

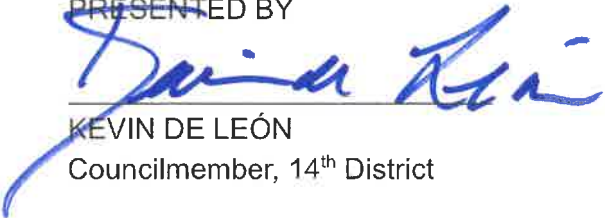
MOTION

Science and personal experience continue to demonstrate the importance of trees for health, safety, and quality of life. As we encounter increasingly extreme heat as a result of climate change, it is more important than ever to not only increase our urban canopy but also to protect the trees already shading our streets. The current enforcement mechanism for protecting street trees – fines levied through the the Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) program for violations of LAMC 62.169(a), 62.171, and/or 62.174 – lumps damages to our urban canopy in the miscellaneous category of administrative violations that limit fines to \$250 for a first offense, \$500 for a second offense, and \$1,000 for a third or any subsequent offense. By comparison, fines for violations of sign regulations start at \$2,000 for the first offense for signs 10 ft by 15 ft or smaller. Trees are invaluable assets in our communities' climate resilience and fines for their removal, abuse, molestation, or destruction should reflect this.

I THEREFORE MOVE the Council instruct the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) to report back within 30 calendar days from adoption of this motion on an administrative fine schedule for violations of LAMC 62.169(a), 62.171, or 62.174 commensurate with damages including but not limited to loss of shade, loss of carbon storage, increase to local average surface temperature of the street, decrease in local air quality, and tree species.

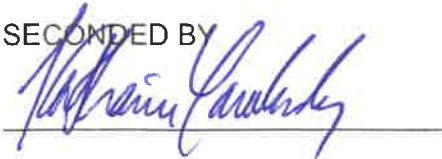
I FURTHER MOVE the Council request the City Attorney, with the assistance of BSS, to include in the aforementioned report recommendations for the appropriate party to receive the citation and fines, payment plans or other provisions for a demonstrated inability to pay the levied fines, culturally competent education and outreach, and next steps to effectuate the proposed administrative fine schedule.

PRESENTED BY



KEVIN DE LEÓN
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY



ORIGINAL


AUG 0 1 2023