

MOTION

Feminine hygiene products, like tampons and sanitary napkins, are essential health items for women. Just as public restrooms provide toilet paper and soap for patrons, they should also provide tampons and sanitary napkins. All of these basic supplies are necessary for personal hygiene and public health.

California law states that a public school maintaining any combination of classes from grade 6 to grade 12 that meets the 40 percent pupil poverty threshold specified in federal law is required to stock 50 percent of the school's restrooms with feminine hygiene products. State law also prohibits a public school from charging for any menstrual products, including feminine hygiene products, provided to pupils. In order to further increase access to feminine hygiene products, the City of Montebello has plans to make these products available for free at many of its facilities, including City Hall, the police station and the Senior Center. Montebello joins other cities like Salt Lake City that are offering free feminine hygiene products in the restrooms located at the public facilities. Other states, including New York and Nevada, have taken other measures to increase access such as banning the tax on menstrual products.

The Department of Recreation and Parks reports that they have feminine hygiene products available for free for camp participants and at certain sites where young women may find themselves in unexpected situations. They further report that most park patrons rely on the machines in restrooms that may be purchased for a quarter. The City should also take efforts to make feminine hygiene products more accessible to female Angelenos throughout the City at no cost.

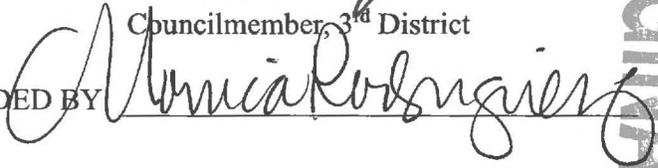
I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Department of General Services to report on the feasibility and costs of providing feminine hygiene products at no cost at all restrooms in City-owned facilities and to identify any City facilities that currently offer free feminine hygiene products.

PRESENTED BY:



BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY



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