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PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION

It was recently reported in the local media that the LAPD has been instructed to stop enforcing its vehicle impound policies regarding unlicensed drivers.

In California, driving is a privilege, not a right and individuals must have a valid license to drive. Licensed drivers can lose their driving privileges for several reasons in California including repeated drunk driving violations; excessive moving violations, driving without insurance, a medical condition, being involved in a fatal accident and other actions that could be considered a threat to public safety.

Current California Vehicle Code 14602.6 (a) authorizes impoundment of a vehicle for 30 days whenever an officer determines that the driver was driving the vehicle while his or her driving privilege was (1) suspended, (2) revoked, or (3) was driving without having been issued a driver's license.

However, it is now unclear how or if the proposed new LAPD policy suggesting the elimination of the authority to impound and hold a vehicle for 30 days (30-day holds) is consistent with State law or existing policies that reflect the longstanding belief that an unlicensed driver - or a person driving with a suspended or revoked license - is a threat to public safety.

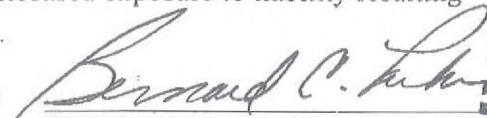
The members of the Public Safety Committee and the Los Angeles City Council need to better understand how this proposed policy change may impact LAPD's ability to uphold and enforce policies that make drivers safe on our roads. Including upholding of current the current 30-day impound policy for unlicensed drivers.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the LAPD be instructed to report to the Public Safety Committee within 30 days regarding their plans to alter the current unlicensed driver policies and procedures.

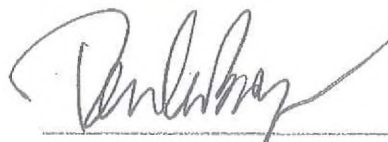
I FURTHER MOVE that the LAPD be instructed to not make any changes to its current policies regarding 30-day holds until the City Council has been able to review the impacts of this potential policy change.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney be instructed to report to the Public Safety Committee within 30 days regarding the possibility of increased exposure to liability resulting from this policy change.

PRESENTED BY:


BERNARD C. PARKS
COUNCILMEMBER

SECONDED BY:




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ORIGINAL