

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR, PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE, relative to staff support for the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS) for the enforcement of off-site sign code violations.

Recommendation for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Huizar - Harris-Dawson - Ryu):

DIRECT the LADBS to prepare an analysis of the Code Violation Inspection Fee to determine the fee amount required to achieve full cost recovery for code violation inspections and submit said analysis to Council.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Administrative Officer (CAO) reports that there is no impact to the General Fund as a result of the recommendation of this report to direct the LADBS to report on the appropriate level for the Code Violation Inspection Fee to achieve full cost recovery.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For:
Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council

Summary:

On August 1, 2018, the Chair of the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee considered a June 7, 2018 CAO report in response to Motion (Huizar - Harris-Dawson - Ryu) relative to staff support for the LADBS for the enforcement of off-site sign code violations. According to the Motion, the Off-Site Sign Periodic Inspection Program (OSSPIP), under the purview of the LADBS, is the City's regulatory/inspection program overseeing billboards. The LADBS indicates that they can provide additional OSSPIP enforcement services if they receive additional resources, and therefore, recommends that the Council authorize by Resolution Authority two Building Mechanical Inspectors. The LADBS further noted in the report that the cost of these resources could be offset through the collection of existing Code Violation Inspection Fees and Non-Compliance Fees typically assessed on Orders to Comply cited on non-compliant properties. Finally, in an October 28, 2016 CAO report (Council File No. 11-1705), the DBS recommended the authorization the two unfunded positions within the LADBS to provide additional OSSPIP enforcement, and assist in the implementation of any new sign ordinance.

Subsequently, the CAO stated that the two proposed positions would address off-site sign complaints from the public, referrals from the existing OSSPIP survey team, and conduct investigations of a backlog of signs currently allowed to operate without a permit or in violation of City permits under the state law rebuttable presumption provision. Based on the projected workload and the revenue that is estimated to be generated from that work, the CAO determined that the positions would not generate sufficient offsetting revenues from existing fees to achieve full cost recovery. The CAO does not recommend the approval of the two positions at this time. While the motion recommends the use of existing Department Salaries General funds for these positions, the CAO recommends that they be fully fee supported to mitigate the impact on the General Fund in future years. The CAO further determined that in order for the proposed

positions to be fully fee supported, additional workload and an updated Civilian Violation Inspection Fee (CVIF) would be required and as such, the CAO is recommending that the DBS prepare a fee analysis of the CVIF to ensure full cost recovery.

As part of the analysis of the projected offsetting revenue, the CAO identified the amount of the CVIF as a limiting factor to achieving full cost recovery for the two proposed BMI positions. The CAO has prepared a preliminary analysis of the CVIF by adjusting the original fee analysis with updated cost figures and determined that the current fee and revenue would not provide full cost recovery for these positions. It is recommended that the DBS be directed to conduct a full fee analysis to determine the appropriate level for the CVIF to achieve full cost recovery for code enforcement activities. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee Chair recommended approval of the recommendation contained in the CAO report and detailed in the above recommendation. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KORETZ:	YES
PRICE:	ABSENT
ENGLANDER:	ABSENT

ARL
8/1/18

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-