

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to authorizing the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to accept labor cost reimbursements to expedite traffic control plan reviews and technical studies.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. REQUEST the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance establishing a new Expedited Plan Trust Fund for the LADOT to accept funds for the purposes of conducting technical studies and reviewing traffic control plans and traffic studies on an accelerated basis.
2. AUTHORIZE the LADOT, upon establishment of a new Expedited Plan Trust, to establish separate accounts within the Expedited Plan Trust Fund for individual utility companies and developers for expedited plan reviews for ongoing complex projects, and accept up to \$500,000 from utility companies and developers, deposit the funds into the new Expedited Plan Trust Fund, and appropriate therefrom to Fund 100/94, Salaries Overtime Account No. 001090 and Salaries General Account No. 001010 for the actual costs expended on the requested services.
3. AUTHORITZE the LADOT to enter into Memorandum of Agreements with each appropriate utility company and developer that requests expedited plan review, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality.
4. AUTHORIZE the Controller to make any technical corrections or clarifications to the above instructions in order to effectuate the intent of this action.
5. DIRECT the General Manager, LADOT, in consultation with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), to develop recommendations to accept compensation for expedited traffic control plan reviews and technical studies requested by these agencies.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The LADOT reports that establishing the proposed trust fund will allow for the acceptance of advance deposits to reimburse labor costs and ensure that adequate funding is available to cover related payroll expenses.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

In a report to Council dated April 16, 2015, LADOT reports that private and public entities that perform construction and maintenance work affecting surface streets in the public right-of-way are legally required to have traffic control plans reviewed by LADOT. Also, technical studies are often necessary to assess the potential traffic impacts from transportation and development projects. The average processing time for plan reviews and studies during the first quarter of 2015 was 39 days.

LADOT goes on to report that plan reviews and technical studies are completed in the order in which they are received. Several factors impact processing times: including the project scope

and location, complexity of analyses, plan revisions, client resubmissions, staff workload, etc. Multiple firms have expressed interest in reimbursing staff overtime costs for expedited services. LADOT requests authority to establish an Expedited Trust Fund to formalize an expedited review service and to accept monetary deposits for reimbursing the labor costs to perform such services.

At its meeting held April 22, 2015, the Transportation Committee discussed this matter with LADOT staff. At that time, the Department representative stated there is growing demand for LADOT expedite traffic control plan reviews and technical studies, but only limited staff resources. It was stated that the Bureau of Engineering and the Planning Department both offer expedited plan check review. The Department representative stated that plan checks typically can take up to two months to complete. Expedited plan checks are completed in ten days.

The Transportation Committee expressed support for the LADOT proposal and recommended that Council approve the Department's report recommendations. Committee further recommended that Council direct LADOT to formulate recommendations for offering expedited plan check review to DWP and Metro.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE



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

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-