

Your

TRANSPORTATION

Committee

**reports as follows:**

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to creating one Pedestrian Coordinator position and one Project Assistant position in the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Garcetti - Parks), SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. RESOLVE that position authority is APPROVED for one Project Coordinator, Class Code 1537, and one Project Assistant, Class Code 1542, for the Department of Transportation, effective May 21, 2012 through June 30, 2012; and, INSTRUCT the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to include these positions in the Personnel Authority Resolution for Fiscal Year 2012-13 if not included in the Mayor's Proposed Budget.
2. INSTRUCT DOT to submit a request for civil service exemptions for the Project Coordinator and Project Assistant positions as soon as possible.
3. INCREASE appropriations within the Proposition C Anti-gridlock Fund, Fund No. 540, as follows:

<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
94H656	Transportation Fund Work Program	\$17,300
94H299	Reimbursement of General Fund Costs	<u>\$22,100</u>
	Total:	\$39,400

4. INCREASE appropriations by \$17,300 within DOT, Department 94; Fund 100; Account 1010; Salaries, General.
5. AUTHORIZE the CAO to make any necessary technical corrections as required to fulfill the intent of the action.

Fiscal Impact Statement: DOT reports that this action will not impact the General Fund. Measure R Local Return funds allocated in Fiscal Year 2010-2011 for the preparation of the Safe Routes to School Assessment Study in the amount of \$1,261,000 is available to fund the pedestrian coordinator and assistant coordinator, and to reimburse the General Fund for other city staff time spent on this project. No additional funds need to be appropriated at this time.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

**(The Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee waived consideration of the above matter.)**

## SUMMARY

On November 1, 2011, Council considered Motion (Garcetti – Parks) relative to creating a Pedestrian Coordinator in DOT. Motion states that the City has been working on ways to enable and encourage children to walk and bicycle to school, infrastructure improvements, and programs to help make bicycling and walking to school safer and more appealing. On April 28, 2010, Council approved a plan for the expenditure of the City's Measure R local return funds that included an annual allocation of five percent for pedestrian programs. DOT has proposed creating a "Safe Routes to School Strategic Plan."

In order to be successful, Motion movers believe that the Plan must be data driven and have specific goals and outcomes identified for infrastructure and non-infrastructure measures. Additionally, increased communication and the development of strong partnerships between City agencies, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and other community stakeholders are needed to successfully implement new projects and programs. Motion recommends that Council authorize the establishment of a Pedestrian Coordinator Position for DOT to oversee and lead the development of a Safe Routes to School Strategic Plan and serve as the point person for all pedestrian infrastructure and program development efforts in the city. Council referred Motion to the Transportation and Personnel Committees for consideration.

In a report to Council dated December 12, 2011 (attached to the Council file), DOT requests authority to retain on contract one Pedestrian Coordinator and one Project Assistant. In a report to Council dated April 3, 2012 (attached to the Council file), the CAO recommends the approval of only one position, the Pedestrian Coordinator. The CAO believes that the position's duties can be performed by a City employee. The CAO does not recommend approval of the Project Assistant at this time.

At its meeting held April 11, 2012, the Transportation Committee discussed this matter with the General Manager, DOT and a representative of the CAO. The DOT General Manager urged the Committee to approve two positions. The second position would perform critical statistical analysis and GIS duties required for the development of the Pedestrian Plan. These duties are necessary to inform the development of the Plan. The CAO's representative stated that the need for a second position can be re-evaluated after the Pedestrian Coordinator is hired and a work-plan is written. During the public comment period, pedestrian and bicycle advocates urged the Committee to authorize DOT to hire two employees.

Committee members Rosendahl, Koretz, and Huizar voted "yes" to recommend that Council authorize DOT to hire both the Pedestrian Coordinator and the Project Assistant. Committee member Parks voted "no," stating that this proposal is not a proper use of Prop R funds and can lead to a deficit situation. The Councilmember went on to state that if necessary, authority to hire the second position can be requested after the study is completed.

Respectfully submitted,

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
- NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS -**

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
ROSENDAHL:	YES
KORETZ:	YES
PARKS:	NO
LABONGE:	ABSENT
HUIZAR:	YES

JAW  
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