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Office of the City Clerk, City of Los Angeles

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Council File Number
07-2139

Title
RATIO OF COMPACT PARKING SPACES

Subject
Motion - All too often, mothers with baby car seats, seniors with walkers or canes, and people with disabilities face a very difficult situation when they park their cars in public parking lots and garages and there is only inches of space between their vehicle and the adjacent vehicle. Whether they drive compact cars or large sport- utility vehicles (SUVs), there is not enough room for them to access their vehicles with the current system of different-sized parking spaces designated for large and small vehicles. The City's zoning code (LAMC, 12.21.A) contains parking requirements for different types of uses, and contains requirements that project applicants have to abide by to receive any necessary land use entitlements from the Planning Department. Commercial and industrial buildings are required to provide at least one automobile parking space for each 1,000 square feet of combined floor area contained within all buildings on a lot, and one automobile parking space for each 500 feet of combined floor area contained within all manufacturing or industrial buildings on any lot. The ratio of compact parking spaces to "standard size" parking spaces in new commercial buildings needs to be reexamined to reflect the reality of current vehicle sizes. Auto industry data indicates that approximately 39%(percent) of the cars on the road, and approximately 50% of car sales in California this year, are from vans, mini-vans, SUVs, and trucks. The California vehicle code is silent on regulatory provisions for compact parking spaces. Therefore, neither parking citations nor towing are viable solutions. As such, large vehicle owners often occupy two compact parking spaces knowing that they cannot be cited. This behavior has detrimental impacts on disabled drivers who encounter difficulties getting in and out of their cars when parked next to large vehicles that don't fit within their parking space. THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Planning Department, with the assistance of the Transportation Department, and in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare a report within 45 days that provides recommendations to revise the ratio of compact parking spaces to "standard size" parking spaces in new commercial buildings to reflect the reality of current vehicle sizes, and recommend any needed changes to the Municipal Code.

Last Change Date
11/14/2011

Expiration Date
07/28/2011

Council District
9

Mover
GREIG SMITH

Second
ED REYES

Action History for Council File 07-2139

Date	Activity
11/14/2011	File expired per Council policy.
07/28/2009	Planning and Land Use Management Committee continued item to/for report back in 45 days.
07/23/2009	Planning and Land Use Management Committee scheduled item for committee meeting on July 28, 2009.

Archive History

6-29-07 - This day's Council session
6-29-07 - Ref to Planning and Land Use Management and Transportation Committees
6-29-07 - File to Planning and Land Use Management Committee Clerk