

Your

TRANSPORTATION

Committee

reports as follows:

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to banning the illegal sale and purchase of live animals, and posting signs providing notice of said ban at locations in the Santee Alley area of the Downtown Fashion District.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Perry - Cárdenas):

1. REQUEST that the City Attorney prepare and present an ordinance amending Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 53.42 to augment all current prohibitions on the sale or giving away of animals on public streets and/or sidewalks with a prohibition on purchasing, or receiving without cost, animals under the same circumstances currently enumerated in Section 53.42; and, to incorporate an administrative citation program for the remedying of citations issued for violations of the ban on the illegal sale and purchase of animals, and for the collection of fines.
2. DIRECT the Department of Transportation (DOT), with the assistance of the City Attorney, to prepare recommendations for the actions necessary to post signs providing notice of said ban at locations in the Santee Alley area of the Downtown Fashion District.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the Department of Animal Services. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

On March 24, 2009, Council considered Motion (Perry - Cárdenas) relative to the illegal sale of animals in the Santee Alley area of the Downtown Fashion District. Motion states the sale of live animals is a growing problem at Santee Alley. By educating the public that this activity is illegal, the City of Los Angeles can promote a safer, improved customer experience for the patrons of Santee Alley. Motion makers believe that the City Attorney and DOT should work together to come up with solutions to this problem. Council referred Motion to the Transportation Committee for consideration.

In a report to the Mayor dated February 24, 2010 (attached to the Council file), the Department of Animal Services states that the Board of Animal Services requests that the City Attorney prepare an ordinance to amend the LAMC to add the purchase of animal to the City's ban on illegal sales. The Department reports that such sales contribute to the proliferation of homeless or unwanted animals ending up in public animal shelters. Additionally, the dogs, cats, rabbits, turtles, lizards, birds, and other types of animals peddled in these contexts sometimes are subjected to substandard care, lack of food and/or water, and exposure to harsh weather conditions. The Department's report was transmitted to Council and referred to the Public Safety and Transportation Committees for consideration.

At its meeting held February 23, 2011, the Transportation Committee discussed this matter with representatives of the Department of Animal Services, Police Department, and the City Attorney. Department staff expressed support for expanding the ban to include the purchase of animals and for the posting of signs. During the public comment period, a member of the community suggested that an administrative citation program be created to resolve citations issued for the violation of this ban. Committee members expressed support for the suggestion, and recommended that Council approve the accompanying Motion, and request that the City Attorney prepare the ordinance necessary to amend the LAMC to expand the ban on the illegal sale of animals to also include purchases and to implement an administrative citation program for citations issued for violations of this law.

Respectfully submitted,

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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

- NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS -

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