

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the partnership with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to use automated cameras to enforce parking violations in bus lanes.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. REQUEST the City Attorney to prepare and present an Ordinance to amend the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to:
 - a. Add a new section and amend LAMC Sections 80.76.2 (Civil Penalties) and 89.60 (Authority) to establish a base fine and late payment penalties for a bus lane parking violation.
 - b. Authorize towing for unlawful parking in a bus lane.
2. DIRECT the LADOT to:
 - a. Submit a budget request for two Traffic Officer II positions to support the future camera bus lane enforcement program.
 - b. Report back after the LADOT and the Metro execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Fiscal Impact Statement: The LADOT reports that there is no fiscal impact at this time as this report is informational. Funding for two additional Traffic Officer positions in 2023-24, if approved through the annual budget process, will come from the General Fund. The cost will be offset by the expected increase in bus lane citations issued and improved operational efficiency of bus lane enforcement using automated cameras.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For:
Los Feliz Neighborhood Council
Mid City West Neighborhood Council
NoHo Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhood Council

Summary:

On November 1, 2022, your Committee considered a September 29, 2022 LADOT report relative to the partnership with the Metro to use automated cameras to enforce parking violations in bus lanes. According to the LADOT, without the authority to issue citations using video feed, LADOT Parking Enforcement Officers monitor and enforce parking violations in bus lanes during peak hours. This resource-intensive approach relies on officer presence to achieve compliance, and has not resulted in lasting behavior change.

The authority granted by AB 917 allows for an innovative partnership between the Metro and LADOT to use automated cameras mounted on Metro buses to more consistently enforce parking violations in bus lanes. Under this new program, Metro will mount cameras on its buses and provide violation information to LADOT. LADOT Parking Enforcement will then confirm valid violations and issue citations by mail.

This new approach to bus lane enforcement is expected to improve efficiency, reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, and reduce the frequency of illegally parked vehicles in bus lanes, which is a significant source of delay to buses during peak hours. Since August 2021, LADOT and Metro have held regular meetings to develop a camera based enforcement flowchart and MOU that clearly identifies the roles and responsibilities of each agency. The MOU still lacks details on two key items, the cost of the program and proposed method of cost recovery for the Metro.

The Metro expects to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) in mid-November 2022. Once bids are received, the Metro will be able to clearly identify their anticipated costs for the program. The LADOT will then submit the MOU to the Mayor and City Council for approval. The estimated timeline for the program is:

- Metro Board Approval: May 2023
- Executed MOU: July 2023
- Public Outreach: June 2023 – September 2023
- Installation and Configuration: June 2023 – September 2023
- Program Launch: September 2023
- Warning citations issued: September 2023 – October 2023
- First citation issued: November 2023

Currently, LADOT Parking Enforcement cannot issue citations for parking in a dedicated bus lane without a motorist violating additional parking restrictions. Parking enforcement officers can cite motorists parking in a dedicated bus lane when they are also parking in an anti-gridlock zone, no parking or stopping, red zone, or in front of a fire hydrant. To improve enforcement in dedicated bus lanes and overall operational efficiency, the LADOT recommends creating a violation for parking in a dedicated bus lane. LADOT

To implement a camera based bus lane citation program, the LADOT requires funding and Resolution Authority for two Traffic Officer II positions. Daily duties for these new positions will include reviewing evidence packages for suspected violations of the LAMC or California Vehicle Code by motorists, verification or confirmation of the violation, and issuance of the appropriate parking citation. The estimated annual cost of the two Traffic Officer positions is about \$134,000. After consideration and having provided an

opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations contained in the LADOT report. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,
Transportation Committee

COUNCILMEMBER VOTE

BONIN: YES

HUTT: YES

BUSCAINO: ABSENT

ARL

11/1/22

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-