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ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH & AGING

MOTION

The Quimby program was established by the California State Legislature to offset the impacts of residential development by providing access to open space and park lands to the individuals and families who reside in the area impacted by the development. The Los Angeles Municipal Code identifies the amount of land required to be dedicated or the fees required to be paid in-lieu of the land dedication. Quimby funds may only be expended on land acquisitions or recreational capital improvement projects.

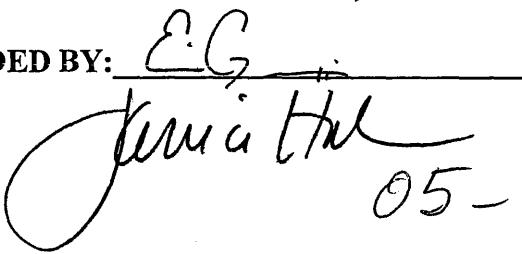
In recent years, there has been an abundance of residential development throughout the City of Los Angeles. Since 2002-03, the Department of Recreation and Parks has collected approximately \$120 million in Quimby fees. The current City Ordinance regarding the use of Quimby funds requires that those funds collected must be used at City Recreation and Parks facilities within 2 miles of the collection site. Often times, there is not an existing park or available land where Quimby funds could be used within 2 miles of the development. Furthermore, the amount of Quimby fees may not be sufficient to acquire land or construct a viable recreation project.

While State law mandates that there be a nexus between the collection point and the recreational purpose, the State gives local jurisdictions discretion in defining the radius at which the fees can be spent. The requirement that the fees be spent within a 2 mile radius of the development is mandated by the Public Recreation Plan contained in the City's General Plan. The City has not updated the current Public Recreation Plan since 1978. Prior to increasing the radius at which fees may be spent, a nexus study needs to be done to determine the feasibility of increasing the radius from the development where the fees may be spent.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the City Council, instruct the Planning Department, in consultation with the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Office of the City Attorney, to report on updating the Quimby provisions of the Los Angeles Municipal Code and the Public Recreation Plan contained in the City's General Plan relative to the service radius for Quimby fee expenditures, to determine the feasibility of increasing the radius from the development where the fees may be spent.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Planning Department, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and the Office of the City Attorney report to the City Council in 90 days report to the City Council in 90 days with recommendations for amending Section 17.12 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code and the City's Public Recreation Plan to allow greater flexibility in spending Quimby fees.

PRESENTED BY: 
GREIG SMITH
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY: 
05-1562

TC

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