



JEFFREY PRANG
ASSESSOR
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 320
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2770
assessor.lacounty.gov
(213) 974-3101



*Valuing People
and Property*

November 26, 2019

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

26 November 26, 2019

CELIA ZAVALA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE ASSESSOR TO RE-EMPLOY A RETIRED COUNTY EMPLOYEE
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS - 3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT:

The Office of the Assessor (Assessor) is requesting that your Board approve a Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA) member's return to service, thereby suspending the member's retirement benefits and returning to active full-time employment with the Assessor.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Authorize the Assessor's re-employment of retired LACERA member, Stephen R. Whitmore, to full-time permanent status in compliance with the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 and Board Policy Number 9.150.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Retired former County of Los Angeles employee, Stephen R. Whitmore, retired from County service effective January 30, 2016. Consistent with existing County Board Policy 9.150, which allows for the re-employment of retired County employees on an indefinite basis, the Assessor is requesting your Board's approval to re-employ County retiree Stephen R. Whitmore, pursuant to Civil Service Rule 17.01(a), as a permanent Special Assistant, Assessor (UC), Item Number 9985A.

Upon his return to County employment, Mr. Whitmore's retirement allowance will be suspended until the termination of his re-employment.

Currently, Mr. Whitmore is serving as a 120-Day Rehire Retiree for the Assessor, assisting with the Assessor's public affairs initiatives, such as coordinating internal and external communications and outreach efforts in government and community relations, providing staff support, and drafting press releases.

It is critical the Assessor hire Mr. Whitmore as soon as possible, as the Assessor's Public Affairs Unit is inundated with inquiries and requests particularly regarding the Assessor's efforts to assist homeowners affected by the recent fires throughout the County. Mr. Whitmore is a seasoned media/public affairs representative. His extensive public relations experience make him an asset to the Assessor's Public Affairs team.

Implementation of Strategic Goals

This recommended action is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal 3, Realize tomorrow's government today by pursuing operational effectiveness, fiscal responsibility and accountability.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING FACTS

The cost of the recommended salary will be absorbed within the Assessor's current budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

LACERA is governed by the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937. This action is in compliance with Government Code Sections 31680.4 and 31680.5, pertaining to retired members returning to active membership.

Prior to 1991, retired County employees were prohibited from returning to County employment, except temporarily and under limited circumstances. Government Code Section 31680.4 now permits retirees to return to work on a permanent basis. Your Board's adoption of Board Policy 9.150 on July 6, 1993, made this Government Code provision operative in Los Angeles County.

The Board letter has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
November 26, 2019
Page 3

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended actions will have no negative impact on current public services or projects. Approval of the recommendation will ensure the Assessor continues to provide effective communication to taxpayers, agents, and the general public.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by your Board, please return two adopted copies of this letter to the Assessor.

Respectfully submitted,


JEFFREY PRANG
Assessor

SMH:DS:JC

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 Chief Executive Office
 County Counsel
 Human Resources