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December 4, 2009

To All Interested Parties:

City Attorney (w/ blue slip)

The City Council adopted the action(s), as attached, under Council file

No. 09-2143, at its meeting held November 25, 2009.

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COMMUNICATION

TO: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

FILE NO. 09-2143

FROM: COUNCILMEMBER JAN PERRY, CHAIR
COUNCILMEMBER TONY CÁRDENAS, MEMBER
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR AND MEMBER, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE relative to fees currently assessed for landscape projects in which lawns and parkways are replaced with drought-tolerant landscaping or synthetic turf and the feasibility of waiving permitting fees for those projects.

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

1. DIRECT the City Planning Department and the Department of Building and Safety, with assistance from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) as necessary, to report back to the Council within 30 days on fees currently assessed for landscape projects in which lawns and parkways are replaced with drought-tolerant landscaping or synthetic turf, and the feasibility of waiving ***subsidizing** permitting fees for those projects.
2. DIRECT the City Attorney and the LADWP to report on the legality and feasibility of the LADWP reimbursing ***subsidizing** the Planning Department for waived permitting fees associated with drought tolerant landscaping. ***(Parks - Smith)**

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None Submitted.

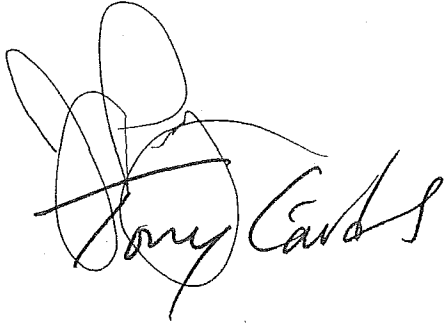
Summary:

On November 3, 2009, your Committee Chair and Member considered Motion (Smith - Perry - Reyes) relative to fees currently assessed for landscape projects in which lawns and parkways are replaced with drought-tolerant landscaping or synthetic turf and the feasibility of waiving permitting fees for those projects. The Motion, attached to the Council file, provides background information on this matter.

During the discussion of this matter, a representative of Councilmember Smith provided background information and encouraged approval of the Motion. Representatives from the Planning Department and the LADWP then responded to several related questions and indicated they will be ready to report back in 30 days. After additional discussion and offering the opportunity for public comment, the Committee Chair and Member recommended approval of the recommendation contained in the Motion. Additionally, it was recommended that the City Attorney and the LADWP report on the legality and feasibility of the LADWP reimbursing the Planning Department for waived permitting fees associated with drought tolerant landscaping, as reflected above.

This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



JAN PERRY, CHAIR
TONY CÁRDENAS, MEMBER
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
PERRY:	YES
CÁRDENAS:	YES
ALARCÓN:	ABSENT
KORETZ	ABSENT

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ADOPTED

NOV 25 2009
* *As Amended*
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
See Attached Motion

VERBAL MOTION

I HEREBY MOVE that Council AMEND the Communication from Chair and Member Energy and Environment Committee (Item No. 20, CF 09-2143) relative to fees currently assessed for landscape projects in which lawns and parkways are replaced with drought-tolerant landscaping or synthetic turf and the feasibility of waiving permitting fees for those projects as follows:

DIRECT the Planning Department, Department of Building and Safety and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, as necessary, to report back on the number of annual permits for said projects and on potential sources of funding to subsidize permitting fees as stated in the Motion.

PRESENTED BY _____
BERNARD C. PARKS
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY _____
GREIG SMITH
Councilmember, 12th District

November 25, 2009

CF 09-2143

ADOPTED

NOV 25 2009

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL