQUALS RESULTS

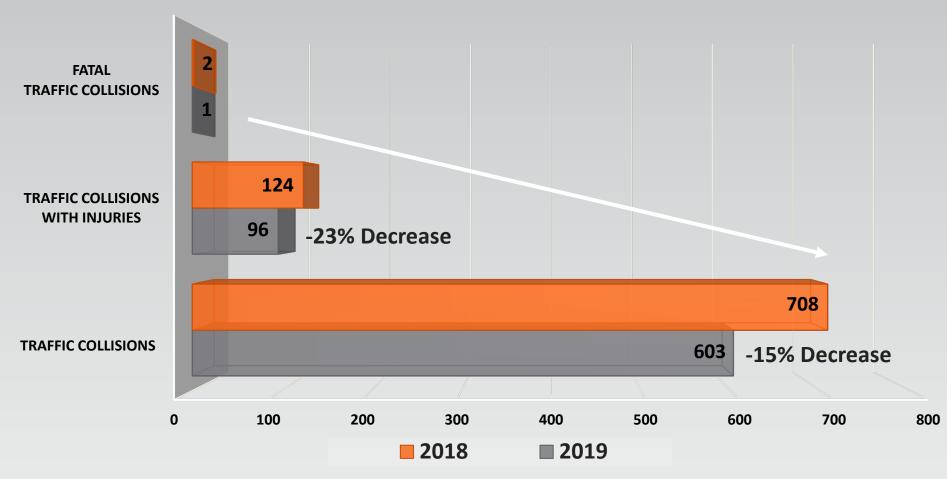
Uniform Crime Report (UCR)
YTD 2019 to 2018 (January to September) Part 1
Crimes (property and crimes against people)

• UCR Part 1 Crimes are down by 7%



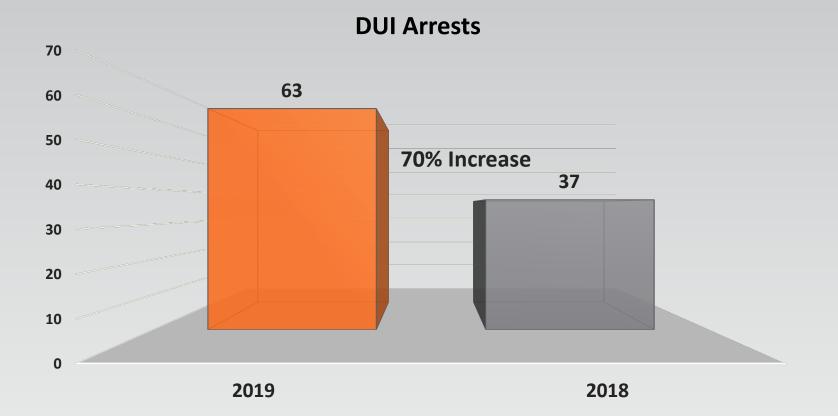
CRIME PREVENTION EQUALS RESULTS (CONT'D)

Traffic Enforcement Efforts YTD 2019 to 2018 (January to September)

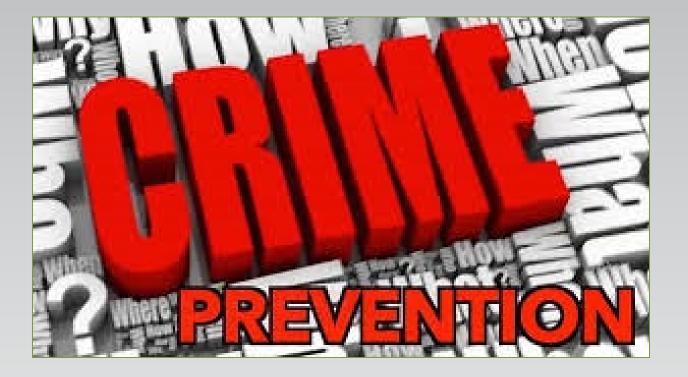


CRIME PREVENTION EQUALS RESULTS (CONT'D)

DUI Abatement Efforts YTD 2019 to 2018 (January to September)



City Council Meeting



October 15, 2019

Potential Sales Tax Measure – Additional Information

City Council Meeting – October 15, 2019



• The City of Paramount is committed to providing:

- Public safety
- Well-maintained streets and roads
- Safe, clean parks and other public areas
- A vibrant local business climate
- Services that enhance quality of life for Paramount residents

• Recent trends:

- Gang related crimes have dropped by 94% (10 yr. period)
- Unemployment down significantly since 2009
- Higher high school graduation rates and more college attendance
- Median home values increased by nearly 95% since 2012
- 66% of residents believe Paramount provides a better quality of life than other neighboring cities



- Financial concern structural budget deficit
- Expenditures outpacing revenues
- Situation is not unexpected; reported in previous budgets
- City has taken many steps to address the structural budget deficit over the years
 - Organizational efficiencies
 - Staff cuts
 - Benefit cuts
 - Innovations
 - Partnerships
 - UUT
 - Economic development
 - Obtaining grant funds



• Grant Funding

- Example Community Services & Recreation Department
 - Awarded at least 28 separate and ongoing grants since 2000
 - About \$40 million received for:
 - Multiple park grants
 - Trails and walking path grants
 - Facility grants
 - After school program grants
 - Several multi-year and/or ongoing annual grants
 - Such grants support the City efforts for building/maintaining Paramount's high quality of life standard



- Additional revenues needed to continue providing optimal service expected by the Paramount community
- Flexible General Fund revenues needed
 - Allows City Council discretion to shift expenditures to priorities as needed, and as times change
 - Special funds much less flexible



Potential sales tax measure

- Sales tax general purpose tax
- ¾ of one percent increase
- Increase from 9.5% to 10.25%
- Could generate \$4-6 million to address budget deficit
- Would allow tax revenues to stay and be used in Paramount



Proposition 218

 Added voter approval requirements for all local government taxes which previously did not exist

Voter Approval Required

- General Tax
 - Revenues to be used for any governmental purpose
 - Majority vote required (50% + 1)
- Special Tax
 - Revenues to be used for a specific purpose
 - Super majority vote required (66% majority)



- Examples:
 - General Tax
 - City operations as a whole, including:
 - Public safety programs
 - Infrastructure projects
 - Homeless outreach programs
 - Special Tax
 - Used for a specific purpose
 - Building a new sports complex
 - Specific location
 - 10 soccer fields
 - 10 baseball fields



- General Tax recommended by staff
 - Allows flexibility for City Council
 - Allows City to respond to changing priorities
 - Allows City to respond to emergency situations
 - Allows City to maintain Public Safety service levels, particularly for the Sheriff's Department contract



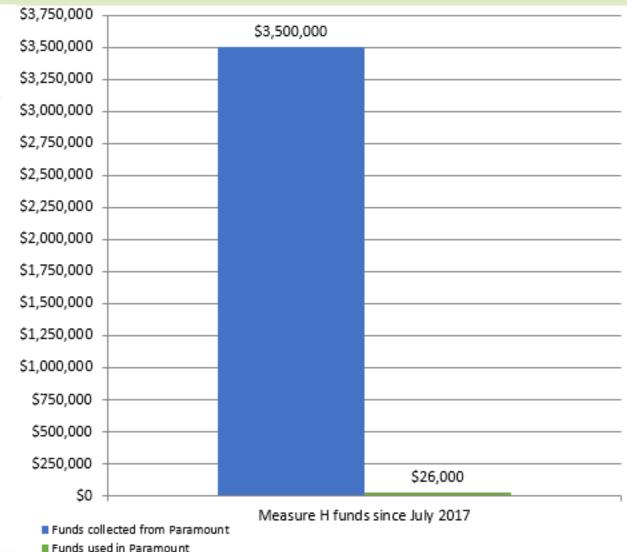
• Recent sales tax measures and revenue collected in Paramount:

Sales Tax Measure	Purpose	Year	Amount
Measure R (Metro)	Sales Tax for Transportation	2008	½ cent
Measure M (Metro)	Sales Tax for Transportation	2016	½ cent*
Measure H (LA County)	Sales Tax for Homeless Services	2017	¼ cent**

- * Extends and increases Measure R to a permanent one cent sales tax
- ** Sunsets after ten years (March 2027)

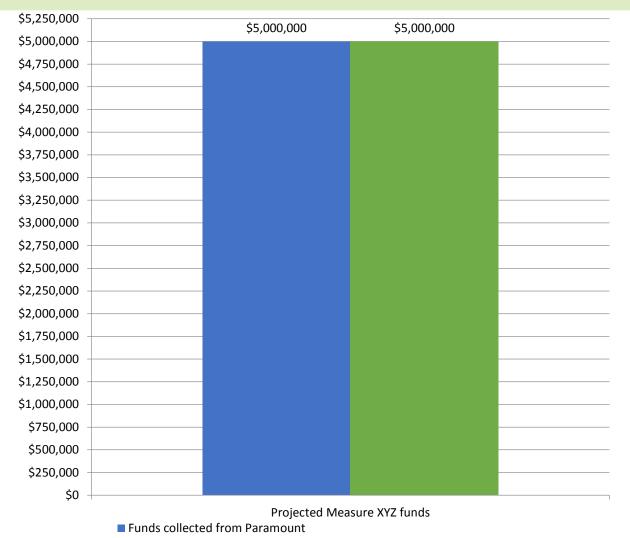


- LA County's Measure H, passed in 2017 for homeless programs, has collected about \$3.5 million from Paramount point of sales since July 2017
- To date, we've only received about \$26,000 in return
- Current taxes are largely being used to benefit homelessness programs outside of Paramount





- Hypothetical Sales Tax Measure -
 - Paramount Measure XYZ
- All new sales tax collected in Paramount, stay in Paramount
- Keep tax revenue local





- Sales tax rates for area cities
- Paramount not only city having to resort to sales tax measure
- Several cities, including Paramount, considering sales tax measure
- Revenues scarce for all cities

*	Set for	March	2020	election
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Cities	Rate
Santa Fe Springs	10.50%
Compton	10.25%
Cudahy	10.25%
Huntington Park	10.25%
Long Beach	10.25%
Lynwood	10.25%
Pico Rivera	10.25%
South Gate	10.25%
Commerce	10.00%
Downey	10.00%
Bellflower	9.50%
Cerritos*	9.50%
Lakewood	9.50%
Norwalk	9.50%
Paramount	9.50%



- Scientific surveys
 - Use of scientific methods including random sampling and statistical analysis
 - Surveys are representative of a population within a statistical margin of error
 - National surveys to gauge options are often conducted from a sample of 1,000 persons

Paramount survey conducted in May 2019

- Consultant FM3
- 392 total sample size (275 likely voters in March 2020)
- Margin of error +/- 5.90%
- Residents pleased with City direction
- 77% stated support for a potential sale tax measure



- Accuracy of previous FM3 surveys:
 - Paramount UUT (March 2015)
 - Survey 76% support
 - Election result 75%
 - Measure M (November 2016)
 - Survey 71% support
 - Election result 71.15%
 - Measure W (November 2018)
 - Survey 71%
 - Election Result 69.5%



Hypothetical Ballot Language Tested in Survey:

PARAMOUNT ESSENTIAL SERVICES/PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURE To maintain City of Paramount's levels of public safety, 911 emergency response, neighborhood sheriff patrols/station hours; repair streets/potholes; earthquake retrofit bridges; improve traffic safety; address homelessness; retain/attract jobs; maintain gang prevention/parks/youth afterschool programs/senior services; other general services; shall an ordinance establishing a ³/₄-cent sales tax providing approximately \$4,000,000 annually until ended by voters be adopted; requires independent audits; all funds used to benefit Paramount only?



- Community Education/Outreach Program
 - Hired consultant TBWB Strategies
 - Draft mailer





Summary

- Residents positive about the City's direction
- Expenditures continue outpacing revenues
- Structural budget deficit; no surprise
- Cost savings measures implemented over the years
- Additional and flexible revenues needed to continue providing optimal service
- Potential sales tax measure; ³/₄ one percent increase; \$4-6 million new revenue
- Other agencies have increased sales tax rate
- Additional sales tax revenue generated should stay local to benefit Paramount
- Scientific survey of registered voters conducted in May 2019
- Scientific survey respondents:
 - 61% pleased with the City's direction
 - 77% stated support for sales tax measure
- Community education/outreach program underway

Potential Sales Tax Measure – Additional Information

City Council Meeting – October 15, 2019