

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to City of Los Angeles crossing guard program.

Recommendation for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Englander – Blumenfield – Bonin – Krekorian):

RECEIVE and FILE the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) report to Council dated February 10, 2014 relative to the City of Los Angeles crossing guard program.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

#### SUMMARY

In a report to Council dated February 10, 2014 (attached to the Council file), LADOT discusses the City's crossing guard program. LADOT currently employs 388 crossing guards. They are deployed at 492 locations at or near 307 schools. Their work schedules conform with the Los Angeles Unified School District bell schedule. Assignments are prioritized according to traffic control signalization or signage at identified locations: uncontrolled intersection, stop signs, signalized, and tunnels.

According to LADOT, employee attrition over the past few years within the crossing guard program has resulted in staffing shortages that has caused approximately 140 corners to be uncovered on a weekly basis. Unfortunately, the Department has not been able to hire since 2009 due to the economic crisis and the prioritization of services directed by City administrators. Due to the mature age of the Crossing Guard staff, the program staffing level continues to decline. The Department report goes on to discuss crossing guard safety and accident history, applicant screening and hiring, training and performance evaluation, and the protocol for an employee to return to work after a medical absence. The Department recommends that Council receive and file this report.

At its meeting held March 26, 2014, the Transportation Committee discussed the crossing guard program with LADOT staff. Committee members advised staff to work the Department's pedestrian coordinator to develop a program, with the necessary training, for the parents of school children to volunteer as crossing guards. It was further suggested that crossing guards be provided a means for communicating recommendations for traffic engineering and intersection signalization improvements. During the public comment period, speakers expressed support for the use of parent volunteers to supplement the City's team of crossing guards. The Committee recommended that Council receive and file LADOT's report.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
BONIN:	YES
KORETZ:	YES
LABONGE:	ABSENT
PARKS:	ABSENT
KREKORIAN:	YES

JAW

**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**