

**NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

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July 19, 2013

City Clerk of Los Angeles
FAX-213-978-1079

Subject: **COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT - COUNCIL FILE #13-0650 –
LA CITY TO FINE VIOLATORS OF LAMC 56.08 REMOVAL
OF OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE STREET OR SIDEWALK/
ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES ORDINANCE**

At a Brown Act Public Noticed General Board Meeting on July 18, 2013, the North Hills West Neighborhood Council, in a unanimous vote, is in support of the subject ordinance. This motion was put forward by former Councilmember Greig Smith and it was unanimously passed by LA City Council six years ago. Currently, the Bureau of Street Services is so understaffed that it rarely issues warnings and, as a result, never follows up with subsequent enforcement. If the first warning indicates a \$50.00 fine will be imposed, the violator is more likely to comply with the law.

The NHWNC supports Council File #13-0650 dated May 2013, containing the actual legislative language to implement fining of violators \$50.00, then \$100.00 and finally \$150.00 for the third offense within one calendar year. Fining the violators is the best solution to parkway and sidewalk blight. Within the last few years, parking fines were raised approximately 80 percent so certainly these violators should incur a penalty as well; it certainly affects the quality of life at least as much as illegal parkers do. Further, on June 12, 2013, the Public Works Committee approved the May 24, 2013 City Attorney's Report #R13-0144.

Sincerely,

Debra Francisco
Secretary

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EMPOWER LA
Department of
NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT