



MICHAEL N. FEUER
CITY ATTORNEY

REPORT NO. R 19 - 0 1 8 9
JUN 17 2019

REPORT RE:

**DRAFT ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 22.716.1 OF THE LOS ANGELES
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE BY INCREASING THE ADMISSION FEE SCHEDULE FOR
THE LOS ANGELES ZOO FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020**

The Honorable City Council
of the City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Council File No. 19-0600

Honorable Members:

Pursuant to your request, this Office has prepared and now transmits for your consideration the enclosed draft ordinance, approved as to form and legality. The draft ordinance amends Section 22.716.1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) by establishing a new general admission fee schedule for the Los Angeles Zoo, commencing on July 1, 2019, or the effective date of the ordinance, whichever is later.

Background and Summary of Ordinance Provisions

The proposed draft ordinance provides for a \$1.00 increase in the fees for admission to the Los Angeles Zoo as part of the existing general admission fee schedule. The last increase to the Zoo's general admission fees was a \$1.00 increase enacted in 2017.

The new rates will increase all categories by \$1.00 as follows: \$22.00 for adults, \$17.00 for children, and \$19.00 for seniors.

In addition, the general admission fees for groups (15 or more persons) will also be increased by \$1.00 per person, from the present fee of \$18.00 to \$19.00 for adults, and from \$15.00 to \$16.00 for children.

The increase is part of the City Council approved budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

CEQA Determination

Regarding a finding to satisfy the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), we advise that prior to adoption of this ordinance, the City Council determine that it is not a CEQA project under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) as the creation of a government funding mechanism which does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment; and CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) and City CEQA Guidelines Articles II, Section 1 (General Exemption) because it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. If the City Council concurs, it should adopt this finding prior to or concurrent with taking action on the ordinance.

Fee Notice Requirement

We note that because this ordinance would effectuate increases in existing fees, notice of its proposed adoption should be given in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code Sections 66018 and 6062a. Those sections of State law require that prior to adoption of a new or increased fee a public hearing be held and notice of that hearing be published in a newspaper with two publications at least five days apart over a ten-day period. The notice period begins the first day of publication, and there must be at least five days intervening between the first and the second publications, not counting the dates of publication.

Council Rule 38 Referral

A copy of the draft ordinance was sent, pursuant to Council Rule 38, to the Zoo Department with a request that all comments, if any, be presented directly to the City Council when this matter is considered.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Assistant City Attorney Dov S. Lesel at (213) 978-8154. He or another member of this Office will be present when you consider this matter to answer questions you may have.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By 

DAVID MICHAELSON
Chief Assistant City Attorney

DM:DSL:ac
Transmittal