



August 10, 2011

WENDY GREUEL
CONTROLLER

Jaime De La Vega, General Manager
Department of Transportation
100 S. Main St., 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Date: 8-10-11
Submitted in Trans Committee
Council File No: 11-1333
Item No.: 6
Deputy: [Signature]

Dear Mr. De La Vega:

SUBJECT: RFP FOR LA EXPRESS PARK

Over the last several months the LA Department of Transportation (DOT) has undertaken a procurement to more effectively manage the City's street parking operations and provide more convenience and better air quality to the users of our City's parking meters. While I endorse the Department's efforts to make the City's parking operation a success, a review of the recent RFP has raised concerns which relate directly to our mutual efforts to ensure that DOT imposes clear standards in their procurements and contracts and most importantly, clearly demonstrate that the taxpayers' interests are protected.

In previous audits, we found that DOT officials sometimes failed to fully test devices prior to purchase, paid significant start up costs and annual maintenance fees and spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on technology without appropriate controls in place. The current procurement process should avoid these types of unacceptable practices. I would also urge you to scrutinize the track record for some of the vendors currently under review and ensure that they have a proven track record of providing services to a City as vast and complex as Los Angeles.

With the right technology in place we should be able to capture more revenue for the City. Given the dollars involved, the importance of reliability in any system we select and the fact that the City is going to be a leader in the use of this relatively new technology, we need to make sure that we get it right. I look forward to working with you and your Committee as you proceed with your review of this RFP.

Sincerely,

WENDY GREUEL
City Controller

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa
Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee

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