

OCT 28 2008

MOTION


The City of Los Angeles' bicycle licensing program, codified in the Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 26.01, is administered by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Office of Finance. The LAMC Section 26.01 requires that all bicycles operated on public streets be licensed by the City. The LAPD is required, per LAMC 26.01, to purchase bicycle licenses from the Office of Finance for resale to the public at its station counters.

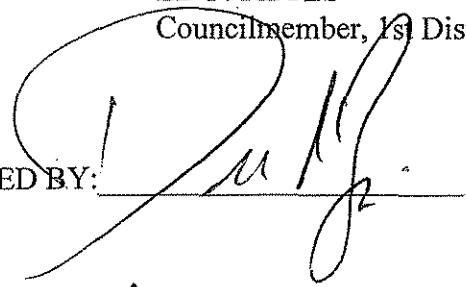
According to a March 29, 2007 report from the Department of Transportation, the City's bicycle license program is nearly defunct due to scarce resources. Bicycle licenses are sold intermittently by some local police stations and a few bicycle dealers who purchase them from the Office of Finance. Unfortunately, many LAPD divisions are unable to sell licenses at the station counters due to the high volume of other critical police duties.

Recently, there have been numerous public complaints about an increase in the issuance of citations by LAPD for riding unlicensed bikes. When a violator attempts to obtain a bicycle license, however, they are unable to do so. The City should either modify LAMC Section 26.01 or direct the LAPD to establish a clear process for the public to license their bicycles.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council direct the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), in coordination with the Department of Transportation, to report on the current status of the City's bicycle licensing program, LAPD's practice of issuing bicycle licensing violations and the process by which the public can obtain a bicycle license.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of Transportation report on issues associated with bicycle licensing programs, specifically relative to child safety, including information on successful programs in other jurisdictions.

PRESENTED BY: 
ED P. REYES
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY: 

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OLD COUNCIL FILE 04-1076

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