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May 24, 2005

Honorable Greig L. Smith, Chair  
Public Works Committee  
Los Angeles City Council

c/o Sharon Gin  
City Clerk's Office  
Room 395 City Hall

**STATUS REPORT UPDATE FOR COUNCIL FILE 04-0999, NO FEE PERMITS TO  
HOMEOWNERS FOR SIDEWALK INSTALLATION, REPAIR AND/OR RECONSTRUCTION**

The Bureau of Engineering presented a Status Report on the six-month fee waiver pilot program to the Public Works Committee on March 31, 2005. The report addressed A-Permit fee waivers for homeowners repairing sidewalks between September 15, 2004 and March 15, 2005. At the meeting, the Committee requested the Bureau of Engineering to provide sidewalk repair data for the six months prior to September 15, 2004.

The review of A-Permit fee waivers for both reporting periods is presented in the following table. Due to the method of tracking A-Permit information in the database prior to the Motion, it's not possible to discern permits issued to homeowners from other use categories (i.e., multiple residential, commercial, etc.). Subsequent to the Motion, the Bureau of Engineering modified the A-Permit application to separately track fee-waived repairs by homeowners.

Some observations can be made with the limited data available. Approximately 10% of the total A-Permits issued were fee waived for voluntary sidewalk repair per the Motion. The revenue waived represents about 16% of the total revenue collected. Other considerations in comparing the six-month time periods is the seasonal variation in permit volume and the unusually wet rainy season in 2005. Permit volumes are typically lower in late fall and winter and tend to peak in spring and summer. Comments received by public counter staff also indicate that customers are not aware of the availability of no-fee permits for homeowner repair/replacement of sidewalk.

The Bureau of Engineering recommends that this program be continued on a pilot basis an additional six-months. This will give us a comparable peak season to gather data and report back to the Committee. In addition, we recommend informing Neighborhood Councils of the availability of this discount program for homeowners and ask them to notify their members.



<b>SUMMARY OF FEES WAIVED FOR ALL SIDEWALK REPAIRS</b>		
	<b>3/15/04 to 9/15/04</b>	<b>9/15/04 to 3/15/05</b>
Total number of A permits issued	1,739	1,529
Sidewalk permits waived per pilot program	NA	159
Other sidewalk permits waived <sup>1</sup>	204	82
Total number of sidewalk permits non-waived	390	259
<b>Total fees waived</b>	<b>\$68,351</b>	<b>\$66,462</b>
Inspection fees waived	\$23,831	\$14,802
Basic permit fees waived	\$44,520	\$51,660
Total estimated miles repaired or reconstructed during the six-month period.	2.7	1.7
<sup>1</sup> Includes permits with the fees waived under the following categories: Council Motion Voluntary Repairs, Council Motion Walk of Fame, LAMC Natural Causes, and LAMC Tree Roots Damage.		

If you require additional information, please contact Ofelia Rubio at (213) 978-2072 or Clark Robins at (213) 847-8769.

Sincerely,



Gary Lee Moore, P.E.  
 City Engineer

GLM:alm

Attachment: Copy of the status report for Council file 04-0999 dated March 31, 2005

cc: John Lee, CD 12  
 Francisco Martinez, CD 6  
 Roslyn Carter-Phillips, CLA  
 Clark Robins, BOE  
 Ofelia Rubio, BOE