

## COMMUNICATION

**TO: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL**

**File No. 12-1764**

**FROM: COUNCILMEMBER PAUL KORETZ, VICE-CHAIR  
COUNCILMEMBER TOM LABONGE, MEMBER  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

COMMUNICATION FROM VICE-CHAIR AND MEMBER, TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE relative to the city's policies for parking at inoperable parking meters and pay stations.

Recommendation for Council action:

SUBMIT WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION Department of Transportation (DOT) report to Council dated November 7, 2012 (attached to the Council file), recommending approval of a resolution to retain the City's current policy prohibiting parking at inoperable parking meters and pay stations.

Fiscal Impact Statement: DOT reports that adopting its proposed resolution to retain the Department's current policy prohibiting the parking of vehicle at inoperable parking meters and pay stations would not impact the General Fund. Failure to adopt the resolution would likely result in a significant increase in parking meter vandalism and the loss of millions of dollars annually in parking meter revenue and meter-related citation revenue.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

### Summary:

In the November 7, 2012, report to Council, DOT recommends the approval of an accompanying resolution to retain the City's current policy prohibiting parking at inoperable parking meters and pay stations. DOT reports that Senate Bill 1388, which was approved on July 10, 2012 and takes effect January 1, 2013, allows parking at inoperable parking meters and pay stations up to the posted time limit unless an ordinance or resolution has been adopted by the local authority to restrict or prohibit it. Adopting the Department's proposed resolution is required should Council wish to retain the existing parking policy.

According to DOT, the City's existing policy has been essential to the success of recent citywide parking meter upgrades by eliminating the motivation for meter vandalism, which was once rampant throughout the city. As a result of these policies and new technology, DOT is now able to maintain the system at essentially 100% operability.

At the special Transportation Committee meeting held November 14, 2012, the Committee Vice-Chair and Member discussed this matter with a representative of DOT. Department staff stated that an ordinance or resolution must be adopted should Council wish retain the City's current policy relative to parking at inoperable meters in order to comply with new State law. Current policy stipulates that payment is required to park at metered spaces and that no one is exempt from payment if the meter or pay station is inoperable. It was stated that the City's policy greatly reduced vandalism of meters by persons trying to avoid having to pay for parking. Meter malfunctions are now extremely rare due to new technology used by the city.

The Committees expressed several misgivings relative to retaining the city's parking policy. It was stated that it is unfair to expect someone to pay to park when they are unable to do so due to a

malfunctioning meter. If a meter is inoperable, the driver of the vehicle should be able to park rather than have to look for another parking space. It was suggested that the Department devise a more fair and balanced approach. The Committee members submitted without recommendation DOT's proposed resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

**- NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS -**

PAUL KORETZ, VICE-CHAIR  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

TOM LABONGE, MEMBER  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
ROSENDAHL:	ABSENT
KORETZ:	YES
PARKS:	ABSENT
LABONGE:	YES
HUIZAR:	ABSENT

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