



Re: Support of Council File No. 13-0650

July 5, 2013

Honorable Councilmember Englander:

On Tuesday, June 18, 2013, the Old Granada Hills Residents' Group Board of Directors voted unanimously to support the fining of violators of LAMC 56.08, as established by stipulations within Council File No. 13-0650. We appreciate your efforts in moving this item before the Public Works Committee, where it was recently approved.

**Old Granada Hills Residents' Group (OGHRG) Support of Council File No. 13-0650**

OGHRG supports Council File No. 07-0699 dated May 2007 that, when enacted, will allow LA City to fine violators of LAMC 56.08, the Removal of Obstructions in the Street or Sidewalk/Administrative Penalties Ordinance. This motion was put forward by former Councilmember Greig Smith, and it was unanimously passed by LA City Council six years ago. Currently Bureau of Street Services is so understaffed that it rarely issues warnings and it virtually never follows up with any subsequent enforcement. If the first warning indicates a \$50 fine will be imposed, the violator is more likely to comply with the law.

OGHRG further supports Council File No. 13-0650 dated May 2013 containing the actual legislative language to implement fining of violators \$50, then \$100 and finally \$150 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 by about 80 percent so certainly these violators should incur a penalty as well as this affects 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 (No. R13-0144).

Sincerely,

Dave Beauvais, President  
Old Granada Hills Residents' Group

Maria Fisk, Board Member  
Old Granada Hills Residents' Group