


CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: March 15, 2016

To: The Honorable City Council
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: **CODE THE CURB (C.F. 15-1450-S2)**

SUMMARY

This report proposes creating a digital inventory of the City of Los Angeles' parking regulations posted in the public right-of-way.

RECOMMENDATION

REQUEST that the resources described below be considered in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 Adopted Budget for a citywide parking regulations digital inventory:

- Appropriate \$1.1 million from the Special Parking Revenue Fund (SPRF) for the initial phase of this effort.

BACKGROUND

In June 2014, Mayor Garcetti engaged a group of stakeholders to discuss opportunities to improve the parking experience throughout the City. This group, called the Los Angeles Parking Reform Working Group (LAPRWG), was comprised of residents, business owners and representatives of different organizations. Over the course of seven months, the LAPRWG reviewed and analyzed a wide variety of potential parking reforms. The LAPRWG released their comprehensive report and recommendations for consideration in 2015. Among these recommendations was a proposal to take an inventory of all the public street curbs and code them according to their attributes. Subsequently, on December 9, 2015, C.F. 15-1450-S42 was introduced to electronically inventory the City's parking assets in the public right-of-way, known as "Code the Curb."

DISCUSSION

The City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) does not have a citywide inventory of all parking regulations. Parking regulations are identified on city streets by either curb markings or parking signs. However, LADOT has a digital inventory for parking meters citywide and their corresponding parking regulations. (This information is available on the City's Open Data website.) There is no similar inventory for parking regulations on streets without parking meters. Unfortunately, the curb markings are very difficult to inventory for a number of reasons. A parking sign inventory would be easier to

implement and would fit well with the department's strategic plan goal to create an effective and resilient 21st Century department by better managing and maintaining the City's assets.

The department estimates there are more than 1 million signs posted on city streets and creating an inventory of parking signs poses some serious challenges and opportunities. To collect the data through fieldwork using City forces would create labor resource issues that could be difficult to manage. After much research and analysis, staff recommends using technology such as video cameras and advanced software to create the digital inventory. A small scale demonstration was performed in Downtown Los Angeles by a contractor and yielded promising results. The survey would need to include every street in the City and digitally map the parking regulation signs posted in the field. In addition to mapping the parking regulation signs, it would be most efficient to map all LADOT traffic signs as part of the effort. The final product would be an online, spatial inventory database of all signed traffic and parking regulations that could be mapped and queried. Once created, the database would then need to be maintained by staff and linked with the department's electronic work order system to capture future changes.

The total cost to complete a digital sign inventory citywide is estimated to range between \$4.4 - 5.6 million. The department recommends funding this effort in phases over several years. Because not all assets to be captured are parking related, only 25% or about \$1.1 million is being sought for appropriation from SPRF funds. Additional funding from Measure R, and Propositions A and C should be considered for funding future phases. Based on the miles of streets, estimated number of signs and processing labor hours, the first phase of the inventory will take an estimated 9-12 months to complete.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There is no impact to the General Fund. Initial funding for the sign inventory can come from SPRF, with additional phases funded by Proposition A, Proposition C, and/or Measure R.

SJR:JK:kh