



Date: 1/10/17
Submitted in TRAN Committee
Council File No: 09-2357-54
Item No.: 3
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January 10, 2017

Councilmembers of the City Council Transportation Committee
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CF 15-1450-S1

Dear Councilmembers:

The Brentwood Homeowners Association supports the motion presented by Councilmember Bonin that requests that the Council direct the Department of Transportation, working with the City Attorney, to report on the current policy related to limiting the issuance of parking citations to one violation per vehicle per day, and also to report on the feasibility of implementing a graduated citation fine schedule to those who willfully violate the law, putting the public at risk.

The Brentwood Homeowners Association ("BHA") has been in existence for over 70 years and represents about 3,200 single family residences in the 90049 zip code. After numerous vehicle and pedestrian safety issues at certain locations, the BHA has supported no parking signage for oversize vehicles at these locations. However, the signs are routinely ignored and the citations are merely absorbed as another cost of doing business.

The BHA represents homeowners who have been harmed by two food truck vendors who for many months knowingly and intentionally disregard parking restriction signs that prohibit oversize vehicle parking between 7 am and 3pm. They accept their daily ticket and continue to park there, every day. There have been two traffic accidents, a physical altercation between a driver and a food truck operator and numerous near misses, of both cars and pedestrians. Our homeowners on that block have been unable to leave their driveways without risk to themselves or other motorists because these trucks and their customers block the view of oncoming cars.

The problem that we are asking you to address is not food truck parking - - the problem is illegal parking by repeat offenders. Fines are necessary to enforce parking regulations, and enforcement is important because violations have victims. Repeat offenders are making a rational cost-benefit decision. Obviously, the current system of fines is not working. Graduated parking fines and multiple daily citations for scofflaws are ways to deter chronic violators without unfairly punishing anyone else.

Sincerely,

Raymond Klein

Raymond Klein, President