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POLICE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
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LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-4112

(213) 236-1400 PHONE
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May 6, 2014

BPC #14-0118

The Honorable Public Safety Committee
City of Los Angeles
c/o City Clerk's Office
City Hall, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attention John White:

RE: CITY COUNCIL MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER TOM LA LABONGE DEPUTY
CHIEF OF TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT POSITION (CITY COUNCIL FILE NO. 13-
1242)

At the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held Tuesday, May 6, 2014, the Board APPROVED the Department's report relative to the above matter.

This matter is being forwarded to you for approval.

Respectfully,

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Silva".

MARIA SILVA
Commission Executive Assistant II

Attachment

c: Chief of Police

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

BPC # 14-0118
8B

May 1, 2014
16.2

M. J. [Signature]
4/28/14

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

RECEIVED

FROM: Chief of Police

APR 29 2014

POLICE COMMISSION

SUBJECT: CITY COUNCIL MOTION COUNCILMEMBER TOM LABONGE
DEPUTY CHIEF OF TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT POSITION
(CITY COUNCIL FILE NO. 13-1242)

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) REVIEW and APPROVE this report; and,
2. That the Board TRANSMIT this report to the Public Safety Committee.

BACKGROUND

On March 18, 2014, Councilmember Tom LaBonge introduced a motion in City Council requesting that the Los Angeles Police Department (Department) and the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) study and report to the Public Safety Committee on the feasibility of creating a Deputy Chief of Traffic Enforcement to oversee the four traffic divisions.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The City of Los Angeles has more than 6,499 miles of streets that are utilized by various competing users. The Department is dedicated to safe movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the City of Los Angeles and has over 700 officers assigned to traffic. Although the number of traffic collisions has remained fairly consistent, the number of traffic collisions involving bicyclists and pedestrians has increased and the number of hit and run traffic collisions are unacceptable. Consequently, the Department is focused on reducing the number of bicycle, pedestrian and hit and run traffic collisions in 2014.

The Department recognizes that vehicular and pedestrian traffic is a significant concern of all community members. As a result, the Department continues to pursue a traffic objective which is to reduce traffic collisions and injuries and to facilitate the safe and expeditious flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic through the public's voluntary compliance with traffic regulations. The Department seeks to achieve this objective through a combination of education and enforcement. The Department seeks to educate the public regarding traffic regulations through programs aimed at exposing specific problems, by publishing traffic collision and injury statistics, and by giving notice and warnings of changes in regulations prior to taking enforcement action.

Furthermore, the Department will take enforcement action upon the detection of an illegal and potentially hazardous act without regard for such factors as attitude, intent, or frivolous excuse. Enforcement action may consist of a warning, citation, application for complaint, or physical arrest.

To achieve the Department's traffic objective, the Department has designated a Deputy Chief as the Department Traffic Coordinator (DTC) who is responsible for overseeing the four traffic divisions and to ensure the Department's traffic objectives are achieved. Currently, Deputy Chief Michael Downing, Commanding Officer, Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau, is the DTC. Deputy Chief Downing meets regularly with the four traffic division commanding officers to advance the Department's traffic objective. As the DTC, Deputy Chief Downing monitors the activities of the traffic divisions through quarterly Community Traffic Safety reports, traffic COMPSTAT inspections and monthly meetings. Deputy Chief Downing has a dedicated staff assigned to Traffic Coordination Section and the Specialized Enforcement Section to assist with all traffic-related endeavors.

Furthermore, Deputy Chief Downing, as the DTC, has been directed to ensure the Department's 2014 Traffic Plan is implemented. Already in 2014, the Department has increased deployment to the traffic divisions and is actively pursuing strategies with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation and other key stakeholders to reduce the number of traffic collisions particularly involving bicyclists, pedestrians and hit and run traffic collisions. Consequently, it was determined that the creation of a position of Deputy Chief of Traffic Enforcement for the Department to oversee the four traffic divisions is not recommended.

Traffic Coordination Section contacted the CAO regarding this recommendation. The CAO concurs with the recommendation that a new Deputy Chief of Traffic Enforcement not be created and advised that adding this new position would require funding be identified for recurring sworn salaries, related costs, and expenses.

CONCLUSION

The current organizational structure of the Department has a Deputy Chief assigned to oversee the traffic objective on behalf of the Department. The Department has allocated a contingent of personnel resources to assist the DTC in achieving the traffic objectives. At this time, the Motion's recommendations are being met by the Department.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this correspondence, please have a member of your staff contact Captain Philip S. Fontanetta, Commanding Officer, EOD, at (213) 486-0680.

Respectfully,



CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

**BOARD OF
POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

Approved *May 6, 2014*
Secretary *Marcia Silva*

FACT SHEET

CITY COUNCIL COUNCILMEMBER LABONGE MOTION DEPUTY CHIEF OF TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT POSITION CITY COUNCIL FILE NO. 13-1242

May 1, 2014

BACKGROUND

On March 18, 2014, Councilmember Tom LaBonge introduced a motion in City Council requesting that the Los Angeles Police Department and the Chief Administrative Officer study and report to the Public Safety Committee on the feasibility of creating a Deputy Chief of Traffic Enforcement to oversee the four traffic divisions.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The City of Los Angeles has more than 6,499 miles of streets that are utilized by various competing users. The Department is dedicated to safe movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the City of Los Angeles and has over 700 officers assigned to traffic. Although the number of traffic collisions has remained fairly consistent, the number of traffic collisions involving bicyclists and pedestrians has increased and the number of hit and run traffic collisions are unacceptable. Consequently, the Department is focused on reducing the number of bicycle, pedestrian and hit and run traffic collisions in 2014.

The Department recognizes that vehicular and pedestrian traffic is a significant concern of all community members. As a result, the Department continues to pursue a traffic objective which is to reduce traffic collisions and injuries and to facilitate the safe and expeditious flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic through the public's voluntary compliance with traffic regulations. The Department seeks to achieve this objective through a combination of education and enforcement. The Department seeks to educate the public regarding traffic regulations through programs aimed at exposing specific problems, by publishing traffic collision and injury statistics, and by giving notice and warnings of changes in regulations prior to taking enforcement action. Furthermore, the Department will take enforcement action upon the detection of an illegal and potentially hazardous act without regard for such factors as attitude, intent, or frivolous excuse. Enforcement action may consist of a warning, citation, application for complaint, or physical arrest.

To achieve the Department's traffic objective, the Department has designated a Deputy Chief as the Department Traffic Coordinator (DTC) who is responsible for overseeing the four traffic divisions and to ensure the Department's traffic objectives are achieved. Currently, Deputy Chief Michael Downing, Commanding Officer, Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau, is the DTC. Deputy Chief Downing meets regularly with the four traffic division commanding officers to advance the Department's traffic objective. As the DTC, Deputy Chief Downing monitors the activities of the traffic divisions through quarterly Community Traffic Safety reports, traffic COMPSTAT inspections and monthly meetings. Deputy Chief Downing has a dedicated staff assigned to Traffic Coordination Section and the Specialized Enforcement Section to assist with all traffic-related endeavors.

FACT SHEET

CITY COUNCIL COUNCILMEMBER LABONGE MOTION
DEPUTY CHIEF OF TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT POSITION
CITY COUNCIL FILE NO. 13-1242

May 1, 2014

As DTC, Deputy Chief Downing provides oversight of the following duties and responsibility undertaken by TCS and SES. Traffic Coordination Section is comprised of the Multi-Disciplinary Investigation Team, Traffic Analytical Unit and Pursuit Review Unit. The Specialized Enforcement Section is responsible for the Motorcycle Training Unit, the Specialized Enforcement Unit and the Motor Garage Liaison. These sections are responsible for numerous traffic-related duties created to achieve the Department's traffic objective.

Furthermore, Deputy Chief Downing, as the DTC, has been directed to ensure the Department's 2014 Traffic Plan is implemented. Already in 2014, the Department has increased deployment to the traffic divisions and is actively pursuing strategies with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation and other key stakeholders to reduce the number of traffic collisions particularly involving bicyclists, pedestrians and hit and run traffic collisions.

The Chief Administrative Officer was contacted for input regarding the feasibility of the Motion. The CAO advised that creating a new Deputy Chief of Traffic Enforcement position would require the City to secure new funding for recurring salary and employee expenses. As a result, the CAO agrees that creating a new position for a position that currently exists is not recommended.

CONCLUSION

The current organizational structure of the Department has a Deputy Chief assigned to oversee the traffic objective on behalf of the Department. The Department has allocated a contingent of personnel resources to assist the DTC in achieving the traffic objectives. At this time, the Motion's recommendations are being met by the Department.

Prepared by:
Emergency Operations Division

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
Interim City Clerk



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

Office of the
CITY CLERK

Council and Public Services
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012
General Information - (213) 978-1133
Fax: (213) 978-1040

SHANNON HOPPE
Council and Public Services
Division

www.cityclerk.lacounty.org

When making inquiries relative to
this matter, please refer to the
Council File No.

March 19, 2014

To All Interested Parties:

The City Council adopted the action(s), as attached, under Council File No. 13-1242,
at its meeting held March 18, 2014.

City Clerk
wrq

13-1242
 Prior Cf: 05-2832

MOTION

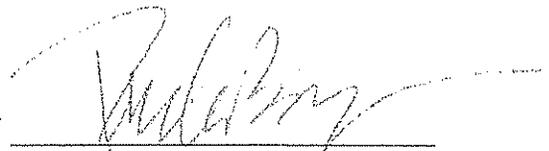
According to the Los Angeles Almanac, there are more than 5.8 million automobiles registered in Los Angeles County. Inevitably, more automobiles result in more congestion. Furthermore, activity on the road results in more chances of traffic accidents. It is evident that traffic remains a major concern in the City of Los Angeles. Despite the ongoing work of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to address this quality of life issue, we as a City need to do more to enhance and coordinate LAPD's Traffic Enforcement efforts.

Currently the LAPD has four Captains overseeing each of the four Traffic Divisions in each Bureau (Central, South, Valley, and West) of the LAPD. The City would benefit from a dedicated command to coordinate these four Bureaus, headed by a Deputy Chief of Traffic Enforcement. The LAPD is a great department that invests in the overall welfare of the City as a whole. However, traffic is a vital component of safety and this will bring new focus toward addressing the City's traffic challenges.

On December 21, 2005 this motion was introduced by Councilman LaBonge and seconded by then Councilwoman – now Congresswoman Janice Hahn. There was no action taken and this council file (CF 05-2832) expired on January 14, 2008.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the LAPD and the CAO be instructed to study and to report to the Public Safety Committee on the feasibility of creating a position of Deputy Chief of Traffic Enforcement in the LAPD to oversee the four Traffic Bureaus.

PRESENTED BY



TOM LABONGE
 Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY



ADOPTED

MAR 18 2014

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

FORTHWITH

