

PERSONNEL & ANIMAL WELFARE

Motion

The City's Personnel Department offers commuting options for City employees, such as vanpools, Commuter Express buses and transit subsidies, which aim to reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, and provide reliable, lower-stress means to get to work. These programs benefit the City as an employer by supporting worker productivity, retention and wellness, and they benefit the environment through less pollution, fewer greenhouse gases, and reduced demand for fossil fuels.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) seeks to reduce emissions caused by employee commuting through Rule 2202 - On-Road Motor Vehicle Mitigation Options. The regulation requires certain employers, including the City of Los Angeles, to offer commuter assistance from among a menu of options to reduce vehicle emissions generated from employee commutes.

The City recognizes the need to comply with AQMD Rule 2202 and offers various incentives and options to assist employees with their daily commutes. To meet the City's commuter goals, the City must regularly update these options. For example:

The City's Employee Rideshare Program offers a monthly subsidy of up to \$50 for those employees who commute to work via public transit. In 2014, the price for Metro buses and trains increased, but the subsidy did not. The cost of a monthly pass increased from \$75 to \$100, while the subsidy remained at \$50. The result is a fare increase that is fully borne by the employee.

Metro recently established Metro Bike Share in Downtown Los Angeles, which offers bikes for short trips and to connect to transit. Riders can pay \$20 for a monthly pass, which allows for unlimited rides shorter than 30 minutes. Bike Share is convenient to the concentration of City workers in the Downtown area and could further encourage employees to choose alternative commuting options. Incentives should be considered for employees to make use of it, as is done through subsidizing monthly transit passes.

Through its B-Tap program, Metro offers steep discounts to businesses who provide their employees with transit and Bike Share passes. The City should explore whether it can benefit from such incentive programs.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Personnel Department, with assistance from CAO, CLA and Department of Transportation, report on the City's compliance with AQMD Rule 2202, and provide any recommendations to improve compliance, if necessary, including updates to reflect newly available commuting options, transit costs and incentive programs.

PRESENTED BY:


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