

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



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refer to File No.

04-1362

December 18, 2007

Transportation Committee Clerk (w/file)
Attn: Adam Lid
Office of the Mayor
Board of Transportation Commissioners
City Administrative Officer
Chief Legislative Analyst
City Attorney
Department of Transportation

RE: AMENDING SECTIONS 88.00, 88.07, 88.13, 88.57 AND 88.63 OF THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL
CODE TO PROVIDE FOR FREE PARKING OF CERTAIN ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES

At the meeting of the Council held December 12, 2007, the following action was taken:

Attached report adopted	_____
Attached motion (-) adopted	_____
Attached resolution (-) adopted	_____
FORTHWITH	_____
Resolution adopted	_____
To the Mayor FORTHWITH	_____
Motion adopted to approve communication recommendation(s)	_____
Motion adopted to approve committee report recommendation(s)	_____ X _____
Ordinance number	_____
Publication date.....	_____
Effective date	_____
Findings adopted	_____
Negative Declaration adopted	_____
Categorically exempt.....	_____
General exemption approved	_____

City Clerk
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TO THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Your

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

reports as follows:

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to amending Sections 88.00, 88.07, 88.13, 88.57 and 88.63 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to provide for free parking of certain alternative fuel vehicles.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. REQUEST the City Attorney to PREPARE and PRESENT an ORDINANCE amending LAMC Sections 88.00, 88.07, 88.13, 88.57 and 88.63 to:
 - a. Establish an hourly rate of \$0.00 (i.e. free) for Alternate Fuel Vehicles properly displaying California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Clean Air Vehicle Decals at all Department of Transportation (DOT) on- and off-street parking meters in the City of Los Angeles until January 1, 2011.
 - b. Exempt Alternate Fuel Vehicles properly displaying DMV Clean Air Vehicle Decals from the requirements to deposit coins in parking meters at DOT on- and off-street parking meters in the City of Los Angeles managed by the DOT until January 1, 2011.
2. DIRECT the DOT to extend the Free Metered Parking Pilot Program for Hybrid Vehicles as currently configured until the Ordinance modifying the program as described above in Recommendation No. 1 becomes effective.
3. DIRECT the DOT to publicize the changes to the Free Metered Parking Pilot Program for Hybrid Vehicles once the Ordinance described above in Recommendation No. 1 becomes effective.
4. DIRECT the DOT to issue warning notices instead of citations to any of the four, previously eligible, hybrid vehicles observed parked at expired City parking meters without properly displaying DMV Clean Air Vehicle Decals for 30 days after the Ordinance described above in Recommendation No. 1 becomes effective.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The DOT reports that at this time, only 496 eligible hybrid vehicles have been observed participating in the free metered parking pilot program resulting in an estimated annual revenue loss of between \$116,560 or approximately 0.56% of total annual meter revenue. In spite of the potential for increased levels of hybrid ownership, the recommended linking of the program with the DMV's Clean Air Vehicle decal program, with its cap of 85,000 total decals, is expected to limit any further decrease in parking meter revenue to the Special Parking Revenue Fund as well as any reduction in General Fund revenue from parking citations issued for parking meter violations.

Subsequent to the June 21, 2006 Council direction to draft the City's enabling Ordinance with a

January 1, 2008 expiration date, California Vehicle Code Section (CVC) 5205.5 was extended until January 1, 2011. The attached Ordinance is worded to "remain in effect only until January 1, 2008, or only until CVC 5205.5 is repealed, whichever occurs first, and as of that date is repealed." With the extension of the Clean Air Vehicle Decal Program until as late as January 1, 2011, the Council may wish to change their instructions regarding the expiration date for the City's enabling Ordinance.

Summary:

On June 21, 2008, Council requested the City Attorney to prepare and present an Ordinance amending LAMC Sections 88.00, 88.07, 88.13, 88.57 and 88.63 by:

- a. Establishing an hourly rate of \$0.00 (i.e. free) for Alternate Fuel Vehicles properly displaying California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Clean Air Vehicle Decals at all DOT on- and off-street parking meters in the City of Los Angeles.
- b. Exempting Alternate Fuel Vehicles properly displaying DMV Clean Air Vehicle Decals from the requirements to deposit coins in parking meters at DOT on- and off-street parking meters in the City of Los Angeles until January 1, 2008.

Additionally, Council directed the DOT to extend the Free Metered Parking Pilot Program for Hybrid Vehicles as currently configured until the Ordinance modifying the program as described above in Recommendation No. 2 becomes effective.

Subsequently, on October 10, 2007 and December 3, 2007, your Committee considered October 3, 2007 DOT report, September 5, 2007 City Attorney report, and Ordinance relative to amending LAMC Sections 88.00, 88.07, 88.13, 88.57 and 88.63 as previously requested by Council on June 21, 2006. According to the DOT, on September 28, 2004, Council directed the DOT to modify its parking enforcement policy to add four designated hybrid vehicles (Toyota Prius, Honda Civic Hybrid, Honda Insight and Ford Escape Hybrid) to the existing Zero Emission Vehicle/Super Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ZEV/SULEV) Free Metered Parking Program for the period from October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005.

The current parking enforcement policy allows vehicles with Clean Air Vehicle decals issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to park for free at City parking meters as long as they obey all posted time limits and higher-order parking restrictions. The four hybrid vehicle models were added to the list of vehicles eligible to receive the free parking benefits of the program but were not required to display the Clean Air Vehicle decals. Subsequently, on March 23, 2005 Council extended the Program to May 31, 2005, and once again on May 3, 2005 to further extend the Program to June 30, 2006. Finally, on June 21, 2006, Council extended the Program until January 1, 2008.

The number of vehicles participating in the Program was sampled on June 1, 2006 and again on January 18, 2007. On these dates, Traffic Officers throughout the City were instructed to record every eligible hybrid vehicle they saw parked at a City meter. During a typical ten-hour day (8:00 am to 6:00 pm), Traffic Officers recorded the time of observation, vehicle license plate number and parking meter number. This allowed the DOT to identify how many observations were of the same vehicle at the same meter on successive passes of the Traffic Officer. The 2006 survey yielded 261 observations of eligible hybrid vehicles parked at City meters, representing only 218 different

hybrid vehicles. The 2007 survey recorded 580 observations of eligible hybrid vehicles at City meters, representing 496 different hybrid vehicles- a 128% increase during the seven months between the two surveys.

The DOT then stated that parking meter rates in the City range from \$0.25 to \$2.00 per hour. Based upon the number of meters charging a particular rate, the DOT has determined the weighted average parking meter rate in the City to be \$0.47 per hour. Assuming that each of the 496 hybrid vehicles observed on January 18, 2007 represented a vehicle parked for free for the typical time limit of two hours at the weighted average meter rate of \$0.47 per hour, the estimated annual revenue loss would be \$116,560 (e.g., 496 vehicles per day x 2 hours x \$0.47/hour x 250 operating days/year). Finally, the DOT noted that the State has extended the Clean Air Vehicle Decal Program until as late as January 1, 2011.

After further consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend requesting the City Attorney to prepare an Ordinance to amend the LAMC to provide for free parking of alternative fuel vehicles that are included in the Clean Air Vehicle Decal Program until as late as January 1, 2011. Additionally, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the recommendations as contained in the October 3, 2007 DOT report and detailed above in Recommendation Nos. 2-4. This matter is now being forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE



ADOPTED

MOTION ADOPTED TO APPROVE COMMITTEE REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS
DEC 12 2007

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
GREUEL:	YES
PARKS:	YES
LABONGE:	ABSENT
ALARCÓN:	ABSENT
ROSENDAHL:	YES

ARL
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12/4/07