

14-0766
Related CFS: 08-2385
and 08-2385-51

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION

Graffiti is a serious problem affecting all residents in the City of Los Angeles, and the City spends millions of dollars each year responding to this vandalism. While the City has made some progress in its fight against graffiti, both public and private properties continue to be vandalized.

Not only does graffiti have a significant financial impact on the city, but it also impacts the quality of life in our neighborhoods. It affects property values, is a blight on our communities and can lead to more criminal activity in the surrounding areas. The City has a comprehensive graffiti abatement program, which includes a hotline, an education program and community partnerships for graffiti removal. In 2009, the City also enacted Ordinance No. 180708, which sets forth penalties for violators. Despite these efforts, vandals continue to deface property.

Regrettably, murals are a favored target of many graffiti vandals. Over the last year, the City passed the Mural Ordinance and set aside \$1.75 million for a mural restoration program. As we invest more City resources in restoration and encourage the creation of more murals, it is important that we also take steps to ensure that this art is not defaced or damaged.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be instructed to report back on options for increasing the City's penalties for graffiti violations, particularly over murals that have been recognized to be of historical and cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles by the Department of Cultural Affairs.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney be instructed to prepare an ordinance to increase the reward for the capture and conviction of graffiti vandals, when the property defaced is a mural, to \$2000.

Presented by: Paul Kerkorian
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ORIGINAL