

MAR 27 2009

MOTION

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation Bicycle program receives numerous complaints throughout the year regarding abandoned bicycles that create a nuisance on City-owned bicycle racks and street furniture. Currently, there is no municipal code that outlines the process to manage abandoned bicycles in the City of Los Angeles. Additionally, the City lacks a central agency that is in charge of abandoned bicycles which makes it difficult and time consuming to report the problem. This situation provides a reactive approach to addressing abandoned bicycles rather than a proactive approach that identifies the abandoned bicycle before it becomes a problem.

Abandoned bicycles create several problems including: public blight; obstruction of the public right of way; a nuisance to other cyclists because abandoned bicycles are taking away from the available parking capacity; and environmental impact because bicycles may rust and create water run-off issues. Although the Bureau of Street Services deals with abandoned bicycles through the public obstruction ordinance in the LA Municipal Code 56.08 and 56.16, there is no specific language in the Municipal Code that addresses abandoned bicycles. Additionally, there is a lack of public awareness in regards to reporting the abandoned bicycles, as well as, a lack of proper notification to try to return the bicycle to its owner. Since, there is no standard definition on what constitutes an abandoned bicycle there is the potential of cyclists having their bicycles accidentally removed and a lack of information available on how to reclaim their bicycle.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Department of Transportation and the Department of Public Works to develop recommendations on a proactive method of addressing abandoned bicycles that create a nuisance on City-owned bicycle racks and street furniture.

PRESENTED BY:



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SECONDED BY:



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