



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of LA Vacancy Rate Remains at 1 in 6 Jobs Unfilled – Controller Kenneth Mejia Releases Latest Update to Vacancy Data Tool

LOS ANGELES – Los Angeles City Controller Kenneth Mejia today released new data, charts and analyses of City vacancies, updated through December 30, 2023.

The citywide vacancy rate as of December 30, 2023 was 17.5%, meaning 1 out of every 6 City jobs were unfilled.

Previously, the Controller’s Office released data through June, and then September, 2023. In both June and September 2023, the citywide vacancy rate was 17%, or 1 out of 6 jobs.

At least 10 City Departments/Bureaus had vacancy rates of 25% or more including:

- **Civil + Human Rights and Equity** (34%)
- **Youth Development** (32%)
- **Disability** (28%)
- **Street Lighting** (28%)
- **Neighborhood Empowerment** (26%)
- **Cultural Affairs** (26%)
- **Street Services** (26%)
- **Contract Administration** (26%)
- **City Tourism** (25%)
- **Economic & Workforce Development** (25%)

In addition, crucial support functions like **Finance, General Services, Transportation and Recreation and Parks** are all running above the city average in unfilled jobs.

Due to the City’s budget deficit, the City has frozen over 4,000 of its vacant positions, meaning vacant positions cannot be filled unless approved.

With chronic and rampant vacancies continuing, City services are stalled at their current levels.

The Controller’s Office continues to recommend that the City do the following:

- Undertake the long-term (and overdue) reform of the Civil Service system which will require constructive dialogue with the City's labor partners and an eventual vote of the people to amend the City Charter;
- Convene a shorter-term task force of city leaders and unions to seek additional creative ways to work within the existing Charter constraints to treat the challenge for what it is: a growing crisis that affects every Angeleno's safety and well-being;
- Build on the success of the Targeted Local Hire and Bridge to Jobs programs to expand the effort to provide a pipeline for local residents to seek and attain rewarding careers in public service;
- Invest in the Personnel Department's staffing, training and technology to augment their capacity to not just fill jobs, but attract and retain the talent needed to serve a 21st Century metropolis;
- Streamline City bureaucracy, reform outmoded service models and embrace innovation to raise productivity and improve services to the community;
- Partner with the community, civic institutions, the private sector, nonprofits and others to more closely collaborate on creative approaches to problem-solving while the City works to rebuild our workforce;
- Pursue long-term strategic budget and capital planning that goes beyond a year-to-year time horizon and balances the City's changing and growing needs with the public staffing, funding and capital investment available to address those needs.

Visit the website:

deptvacancies.lacontroller.app