


CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: July 27, 2012

TO: The Honorable City Council
c/o City Clerk, Room 395, City Hall
Attention: Honorable Bill Rosendahl, Chair, Transportation Committee

FROM: Jaime de la Vega, General Manager
Department of Transportation 

SUBJECT: **RENEWAL OF TEMPORARY PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICTS
NO. 72 AND 112 SOUTH OF LOWER RUNYON CANYON PARK IN
COUNCIL DISTRICT 4**

SUMMARY

This report recommends the renewal of Temporary Preferential Parking District (TPPD) Nos. 72 and 112 south of Runyon Canyon Park (CF 11-1987-S1 and CF 11-1339).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. FIND that the parking problem that led to the establishment of TPPD Nos. 72 and 112 south of Lower Runyon Canyon Park in Council District No. 4 still exists and that no permanent solution has been found.
2. ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTIONS renewing TPPD Nos. 72 and 112 for 12 more months, until September 29, 2013 and August 17, 2013, respectively, pursuant to Section 80.58.d of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC).

DISCUSSION

On June 23, 1998, the City Council adopted a Resolution (CF 98-0873) establishing TPPD No. 72, which is due to expire on September 29, 2012. On August 17, 2005, the City Council adopted a Resolution (CF 05-1624) establishing TPPD No. 112, which is due to expire August 17, 2012 (See attached maps).

Both TPPDs have been renewed annually. The authorized parking restrictions were amended as part of the 2011 renewal of the districts, to restrict non-residential parking on Saturdays and Sundays in response to the increasing popularity of Runyon Canyon Park.

BACKGROUND

The renewal of TPPD Nos. 72 and 112, pursuant to LAMC Section 80.58.d, is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption, under Article III.1.a.3 of the 2002 Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

The City Council has the authority, pursuant to LAMC Section 80.58.d, to renew TPPDs by resolution "to provide relief for residents who suffer an excessive parking impact ... as the result of any conditions which impact fewer than six blocks and which, in the judgment of the Council member of the District and after consultation with the Parking Administrator, deserve immediate relief until a permanent solution can be found."

COORDINATION

LADOT has received several letters in opposition to the renewal of TPPD No. 112 from the clergy and others on behalf of St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church, because of signs restricting parking by non-residents during weekends (copies attached). Council District 4 has been engaged in discussions with the neighborhood leaders, as well as representatives of St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church, to identify alternatives to satisfy concerns expressed by the church representatives. These efforts continue at the present time and include measures to increase the supply of available parking spaces in the area. Councilmember LaBonge requested the renewal of TPPD No. 72 and 112, in a letter dated July 24, 2012, to continue providing relief to the residents of the districts.

PARKING OCCUPANCY STUDIES

Several parking occupancy studies were conducted by LADOT on various days, throughout July 2012, pursuant to council approved "Rules and Procedures for Preferential Parking Districts," Section E. 19, to determine the number of visitor and daily permits that could be made available to the Church. As a result, a total of 11 visitor permits are being offered for use on any day by the parishioners on certain streets within TPPD No. 112. In addition, the Church may obtain 15 daily permits for use on weekends on any street within TPPD No. 112 streets.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Revenue from the sale of permits will cover the costs associated with maintenance, administration, and enforcement of TPPD Nos. 72 and 112. Furthermore, the City will gain additional General Fund revenue from the issuance of parking citations to violators of the Districts' parking restrictions.

JTV:YH

Attachments:

- Resolutions
- Maps of TPPD Nos. 72 and 112
- Letter from Councilmember LaBonge
- Letters from St. Thomas the Apostle Church

RESOLUTION

RENEWAL OF TEMPORARY PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICT NO. 72 SOUTH OF RUNYON CANYON PARK

WHEREAS, on June 23, 1998, the Council adopted a Resolution (CF 98-0873) establishing Temporary Preferential Parking District (TPPD) No. 72, which was subsequently renewed annually, and is currently due to expire on September 29, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember LaBonge believes that the conditions that originally justified the establishment of this TPPD, which include regular intrusion of vehicles associated with the patrons of Runyon Canyon Park still exist, and no other viable measure to resolve the resulting parking shortage in the neighborhood is available at this time; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember LaBonge has requested the renewal of TPPD No. 72 for 12 more months to provide continued relief to the residents of the District from the adverse parking impact they were experiencing prior to the establishment of the District; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 80.58.d authorizes TPPDs to be renewed on an annual basis by resolution until either a permanent solution is found or the problem ceases to exist.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 80.58.d hereby renews Temporary PPD No. 72 for 12 more months until September 29, 2013; and

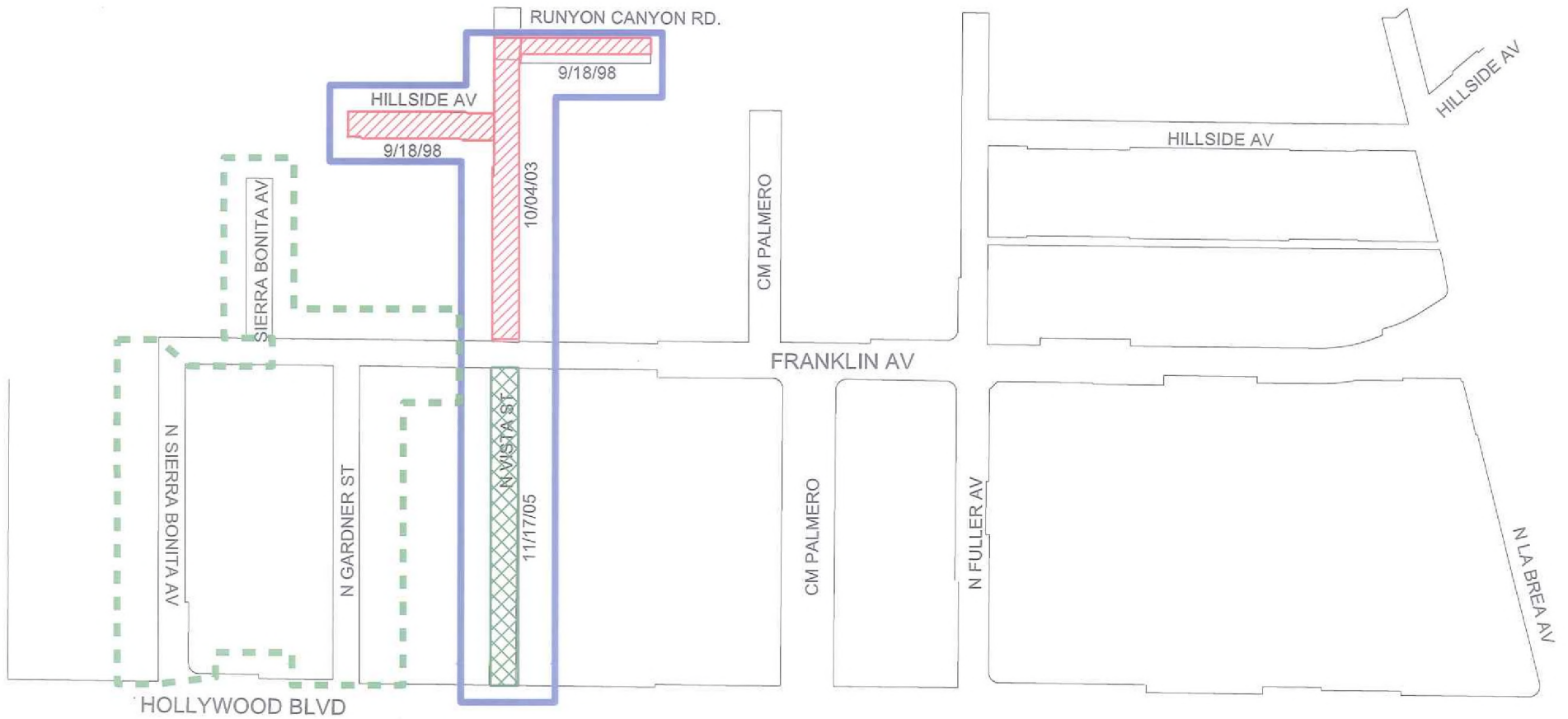
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other terms and conditions of TPPD No. 72 remain unchanged.

PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICT NO. 72



COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 4

Hollywood Enforcement

(TEMPORARY)



LEGEND:

- PPD Boundary
- - - PPD No. 112 Boundary
-  No Parking Anytime; Vehicles with District no.72 permits exempted.
-  No Parking 7pm - 8am; 2 Hrs Parking 8am - 7pm Vehicles with District no.72 permits exempted.



RESOLUTION

RENEWAL OF TEMPORARY PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICT NO. 112 SOUTH OF RUNYON CANYON PARK

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2005, the Council adopted a Resolution (CF 05-1624) establishing Temporary Preferential Parking District (TPPD) No. 112, which was subsequently renewed annually, and the authorized parking restrictions amended pursuant to Council Motion in 2011 to include an additional parking restriction, and is currently due to expire on August 17, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember LaBonge believes that the conditions that originally justified this TPPD, which include regular intrusion of vehicles associated with visitors to Runyon Canyon, still exist and no other viable measure to resolve the resulting parking intrusion into the neighborhood is available; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember LaBonge has requested the renewal of TPPD No. 112 to provide continued relief to the residents of the District from the adverse parking impact they were experiencing prior to the establishment of the District; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 80.58.d authorizes TPPDs to be renewed on an annual basis by resolution until either a permanent solution is found or the problem ceases to exist.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 80.58.d, hereby renews TPPD No. 112 for an additional 12 months until August 17, 2013; and

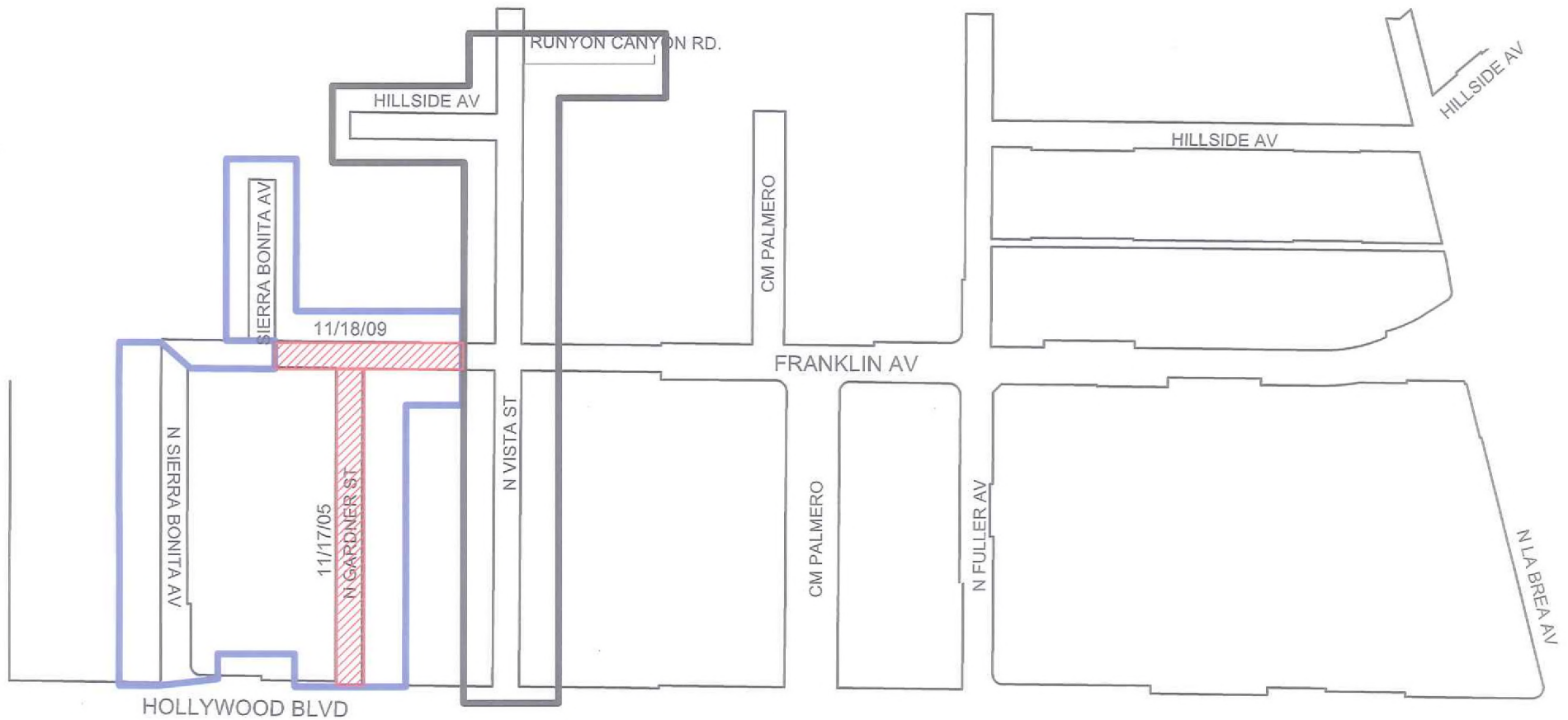
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other terms and conditions of TPPD No. 112 remain unchanged.

PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICT NO. 112





COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 4

Hollywood Enforcement

(TEMPORARY)



LEGEND:

-  PPD Boundary
-  PPD No. 72 Boundary
-  No Parking 7pm - 8am; 2 Hrs Parking 8am - 7pm
Vehicles with District no.112 permits exempted.
-  No Parking Any Time Except; 2 Hrs Parking 8am - 7pm Mon. - Fri.;
Vehicles with District no.112 permits exempted.





CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TOM LABONGE
COUNCILMEMBER 4TH DISTRICT

ROOM 480, CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
(213) 485-3337
FAX (213) 624-7810

July 24, 2012

Mr. Jaime de la Vega
General Manager
City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation
100 S. Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. de la Vega:

RE: REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF TEMPORARY PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICTS (#72)
(CF 11-1987-S1) AND 112 (CF 11-1339)

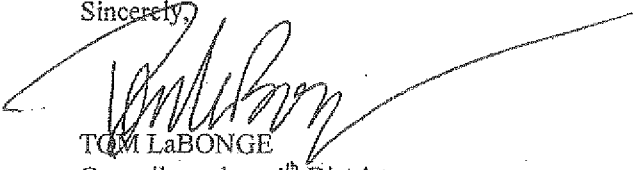
Temporary Preferential Parking District Nos. 72 and 112 south of Runyon Canyon were established by the City Council to address the situation where the residents of these streets experience daily intrusion of vehicles attempting to park in the neighborhood while using Runyon Canyon Park which has resulted in an excessive and well documented parking impact on the residents of both of these Temporary Preferential Parking Districts.

The park's popularity continues to grow and parking has and remains a problem. Until some off-street parking facility can be developed, there does not seem to be any other permanent solution to this problem other than the continuation of these two Temporary Preferential Parking Districts.

I request that the Department of Transportation proceed with the renewal of these Temporary Preferential Parking Districts for an additional year.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


TOM LaBONGE
Councilmember, 4th District

c: Yadi Hashemi, DOT Parking Permits Division, Stop 735-04

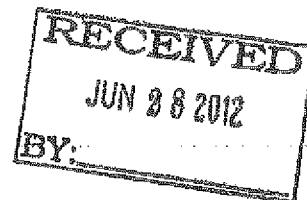


ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE

An Episcopal Parish in
the Anglo-Catholic Tradition

26 June 2012

Jaime de la Vega
Department of Transportation
100 South Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012



Dear Mr. de la Vega,

As you may know, the Transportation Committee will soon be hearing a request to renew Temporary Preferential Parking District ("TPPD") No. 112. St. Thomas the Apostle Hollywood earnestly requests that you not renew TPPD No. 112.

By prohibiting all weekend street parking around St. Thomas, TPPD No. 112 is causing serious injury to our parish. Attendance at services has plummeted. If TPPD No. 112 is renewed, St. Thomas' very existence is threatened.

For almost 100 years now, St. Thomas has been an important and active part of the Hollywood neighborhood, the greater Los Angeles community, the Episcopal Church in the United States, and the Anglican Communion. It faced the Great Depression of the 1930's, the decline in church attendance in the 1960's and 1970's, and the scourge of AIDS in the 1980's and 1990's. St. Thomas confronted all of these calamities and survived as a stronger, more diverse, and more compassionate place to worship.

Now, St. Thomas faces a new challenge -- the parking restrictions of TPPD No. 112. These restrictions endanger St. Thomas' survival. It would be a great tragedy if, after weathering all the challenges of the last 100 years, St. Thomas had to close its doors due to a parking ordinance.

St. Thomas Has Been In Hollywood Since 1914

Ironically, St. Thomas existed long before all the streets of Hollywood were paved, long before its thoroughfares were filled with automobiles, and even before most of the residences in the area were constructed. In 1912, Mrs. Mary Ogden approached the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles about forming a mission church in Hollywood. The Bishop at the time reportedly "doubted" that an Episcopal church would ever be needed in Hollywood, where orange trees far outnumbered prospective parishioners. Undaunted, Mrs. Ogden and others chose the "doubting" apostle, Thomas, as their patron. St. Thomas was established in 1914, and its first location was on the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Sierra Bonita Avenue.

As people replaced orange trees in Hollywood, St. Thomas thrived. In 1921, St. Thomas moved two blocks to its present location at Hollywood Boulevard and Gardner Street. Construction on the Gothic Revival building that now stands at this corner began in August

of 1930. Although construction ceased when the church lost its building fund in the Great Depression, with a few additions, the St. Thomas church today looks much as it did in 1931.

St. Thomas Has Survived the Decline of Religious Life and the AIDS Crisis

Like many other churches, St. Thomas suffered from a slow and steady decline in attendance from the late 1960's to the mid-1980's. This problem was exacerbated by the changing demographics in Hollywood – in particular, the decreasing number of families living in the area. By 1985, St. Thomas was in danger of closing its doors.

In 1986, the Reverend Carroll C. Barbour became the seventh Rector of St. Thomas. Fr. Barbour appeared on the scene at the height of the AIDS crisis in Hollywood, when even local churches were not immune from the fear that surrounded this new disease. Yet, as one of his first acts as Rector, Fr. Barbour threw open the doors of St. Thomas to everyone – including the gay community and the many citizens of Hollywood and West Hollywood who suffered from AIDS. St. Thomas lost a significant percentage of its membership during this tumultuous time.

Faced with an uncertain future, Fr. Barbour fought for the survival of St. Thomas by attracting new members who, inspired by its open and inclusive brand of Christianity, traveled from other parts of Los Angeles to become part of the St. Thomas family. Eventually, St. Thomas rebounded, grew, and even flourished. Still, the markers inside St. Thomas identifying those buried within its walls – many in their 30's, 40's, and 50's at the time of their deaths – remain as a stark reminder of a very sad part of Hollywood history.¹

St. Thomas Today

Today, St. Thomas is an extremely active parish. The Reverend Ian Elliott Davies has continued the legacy of Fr. Barbour by ministering to those who most need our compassion, support, and assistance. Whether it is the bi-monthly homeless feeding program, the many 12-step groups that meet in the St. Thomas Parish Hall, or our various other community outreach programs, St. Thomas strives to be a positive force, not only for its parishioners, but for the community at large. By way of example, St. Thomas recently invited international human rights activist, Bishop Christopher Senyonjo of Uganda, to preach at St. Thomas during his tour of the United States. Given St. Thomas' unique history, and its steadfast commitment to the dignity of all God's children, Bishop Senyonjo accepted this invitation and, on June 17, 2012, preached at Mass at St. Thomas. Like all liturgies at St. Thomas, this important event for Los Angeles was open to everyone.

What also makes St. Thomas truly different is its marriage of social justice with singularly traditional liturgies. St. Thomas' "Anglo-Catholic" approach to deep sacramental worship, while remaining a socially progressive community, is unique and exceptional. Indeed, St. Thomas is one of the very few Anglo-Catholic parishes on the West Coast. This distinctive melding is

¹ See Margaret Ramirez, *L.A. Priest Who Led Way in AIDS Ministry Retires*, L.A. Times (July 17, 2000); Elaine Woo, *C. Barbour, 72, AIDS Ministry Opened Doors*, L.A. Times (July 4, 2003).

particularly demonstrated in our collaboration with the LASchola, which sings the Latin Vigil Mass at St. Thomas on the third Saturday of every month. This "free" concert of a world-class ensemble is a treasure that is beloved by many within Los Angeles' music community.

The New Parking Restrictions Threaten St. Thomas' Existence

Today, however, the rich, important legacy of St. Thomas is at grave risk. TPPD No. 112 prohibits all weekend parking around St. Thomas. St. Thomas' parking lot accommodates only 26 vehicles. Even though almost half of St. Thomas' parishioners reside in the 4th Council District, most parishioners must drive and park in order to attend Sunday Mass. Without the participation of the parishioners who commute, St. Thomas' future is in serious doubt. In fact, attendance at Sunday Mass has already dropped more than 30% since the new weekend parking restrictions went into effect in January 2012.

While parking in Hollywood is always difficult, the new weekend parking restrictions make it nearly impossible for many to worship at St. Thomas on Sunday mornings. Consider the following St. Thomas parishioners:

- Bob Miller, 81, is a retired Deputy Director of HUD in Los Angeles and has attended St. Thomas for more than 25 years. Although Bob is active and in good health, he lives in Burbank and, therefore, must drive to St. Thomas each Sunday. Bob takes a somewhat circuitous route to St. Thomas because he also picks up another long-time parishioner, Helen Slayton-Hughes, also 81. Helen, who resides in Senior Section 8 Housing in Downtown Los Angeles, has been an actress for 60 years and, occasionally, still appears on television and in the movies. Because walking 6, 7, or even 10 blocks is not an option for Bob and Helen, they now must arrive at St. Thomas on Sunday morning approximately 1 ½ hours before Mass begins in order to take one of the few spaces available in the St. Thomas parking lot. Thus, in the few months it has been in effect, TPPD No. 112 has seriously undermined Bob and Helen's ability to worship at St. Thomas which has been their spiritual home for decades. If TPPD No. 112 is renewed, then the difficulties associated with attending St. Thomas may simply become too much for Bob and Helen – and many others like them.
- Carolyn Olman, 79, is a retired secretary/office manager who now lives and commutes regularly to St. Thomas from her home in Rancho Mirage, CA. She has been a member of St. Thomas for more than 50 years. Carolyn is extremely active as a member of the Vestry, Altar Guild, Acolytes/Lay Eucharistic Minister, office volunteer, and usher. In order to find parking, she finds it necessary to be at Church most Sundays before 8:00 a.m. so that she can attend the 10:30 Mass. This is a serious problem for Carolyn, as it is for so many others who now find it difficult to attend Mass at their chosen church.
- David Seck, 48, is a single father of a six year old who has attended St. Thomas for 5 ½ years. One of the reasons he chose St. Thomas was the many community outreach programs it offers to those who reside in Hollywood and West Hollywood. Now, David and his son must walk anywhere from 6 to 10 blocks to get to Sunday School and to the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Because of TPPD No. 112, David's ability to attend Mass, and bring his son to Sunday school, has become a struggle.

The parishioners and Vestry of St. Thomas are keenly aware of the residents' desire to limit parking in the area due to inconveniences created by users of Runyon Canyon Park. In fact, St. Thomas – as one of the oldest residents in the area – has faced its own challenges because of Runyon Canyon and is sympathetic to the residents' concerns. St. Thomas is therefore willing to work with the City, the DOT, and the area residents to resolve these concerns. However, for St. Thomas, the new parking restrictions do not merely represent an effort to ease inconvenience faced by its neighbors. Rather, TPPD No. 112 directly hinders the ability of its parishioners – like Bob, Helen, Carolyn, and David – to worship at their chosen church. Indeed, as reflected in the more than 30% decline in attendance since January, if allowed to stand, TPPD No. 112 threatens the very survival of St. Thomas.

In closing, please remember that St. Thomas is not an insular institution which focuses only on its own parishioners. Throughout its almost 100 year history, St. Thomas has been an active supporter and advocate of Hollywood and the entire City of Los Angeles – for the homeless, for the gay community, for those suffering from and living with AIDS, and for music lovers across the Southland. Just as St. Thomas has stood with and supported the community for many years, it asks that you now stand with and support St. Thomas in its present fight for survival. St. Thomas the Apostle Hollywood earnestly requests that you not renew TPPD No. 112.

Sincerely,



Fr. Ian Elliott Davies
Rector

cc: Canon David Tumbly, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles
Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, City of Los Angeles

#12-0620

Julie J. Heimark
Attorney at Law
3062 Hollyridge Drive
Los Angeles, California 90068
(562) 260-9089

June 28, 2012

Jaime de la Vega, General Manager
Department of Transportation
100 South Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Mr. de la Vega,

St. Thomas the Apostle Hollywood requests that Temporary Preferential Parking District ("TPPD") No. 112 not be renewed.

TPPD No. 112 is Causing Great Actual Harm to St. Thomas

St. Thomas has suffered great actual harm by the weekend parking prohibitions of TPPD No. 112. TPPD No. 112 prohibits all weekend parking in the vicinity of St. Thomas, including in front of St. Thomas' own rectory and parking lot. St. Thomas' parking lot accommodates only 26 vehicles, and parishioners are dependent upon public streets for parking.

As a direct result of the parking restrictions, attendance at St. Thomas has plummeted. Most parishioners, like most Angelenos, are dependent upon their vehicles to carry on life's daily activities, like worship. With the weekend parking restrictions, most parishioners are simply unable to attend Sunday Mass. The renewal of the weekend parking restrictions will decimate St. Thomas' membership.

For over 90 years, St. Thomas has been located at the corner of Hollywood Boulevard and Gardner Street. For over 90 years, it has been an active and vital part of the neighborhood, the greater Los Angeles community and the Episcopal communion. St. Thomas has weathered the Great Depression, the social-demographic turmoil of the 1960's and 1970's, and the AIDS crisis. Now, however, St. Thomas' very existence is threatened by a parking ordinance. St. Thomas simply cannot maintain itself with a membership limited to the number of spaces in its parking lot.

The Overnight Parking Prohibition is Overbroad.

TPPD No. 112 prohibits all parking between 7 p.m. and 8 a.m. This overnight prohibition directly impacts St. Thomas. St. Thomas has regularly scheduled, daily weekday services that start before 8 a.m. and finish after 7 p.m. Morning Prayer

begins at 7:30 a.m.; Evening Prayer starts at 6:30 p.m., and Low Mass is heard at 7:00 p.m. Thus, parishioners are, on a daily basis, prohibited from parking on the public streets in front of their Church so that they may attend their worship services. Moreover, the overnight prohibition obstructs other significant liturgical events such as Maundy Thursday, the Great Easter Vigil and even Christmas Eve services.

This prohibition is completely arbitrary and wholly unsupported by the purported reason for the TPPD. The stated reason for the TPPD is excessive street parking by Runyon Canyon Park users. The park, however, closes at dusk. There has been absolutely no justification put forward to justify the overnight prohibition.

TPPD No. 112 Is Not "Temporary"

Using the "temporary" provisions of 80.58(d) is wholly improper. TPPD No. 112 was not established as the result of a natural disaster or unusual media attention. Instead, it was established under the "any conditions" of 80.58(d)(1) because, in the judgment of the City Council member of the District, the condition deserved immediate relief. That was seven years ago. After seven years, there is nothing "temporary" about these restrictions. Rather, they have been expanded throughout this time period.

It is unlikely that a permanent solution will be found in the near future. Runyon Canyon Park will not become less attractive to Angelenos. The residents have used the temporary provisions of 80.58(d) to achieve exclusive, private weekend use of the public streets without any other community involvement or any DOT study. This is wholly improper. The more appropriate process is to recognize that the "condition" of heavy street parking due to Runyon Canyon Park should be evaluated and addressed under the designation process and criteria of 80.58(c).

TPPD No. 112 Is Unwarranted

St. Thomas sympathizes with the residents' frustration over Runyon Canyon Park vehicular traffic. Like the area residents, St. Thomas too is affected by this traffic. Indeed, St. Thomas is more affected because peak hours of recreation (weekends) are also peak hours of worship.

Limited street parking, however, is a fact of urban life. As the Department of Transportation itself has noted, the preferential parking program is not intended to solve parking problems created by high-density residential development. Moreover, a visual inspection of the area demonstrates that most of the residences have long driveways and detached garages sufficient to accommodate multiple vehicles. By contrast, St. Thomas is prevented from parking in front of its very own property, which comprises almost half of a block.

TPPD No. 112 Violates RLUIPA

TPPD No. 112 is a clear violation of the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 ("RLUIPA"), 42 U.S.C. § 2000cc et seq., because it discriminates against a religious assembly and does not place St. Thomas on equal terms. See LAMC §§ 80.58 (a), (e), (g), (m) (disparate treatment for residents and churches). A historical analysis of other zoning and parking ordinances, a survey of preferential parking zoning ordinances in other California cities, RLUIPA's broad construction, and the actual application of LAMC § 80.58 in this case all demonstrate that LAMC § 80.58 is a land use regulation. See e.g., *County Board of Arlington County, Virginia v. Richards*, 434 U.S. 5 (1977) (zoning ordinance establishing preferential parking districts); see also *Spentinhauer v. Town of Barnstable*, 80 Mass. App. Ct. 134 (2011) (ordinance limiting overnight off-street parking is a land use regulation).


TPPD No. 112 Violates State and Federal Equal Protection Clauses

TPPD No. 112 is also clear violation of state and federal equal protection guarantees under U.S. Const. Amend. XIV and Cal. Const. art I, § 7. The distinction between religious and non-religious landowners is a suspect classification and subject to strict scrutiny. Thus, the ordinance must be narrowly tailored to promote a compelling governmental interest. There is no compelling governmental interest in distinguishing between religious and non-religious landowners. Indeed, there is no governmental interest whatsoever in prohibiting religious landowners from parking on public streets on the weekends. By specifically expanding TPPD No. 112 to prohibit weekend parking, it appears that the City was deliberately targeting St. Thomas parishioners. Cf. *Friedman v. City of Beverly Hills*, 47 Cal. App. 4th 436 (1996) (rational basis for distinguishing between resident and merchant); *People v. Housman*, 163 Cal. App. 3d Supp. 43 (1984) (rational basis for distinguishing between resident and nonresident).

Conclusion

Over subscription to Runyon Canyon Park is a problem. The solution, however, is not TPPD No. 112. TPPD No. 112 is causing great actual harm to St. Thomas, is overbroad, is unwarranted, operates as a general preferential parking district but without any of the due process safeguards afforded by LAMC § 80.58(c), and violates federal statute as well as the federal and state constitutions. Accordingly, St. Thomas requests that TPPD No. 112 not be renewed.

Sincerely,


Julie J. Heimark

cc: Councilmember Bill Rosendahl
Councilmember Paul Koretz
Councilmember Bernard Parks
Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember Tom LaBonge
Councilmember Ed Reyes
Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Councilmember Dennis P. Zine
Councilmember Tony Cardenas
Councilmember Richard Alarcon
Councilmember Jan Perry
Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr.
Councilmember Mitchell Englander
Councilmember Eric Garcetti
Councilmember Joe Busciano
Canon David Tumilty, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles



#13-0007

The Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

July 3, 2012

Mr. Jaime de la Vega, General Manager
Department of Transportation
City of Los Angeles
100 South Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Sunday street parking solution for St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, Hollywood

Dear Mr. de la Vega,

We need a solution to the problem now preventing Sunday church-goers from parking near St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church at the corner of Hollywood Boulevard and Gardner Street. As the local priest notes in the attached letter, Sunday attendance there is down as much as 30 percent due to the current parking ordinance.

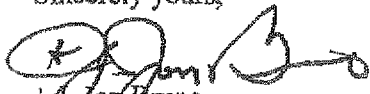
It seems to me that seniors and other parishioners could be given permits in the form of dashboard placards, windshield stickers, or mirror tags that would allow them to park on Gardner Street, at the very least, for Sunday-morning services.

I am also in communication with Councilmember Tom LaBonge and his staff regarding this matter, requesting that the City Council and/or the Transportation Commission either amend or decline to renew Temporary Preferential Parking District (TPPD) No. 112.

I understand the concerns of the neighbors with regard to weekend parking around Runyon Canyon; however, the parking needs of the local houses of worship must also be taken into account.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,


+ J. Jon Bruno
Bishop of Los Angeles

CC: Hon. Tom LaBonge, Councilmember, District 4
Rev. Ian Davies, Rector, St. Thomas the Apostle Church

The Right Reverend J. Jon Bruno, Sixth Bishop of Los Angeles

#13-0016

Julie J. Heimark
Attorney at Law
3062 Hollyridge Drive
Los Angeles, California 90068
(562) 260-9089

July 5, 2012

Dave Ahern
Chief of Field Operations, Office of Councilmember Tom LaBonge
10116 Riverside Drive, Suite 200
Toluca Lake, CA 91602

RE: TPPD No. 112

Dear Dave,

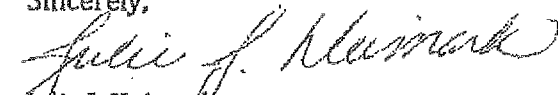
Thank you for your June 29 email offering St. Thomas the opportunity to purchase 30 Guest permits every Sunday.¹

Unfortunately, this offer does not cure the damage caused by TPPD No. 112.

First, offering Guest permits, rather than Annual permits, is still unlawfully discriminatory. Residents pay \$34.00 for an Annual permit. St. Thomas, however, would pay \$2.50 every Sunday for 30 Guest permits, for an annual cost of \$3,900. This disparate treatment between religious and non-religious landowners is unlawful, and there is no governmental interest, much less a compelling one, to justify this treatment.

Second, offering Guest permits on Sundays in no way addresses the harm caused to St. Thomas' weekday and Saturday worship. St. Thomas is an extremely active parish liturgically. As stated in my June 28 letter to Mr. de la Vega, St. Thomas has regularly scheduled, daily weekday services that start before 8 a.m. and finish after 7 p.m. The prohibition on overnight parking is completely arbitrary and wholly unsupported by the purported reason for the TPPD. Moreover, as I explained in great detail in my January 23 letter to Mr. LaBonge's office, the Saturday 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass is directly and gravely affected by the weekend parking prohibition.

Sincerely,


Julie J. Heimark

¹ Although your email identified these permits as "Visitor", this is incorrect. Visitor permits cost \$22.50 and are valid for a four month period. Guest permits cost \$2.50 and are valid for one day only. Given the substance of your email, I assume that you meant Guest permits, not Visitor permits.

Julie J. Heimark
Attorney at Law
3062 Hollyridge Drive
Los Angeles, California 90068
(562) 260-9089

July 23, 2012

Tom LaBonge
Councilmember, 4th District
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: Temporary Preferential Parking District No. 112

Dear Mr. LaBonge,

St. Thomas the Apostle Hollywood will not oppose the renewal of Temporary Preferential Parking District ("TPPD") No. 112 on the following terms:

2 HOUR PARKING 8 AM - 7 PM; NO PARKING 10 PM - 6 AM; VEHICLES WITH DISTRICT NO. 112 PERMIT EXEMPTED

These terms accommodate our religious services but still provide area landowners (including Saint Thomas) with relief from the intrusion of Runyon Canyon Park vehicular traffic.

The hours of the overnight prohibition are crucial. St. Thomas has daily Low Mass every weekday at 7 p.m. Moreover, Morning Prayer commences before 8 a.m. Accordingly, it is crucial that parishioners have access to parking on the public streets before 8 a.m. and after 7 p.m. The overnight prohibition hours of 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. still provide area residents with exclusive private use of the public streets overnight but also allow St. Thomas parishioners access to the daily morning and evening services. These overnight prohibition hours are also consistent with the existing signage in TPPD No. 112 on the west side of Sierra Bonita.

Even under these proposed terms, however, St. Thomas will be adversely impacted. For example, we will have to seek temporary relaxed enforcement to accommodate our midnight Christmas Eve Mass and our Great Easter Vigil.

Indeed, the establishment of a two-hour limit on Sunday is a huge compromise on St. Thomas' part. It is physically impossible to confine our Sunday worship to two hours. Rosary commences at 9:45 a.m.; High Mass begins at 10:30 a.m. and finishes at approximately noon. In the spirit of cooperation and accommodating the area residents, however, we are willing to experiment with the two-hour limit. I hope

that this cooperative spirit is reciprocal. Parishioners have previously been ticketed for exceeding the two-hour limit. I understand from the Department of Transportation that such tickets are issued only upon complaint from area residents. I hope the parking restrictions will be used by area residents as a shield against the park users and not as a sword against St. Thomas.

In the event that TPPD No. 112 is renewed on different terms, St. Thomas will be forced to consider all other legal remedies, including judicial intervention.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Julie J. Heimark

cc: Jaime de la Vega
Canon David Tumilty, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

#13-0043

Julie J. Heimark
Attorney at Law
3062 Hollyridge Drive
Los Angeles, California 90068
(562) 260-9089

July 23, 2012

Jaime de la Vega, General Manager
Department of Transportation
100 South Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: Temporary Preferential Parking District No. 112

Dear Mr. de la Vega,

Please find enclosed a petition signed by attendees of St. Thomas the Apostle Hollywood requesting that Temporary Preferential Parking District ("TPPD") No. 112 not be renewed. As this petition demonstrates, by providing exclusive, private weekend use of the public streets, TPPD No. 112 is interfering with the religious exercise of over 120 individuals, close to half of whom also reside in Council District No. 4.

Sincerely,


Julie J. Heimark

Enclos.

cc: Councilmember Tom LaBonge (Transportation Committee) (w/ enclos.)
Councilmember Bill Rosendahl (Transportation Committee)(w/o enclos.)
Councilmember Paul Koretz (Transportation Committee)(w/o enclos.)
Councilmember Bernard Parks (Transportation Committee)(w/o enclos.)
Councilmember Jose Huizar (Transportation Committee)(w/o enclos.)
Canon David Tumilty, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles(w/o enclos.)