



NEWS FROM

CITY CONTROLLER LAURA CHICK

City Hall East, Room 300, 200 N. Main St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

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**CHICK CALLS FOR REINVENTION OF THE CITY'S COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**
Well Intentioned Efforts Should Be Redirected

Los Angeles – In releasing her audit of the Community Development Department, City Controller Laura Chick has called for "...a total re-creation of how the City allocates, spends and oversees millions of federal and state grant dollars that are funded through the CDD."

Chick audited the CDD's Family Development Network Program, which is responsible for allocating federal grant funds to nonprofit community based organizations to provide assistance to those most in need,

"We have failed to properly and accurately evaluate program performance, and we have been allowing vital programs to run on automatic pilot. We are not asking the all important questions: Are we maximizing these precious dollars? Are we actually helping those most in need? Are we achieving the desired results?," wrote Chick in a letter to the Mayor, City Attorney and City Council.

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The audit found that the Family Development Network falls short of providing an effective, citywide system of integrated human services that ensures people meet their goals of economic self sufficiency.

Chick's audit makes 38 recommendations for improvement.

“This is not just about one particular program, this is about the CDD as a whole. While the hardworking people of the CDD and its contracted non-profit agencies are well intentioned, the Department needs a top to bottom reinvention. We are both unable to assure taxpayers that these scarce dollars are being used effectively and unable to reassure those in need that we can truly assist them. We must find a new and better way,” said Chick.

Chick's CDD audit, as well as all of her reports, can be accessed at www.lacity.org/ctr.

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