

13-1234

MOTION

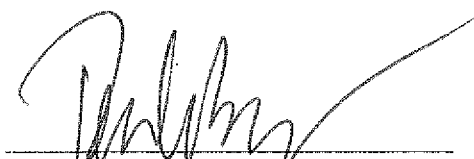
The once ubiquitous water fountain is now slowly disappearing in public parks, schools, and universities. Many public spaces are removing them or failing to maintain them and the lack of confidence in public water is spreading. Furthermore, the consumption of bottled water is ever-increasing and an average American now drinks nearly 30 gallons of commercial water bottles.

There is a need to establish and reinvigorate water fountains in the public spaces of the City of Los Angeles. Fountains ultimately provide a public service to our residents and tourists who want to drink clean water. Restoring old drinking fountains not only serve our communities, it benefits overall public welfare as water provides a healthy alternative to high-sugared drinks both in schools and around the City. Furthermore, with less consumption of plastic water bottles, the increased use of public drinking fountains will help better the environment.

Currently, there is an organization called WeTap that has been working vigorously since 2009 upon its establishment, to evaluate the status of water fountains in the City. In February 2011, LADWP launched a WeTap smartphone app that allowed consumers to find the nearest water fountain from their current location. Among the benefits of trash reduction for generations and cost savings for LA residence and visitors, WeTap continues to find many more reasons to propose a comprehensive drinking fountain upgrade in the City of Los Angeles.

I THEREFORE MOVE the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power be requested to work with organizations (such as WeTap) to study and report back to the Energy and Environment Committee on a comprehensive plan to upgrade, restore and bring back public water fountains in public spaces in the City of Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY


TOM LABONGE
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY



ORIGINAL

SEP 17 2013

