

COMMUNICATION

TO: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

File No. 08-0685

**FROM: COUNCILMEMBER WENDY GREUEL, CHAIR
COUNCILMEMBER RICHARD ALARCON, MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR and MEMBER, TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE relative to parking validation expenditures.

Recommendation for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Greuel - Parks):

INSTRUCT all General Managers to ensure that:

1. Parking validations are issued primarily to volunteers providing City services, including commissioners or when there is a documentable business reason for doing so.
2. All City employees carpool or use public transportation to attend offsite meetings/training and any other City-related matters whenever feasible.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst report that approval of the above recommendation is expected to reduce the impact of parking validation expenditures on the General Fund and Special Funds in an amount unknown at this time. The action is in compliance with the City's Financial Policies.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

The Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and the City Administrative Officer (CAO) submitted a joint report, dated August 26, 2008, as instructed by Motion (Greuel - Parks). The joint report addressed the amount of funding that every department and commission is budgeted for and spends annually on parking validations, the source of funds used to purchase parking validations, and the directive for departments and commissions to cease parking validation expenditures in order to have these funds available to offset other City expenditures.

The CLA and CAO note that with the exception of a few City departments, most departments do not budget for parking validations. Rather, expenditures are made on an as-needed basis from various expense accounts. Departments reported a total of \$750,118 in parking validation expenditures for Fiscal Year 2007 - 08 from the following funding sources: \$197,909 in General Fund and \$552,209 in Special Funds. Additionally, the Convention Center estimates approximately \$4,320 per year in forgone parking fees.

Motion (Greuel - Parks) suggests, that in response to current economic constraints, the possibility of ceasing further expenditures for parking validations to generate savings. The CLA and CAO state that discontinuing this practice across all departments and commissions may not be feasible. One example of this is the Central Library Parking Validation Program, which was established by ordinance for the purpose of increasing public access to the Central Library. The Central Library parking validations are paid out of the Special Parking Revenue Fund as

authorized by the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) Section 5.117. The CAO and CLA indicate that any changes to this program would require an amendment to the LAAC via ordinance.

The CAO and CLA conclude by stating that they do not recommend that departments be directed to cease parking validation expenditures at this time as the potential for additional savings appears to be minimal. However, departments providing parking validations, and/or reimbursement for parking, should be instructed to primarily do so for volunteers, including commissioners. Further, City employees from outlying sites should be required to use public transportation whenever feasible. If public transportation is not an option, then employees should carpool to the extent that it is practical.

At a regular meeting held on September 24, 2008, the Transportation Committee considered the joint CLA and CAO report regarding parking validation expenditures. CLA and CAO representatives gave the Committee background information on the matter. An opportunity for public comment was held. Afterwards, the Committee moved to approve the recommendation contained in the joint CAO and CLA report. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

WENDY GREUEL, CHAIR
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RICHARD ALARCON, MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Not Official Until Council Acts

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
GREUEL:	YES
LABONGE:	ABSENT
ALARCON:	YES
PARKS:	ABSENT
ROSENDAHL:	ABSENT

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