

# *The Los Angeles Police Department's*

**Report on**

***The Net Effect of Los Angeles' Vehicle Dwelling Ordinance, Los Angeles  
Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 85.02, From January 7, 2017 Through June 30, 2018***



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## **PURPOSE**

On May 30, 2018, the City of Los Angeles (City) Council Committee on Homelessness and Poverty passed a motion directing the Los Angeles Police Department (Department or LAPD) to report to the Public Safety Committee on the net effect that Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 85.02, Vehicle Dwelling, had on communities in the City of Los Angeles (City) from January 7, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The motion asks the Department for an overview of the aspects of the ordinance that have worked, and the aspects of the ordinance which have not worked. Additionally, the motion requests the Department provide any suggestions to improve the ordinance. This motion is found in council file (CF) number 14-1057-S2.

## **BACKGROUND**

On January 7, 2017, revisions to LAMC Section 85.02 became effective. However, the Department did not begin enforcing LAMC Section 85.02 until February 6, 2017, allowing for the City to engage in public outreach. The revisions to LAMC Section 85.02 established new regulations governing the use of vehicles for dwelling on public streets, and the Department provided these new regulations to personnel via internal systems.

## **DATA**

The Department utilized the Consolidated Crime Analysis Database (CCAD) to report on all LAMC 85.02 citations issued from the commencement of enforcement, February 6, 2017 until June 30, 2018. All citations are included in the tables that follow.<sup>1</sup> Three distinct tables are included as an illustration of the total number of citations issued during the period mentioned above, and their location.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Department currently utilizes the address field, *1942 Transient*, to report on persons experiencing homelessness. For this report, all addresses were included since the primary focus is LAMC 85.02, the Vehicle Dwelling Ordinance. Therefore, other Department reports that include LAMC 85.02 information may convey data that is different than the data presented in this report.

<sup>2</sup> For the second quarter of 2018, non-traffic citations for LAMC 85.02 may still be in the process of being entered into the system. Subsequently, the total number for this period is subject to change.

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**Table 1: Citations Issued for Los Angeles Municipal Code 85.02, Vehicle Dwelling Ordinance – February 6, 2017 to June 30, 2018 – by Quarter**

Citations Issued for Los Angeles Municipal Code 85.02, Vehicle Dwelling Ordinance - February 6, 2017 to June 30, 2018 - By Quarter							
Department-Wide Citations	1Q 2017	2Q 2017	3Q 2017	4Q 2017	1Q 2018	2Q 2018	Total
<b>Total Citations by Quarter</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>185</b>
Department Division Issuing Citation	1Q 2017	2Q 2017	3Q 2017	4Q 2017	1Q 2018	2Q 2018	Total
<b>Operations-West Bureau</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
West Los Angeles	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Pacific	7	6	9	1	0	1	24
Hollywood	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wilshire	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Olympic	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Operations-Central Bureau</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rampart	4	0	1	2	1	1	9
Newton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northeast	2	6	2	0	0	1	11
Hollenbeck	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Operations-South Bureau</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Southeast	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Southwest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harbor	4	0	4	3	11	8	30
77th Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Operations-Valley Bureau</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Foothill	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Topanga	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
West Valley	5	0	1	2	1	0	9
Devonshire	2	0	1	0	1	0	4
Mission	8	3	12	2	6	7	38
North Hollywood	4	1	8	4	9	4	30
Van Nuys	0	9	2	0	1	6	18

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**Table 2a: LAMC 85.02, Vehicle Dwelling Ordinance, Citations Issued by Reporting District for the Period of February 6, 2017 to June 30, 2018 – by Quarter (RD 0216 to 1148)<sup>3</sup>**

LAMC 85.02, Vehicle Dwelling Ordinance, Citations Issued by Reporting District for the Period of February 6, 2017 to June 30, 2018 - by Quarter							
Department Reporting District (RD)	1Q 2017	2Q 2017	3Q 2017	4Q 2017	1Q 2018	2Q 2018	Total
216	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
218	2	0	1	2	1	1	7
248	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
503	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
504	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
509	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
517	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
525	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
555	0	0	0	0	1	4	5
557	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
558	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
563	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
565	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
566	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
567	3	0	0	0	0	2	5
622	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
705	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
812	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
904	0	0	2	0	0	4	6
914	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
915	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
923	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
926	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
939	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
943	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
961	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
964	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
976	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
1008	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
1015	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1025	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1032	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
1034	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1045	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
1118	0	4	0	0	0	1	5
1127	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
1133	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1148	2	0	1	0	0	0	3

<sup>3</sup> Reporting Districts also referred to as RDs are an index of a jurisdiction, in this case the reporting districts listed above specify a geographic area of the City of Los Angeles per its geographic patrol division.



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**Table 2b: LAMC 85.02, Vehicle Dwelling Ordinance, Citations Issued by Reporting District for the Period of February 6, 2017 to June 30, 2018 – by Quarter (RD 1401 to 2136)**

LAMC 85.02, Vehicle Dwelling Ordinance, Citations Issued by Reporting District for the Period of February 6, 2017 to June 30, 2018 - by Quarter							
Department Reporting District (RD)	1Q 2017	2Q 2017	3Q 2017	4Q 2017	1Q 2018	2Q 2018	Total
1401	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
1402	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1409	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
1412	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1413	0	4	2	0	0	0	6
1414	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1415	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1416	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1431	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
1441	2	0	1	0	0	1	4
1443	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1444	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1452	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
1471	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1501	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1502	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
1503	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1513	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
1523	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1524	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1525	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1531	0	0	0	3	0	0	3
1533	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
1538	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1539	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
1547	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
1586	2	0	0	0	2	3	7
1588	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
1663	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1743	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1753	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1779	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1792	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1844	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
1902	0	0	2	0	0	2	4
1904	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
1906	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
1912	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
1913	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1916	1	0	2	0	0	0	3
1921	0	0	2	0	0	2	4
1935	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1941	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
1944	3	2	0	0	0	0	5
1958	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1964	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1967	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
1977	1	0	2	0	0	0	3
1979	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1984	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1985	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1988	0	0	2	1	3	0	6
2062	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
2134	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
2136	2	0	0	0	0	0	2

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## **FINDINGS**

The net effect of this ordinance is that the Department issued approximately 185 citations for LAMC 85.02 over the course of 18 months. This is approximately ten citations a month. The Department is unable to evidence effectiveness or ineffectiveness through quantitative data, since the number of community complaints for LAMC 85.02 are not captured. But, anecdotal information collected from line personnel suggests there are more than 10 complaints from community members a month.

### ***What is Working***

The ordinance provides line personnel with the opportunity to educate vehicle dwellers. When an officer makes contact with the vehicle dweller, they often comply and move their vehicle in accordance with the ordinance.

### ***What is not Working***

To issue the citation, an officer must make contact with the vehicle dweller, as the citation is a conduct violation. When the vehicle dweller is not present or responsive, the officer cannot educate the vehicle dweller regarding the ordinance or issue a citation. Additionally, the elements of the ordinance become difficult to prove when an officer cannot examine the interior of a vehicle because the vehicle dweller refuses to respond to the officer investigating LAMC 85.02. When an officer is able to make contact with the vehicle dweller and they agree to move the vehicle, it is often moved to a nearby location, to assure temporary compliance with the ordinance.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Department's experience with the vehicle dwelling ordinance, LAMC 85.02, guides the following recommendations:

- Increase off-street safe parking locations, inclusive of recreational vehicles; and,
- Support the City Family in identifying new off-street safe parking locations, and guiding vehicle dwellers to safe parking.

The Department's recommendations do not relate to the language or design of the vehicle dwelling ordinance.