

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: August 13, 2014

To: Honorable City Council, City of Los Angeles
c/o City Clerk, Room 395, City Hall
Attention: Honorable Mike Bonin, Chair, Transportation Committee

From: Seleta J. Reynolds, General Manager
Department of Transportation

Subject: **EXPANSION OF OVERNIGHT PARKING DISTRICT NO. 537 TO THE HARVARD HEIGHTS/WEST ADAMS HEIGHTS AREAS OF COUNCIL DISTRICT 10 (C.F. 09-2610)**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) recommends expansion of Overnight Parking District (OPD) No. 537.

RECOMMENDATION

1. FIND that the expansion of OPD 537, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 80.54 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under a Class 1, Categorical Exemption.
2. ADOPT the attached Resolution expanding Overnight Parking District (OPD) No. 537 such that the new boundaries of OPD No 537 are bounded in a clockwise manner by: the centerline of 11th Street between Western Avenue and Normandie Avenue on the north; the centerline of Normandie Avenue between 11th Street and the Santa Monica Freeway on the east; the Santa Monica Freeway between Normandie Avenue and Western Avenue on the south, the centerline of Western Avenue between the Santa Monica Freeway and 11th Street on the west.
3. DIRECT the LADOT to continue to post the authorized restriction on the following blocks upon adoption of the Resolution expanding this District:
 - a. Oxford Avenue between Venice Boulevard and the Santa Monica Freeway;
 - b. Westmoreland Boulevard between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
 - c. Hobart Boulevard from Venice Boulevard to the Santa Monica Freeway;
 - d. Harvard Boulevard from Venice Boulevard to 21st Street;
 - e. 21st Street between Harvard Boulevard and Hobart Boulevard;
 - f. Kingsley Drive between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
 - g. Ardmore Avenue between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
 - h. Roosevelt Avenue between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;

- i. LaSalle Avenue between Washington Boulevard and the Santa Monica Freeway;
- j. Cordova Street between Normandie Avenue and LaSalle Avenue;
- k. 20th Street between Normandie Avenue and LaSalle Avenue;
- l. Congress Avenue between 20th Street and the Santa Monica Freeway; and
- m. Little Normandie Avenue (west side) between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard.

DISCUSSION

LADOT received requests from both Councilmember Wesson and from the Los Angeles Police Department Area Captain requesting that the area between Venice Boulevard and the Santa Monica Freeway and between Western Avenue and Normandie Avenue (Expansion Area) be included in the boundaries of OPD No. 537 as it is suffering from substantially the same impacts as those identified in the original boundaries of this OPD before the district was established.

BACKGROUND

On November 6, 2009, the City Council established OPD No. 537 for the Harvard Heights area because residents were experiencing quality of life crimes such as public urination, narcotic activity, lewd acts, public drinking associated with non-resident vehicles.

The Expansion Area is an area developed with some single-family and multiple family residential dwelling units; which lack adequate off-street parking, where the residents depend upon being able to park on the street adjacent to their homes and where residents are unable to find overnight parking on the block due to the overnight parking of non-residents.

In June 2012, the staff of Council District 10 reached out to LADOT regarding providing relief to the residents of additional areas of Harvard Heights and to the West Adams Heights as they were suffering impacts from quality of life issues similar to those experienced by the residents of OPD No. 537. LADOT staff and the staff of Council District 10 discussed the expansion of this OPD as the course which would provide the best parking opportunities for all residents of the area.

In October 2012, Councilmember Herb Wesson, 10th Council District, sent the attached letter to LADOT on behalf of the residents living in the Expansion Area requesting it be included in the Harvard Heights OPD No. 537 as they were experiencing impacts from vehicles being stored or repaired on the roads as well as problems with lewd acts, drug sales and other activities detrimental to public welfare in the area. The Councilmember also identified the streets set forth in Recommendation No. 4 to be posted once the City Council adopts the Resolution expanding OPD No. 537.

LADOT received a letter from Captain Tina Nieto of the Olympic Police Station requesting the expansion of the district in order to address quality of life crime issues that were the

basis of the original district. Captain Nieto also indicated that less restrictive alternatives have been unsuccessful in eliminating these issues. She indicated, however, that residents should be allowed to purchase permits to exempt them from the parking prohibition to allow them parking near their homes.

A survey of the streets revealed that the composition of homes in the area is much like those in OPD No. 537. Many homes are older and have been converted to multifamily use and lack adequate off-street parking. Therefore, the residents would need to be able to purchase permits to be able to park within the district. The issuance of permits will allow enforcement personnel to easily identify vehicles of residents and guests.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The Staff in the City's Department of Transportation, Parking Permit Division, has surveyed the streets proposed for permit parking restrictions and has concluded that, under the State CEQA guidelines, the changes are subject to a Class I Categorical Exemption under § 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines because changes in parking restrictions for this district are operational and will not expand the existing use of the streets or change parking demand.

The LADOT staff also determined that the exceptions to the categorical exemption for cumulative impact, significant effect, scenic highway, hazardous waste site or historical resource do not apply to this district. (See 2002 City CEQA Guidelines, Article III, 1.a.3.)

COORDINATION:

Councilmember Wesson, Council District 10, sent a letter to DOT requesting the expansion of OPD No. 537 to the area from Venice Boulevard to the Santa Monica Freeway and between Normandie Avenue and Western Avenue, as the expansion is the best possible solution to remedy the vehicle related problems on these street segments at this time. LAPD has requested the establishment as a tool to assist with their enforcement measures in the area. LADOT recommends the expansion to provide relief and the best parking opportunities to all residents of the district.

SJR:DBA:tlm

Attachment

- Resolution
- Map of OPD No. 537
- Councilmember's Letter
- LAPD Letter

RESOLUTION

EXPANSION OF OVERNIGHT PARKING DISTRICT NO. 537 TO THE HARVARD HEIGHTS/WEST ADAMS HEIGHTS AREAS OF COUNCIL DISTRICT 10 (C.F. 09-2610)

WHEREAS, the City Council established OPD No. 537 on November 6, 2009 to address quality of life criminal issues in the Harvard Heights Area of Council District 1; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) has received written request from Councilmember Herb Wesson, 10th Council District, requesting LADOT expand Overnight Parking District No. 537 (OPD) such that the new boundaries of the District are: the centerline of 11th Street between Western Avenue and Normandie Avenue; the centerline of Normandie Avenue between 11th Street and the Santa Monica Freeway; the Santa Monica Freeway between Normandie Avenue and Western Avenue, and the centerline of Western Avenue between the Santa Monica Freeway and 11th Street and identifying that public nuisance problems such as prostitution in vehicles, committing lewd acts and drinking in public.

WHEREAS, LADOT has received a letter from the Los Angeles Police Department, requesting expansion of the above OPD and posting of signs in the area to address public nuisance problems and crime associated with the vehicles of non-residents on these street segments, and dedicated permits could be issued; and

WHEREAS, LADOT studied the expansion area and found that there is inadequate off street parking and that permits would be necessary for residents and their guests.

WHEREAS, LADOT expansion of this OPD is subject to a Class 1 Categorical Exemption, because parking in the area is currently allowed and this establishment "involves negligible or no expansion to existing use". Establishment under the Class 1 Categorical exemption of section 15301(c) of the State CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Guidelines and of the 2002 City CEQA Guidelines, Article III. 1.a.3; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Wesson has identified the following streets to be posted with signs with a restriction of "NO PARKING, 2 AM TO 6 AM NIGHTLY; DISTRICT 537 PERMITS EXEMPT":

- a. Oxford Avenue between Venice Boulevard and the Santa Monica Freeway;
- b. Westmoreland Boulevard between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
- c. Hobart Boulevard from Venice Boulevard to the Santa Monica Freeway;
- d. Harvard Boulevard from Venice Boulevard to 21st Street;
- e. 21st Street between Harvard Boulevard and Hobart Boulevard;
- f. Kingsley Drive between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
- g. Ardmore Avenue between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
- h. Roosevelt Avenue between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
- i. LaSalle Avenue between Washington Boulevard and the Santa Monica Freeway;
- j. Cordova Street between Normandie Avenue and LaSalle Avenue;
- k. 20th Street between Normandie Avenue and LaSalle Avenue;

- l. Congress Avenue between 20th Street and the Santa Monica Freeway; and
- m. Little Normandie Avenue (west side) between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council, pursuant to Section 80.54 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), hereby expands OPD No. 537 so that the new boundaries include both sides of streets in the area bounded in a clockwise manner by: the centerline of 11th Street between Western Avenue and Normandie Avenue; the centerline of Normandie Avenue between 11th Street and the Santa Monica Freeway; the Santa Monica Freeway between Normandie Avenue and Western Avenue, and the centerline of Western Avenue between the Santa Monica Freeway and 11th Street; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the expansion of OPD No. 537, pursuant to LAMC Section 80.54, is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption, under III.1.a.3 of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon expansion of OPD No. 537 through adoption of this Resolution, the LADOT shall be authorized and directed to post signs with a restriction of "NO PARKING, 2 AM TO 6 AM NIGHTLY; DISTRICT 537 PERMITS EXEMPT" on the residential portions of the following streets:

- a. Oxford Avenue between Venice Boulevard and the Santa Monica Freeway;
- b. Westmoreland Boulevard between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
- c. Hobart Boulevard from Venice Boulevard to the Santa Monica Freeway;
- d. Harvard Boulevard from Venice Boulevard to 21st Street;
- e. 21st Street between Harvard Boulevard and Hobart Boulevard;
- f. Kingsley Drive between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
- g. Ardmore Avenue between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
- h. Roosevelt Avenue between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard;
- i. LaSalle Avenue between Washington Boulevard and the Santa Monica Freeway;
- j. Cordova Street between Normandie Avenue and LaSalle Avenue;
- k. 20th Street between Normandie Avenue and LaSalle Avenue;
- l. Congress Avenue between 20th Street and the Santa Monica Freeway; and
- m. Little Normandie Avenue (west side) between Venice Boulevard and Washington Boulevard; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other terms and conditions of OPD No. 537 remain unchanged.

OVERNIGHT PARKING DISTRICT NO.537

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 CENTRAL ENFORCEMENT

