Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney
Hydee Feldstein Soto

REPORT NO. R24-0547

REPORT RE: OCT 30 2024

ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION ENFORCEMENT (ACE) PROGRAM STATUS REPORT

The Honorable City Council
of the City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Honorable Members:

On June 21, 2013, City Council adopted the Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) Program Ordinance (Council File 10-0085) and requested that the CityAttorney's Office develop an ACE pilot program involving the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Department of Animal Services (DAS). On November 5, 2014, City Council adopted an implementation plan for the pilot program. Since the inception of the pilot program, City Council has approved the additional following agencies to issue ACE citations: Recreation and Parks Department (RAP), Bureau of Street Services (BOSS), Housing Department (LAHD), Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), and Bureau of Sanitation and Environment (LASAN). This report provides the most recent update for the program.

Recommendation

RECEIVE AND FILE this Annual 2023-2024 ACE Program Status Report.

Overview of the ACE Program

The City Attorney's Office continues to review every citation issued and submitted for processing. Between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024, there were 8,465 citations reviewed. To date, the ACE program has reviewed approximately 85,597 citations.

LAPD Statistics

From July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, LAPD issued 3,117 citations. Over 67% of those citations were processed; the remaining citations were either referred to another program for handling or rejected. The following is a summary of the citations received from each LAPD division between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024.

Division	Citations Received
77th	22
Central	59
Central Traffic	238
Devonshire	43
Foothill	179
Harbor	58
Hollenbeck	46
Hollywood	433
Mission	483
Newton	16
North Hollywood	40
Northeast	41
Olympic	42
Pacific	206
Rampart	16
Southeast	81
Southwest	126
South Traffic	42
Topanga	173
Valley Traffic	3
Van Nuys	96
West Los Angeles	53
West Traffic	16
West Valley	45
Wilshire	169
Commission Investigations Division	44
Commercial Crimes Division	169
Office of Operations/Film Unit	22
Transit Services Division	5

Of the LAPD citations processed in this reporting period of the ACE Program, offenses were recorded in the following general categories:

• Drinking in Public	30.16%
• Massage related offenses	20.10%
• Spectator, speed contest	13.75%
• Miscellaneous offenses	8.83%
• Lack of Required police commission permits	5.26%
• Gambling related offenses	4.69%
• Marijuana enforcement citations	4.41%
• Violation of City Park ordinances	4.17%
• Noise	3.75%
• Possession of open container on or adjacent to ABC location	2.66%
• Loud parties	1.04%
• Urinating/Defecating in public	0.57%
• Deposit of garbage in street/L.A. River	0.28%
• Fireworks	0.24%
• Vending at Venice Beach	0.09%

The following represents the status of citations received between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024:

• ACE citations received	3,117
• Initial review requests	345
• Administrative hearings conducted	28
• Referred to HEART	147
• Referred to Neighborhood Justice Program	4
• Officers trained	277

The citations that were referred to the Homeless Engagement and Response Team (HEART) program were accessed and screened through community events and via educational outreach. Upon review for eligibility and confirmation that program obligations (such as financial assistance, housing, health insurance needs, etc.) have been met, these citations were dismissed. In addition, citations that are referred to the Neighborhood Justice Program (NJP) are either dismissed or expunged once ACE hears back from the NJP program that the responsible party completed their panel and obligations

DAS Statistics:

The following represents the status of the citations received between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024:

• ACE citations received	825
• Initial review requests	173
• Administrative hearings conducted	1

BOSS Statistics:

The following represents the status of citations received between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024:

• ACE citations received	4,207
• Initial review requests	540
• Administrative hearings conducted	7

Of the BOSS citations processed in this reporting period of the ACE Program, offenses were recorded in the following general categories:

• Maintain Obstruction Public Right of Way	31.94%
• Work/Obstruction prohibited peak traffic hours	27.43%
• Vegetation Obstruction Public Street/Sidewalk	7.54%
• Injury to Public Property	5.84%
• Street Vending	5.84%
• Repair Vehicle Public/Park Vehicle on Public Street for Repair	4.42%
• Operate a Gas-powered Leaf Blower	1.78%
• Miscellaneous	1.61%
• No Permit Traffic Lane Closure	1.16%
• Failure to Keep Sidewalks Clean	1.03%
• Violation of Crane Permit Conditions	0.85%
• Permit to be Exhibited	0.76%
• No Permit Street/Sidewalk Construction	0.40%
• Deposit material on street, prevention of vehicle passing	0.40%
• Leaving Sand or Gravel on Street/Sidewalk	0.40%
• Permit Required to Remove, Plant, Cut Tree	0.31%
• No overload permit – owner/cp-owner/supervisor	0.27%

RAP Park Rangers Statistics:

The following represents the status of citations received between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024:

- ACE citations received 194
- Initial review requests 30
- Administrative hearings conducted 3
- HEART referrals 2
- Referred to Neighborhood Justice Program 0

LADBS Statistics:

Currently, LADBS only issues ACE citations for advertising a short-term rental without a valid permit typically involving single-family homes. The following represents the status of citations submitted between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024:

- ACE citations received 70
- Initial review requests 58
- Administrative Hearings conducted 8

LAHD Statistics:

LAHD issues ACE citations for advertising a short-term rental without a valid permit involving multi-family units. The following represents the status of citations submitted between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024:

- ACE citations received 52
- Initial review requests 46
- Administrative Hearings conducted 4

LAHD has also issued 4 citations for violations of the Tenant Anti-Harassment Ordinance.

LASAN:

The City Council approved LASAN to issue ACE citations on January 11, 2023. LASAN will begin issuing citations for the Comprehensive Plastics Reduction Program and the RecycLA program in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Payment of Fines and Transfer of Fines to Code Compliance Fund

The City's citation processing company, Data Ticket, collects fines and late penalties from persons who have been cited through the ACE Program and whose citations have been screened and referred for processing by the City Attorney's Office.

Fiscal year 2023-2024 gross total of collections was $1,412,905.49, which included voluntary payments and monies received from collection. The Administrative Fines that were voluntarily paid was $1,281,254.50. The amount received from collections totaled $166,102.39, which was comprised of $131,650.99 received from the Franchise Tax Board and $34,451.40 received from Sequoia Financial Services. The fines and penalties collected by Data Ticket are electronically transferred to the Office of Finance monthly for deposit to the Code Compliance Fund 55R, which was established in the ACE Ordinance.

Data Ticket invoices the City Attorney's Office monthly for its citation processing services. During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, a total of $147,194.52 was paid by the City to the contractor for processing, noticing, and collection services.

Unpaid Fines and Penalties:

The total of unpaid fines from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, was $1,294,881.66.

The breakdown by each of the participating departments is as follows:

- Los Angeles Police Department $335,613.00
- Department of Animal Services $203,944.50
- Department of Recreation and Parks $ 22,537.50
- Bureau of Street Services $398,181.00
- Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (Home Sharing) $170,195.49
- Housing and Community Investment Department (Home Sharing) $164,410.17

If you have any further questions regarding the ACE Program, please contact the undersigned at (213) 978-2021.

Sincerely,

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By

RITA HERNANDEZ-VENEGAS
Assistant City Attorney

RHV: jv
Attachments (1)

cc: Honorable Karen Bass, Mayor
Honorable Kenneth Mejia, Controller
Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst
Matt Szabo, City Administrative Officer
Dominic Choi, Chief of Police
Staycee Dains, General Manager, Animal Services
Jimmy Kim, General Manager, Recreation and Parks
Aura Garcia, President, Board of Public Works
Ann Sewill, General Manager, HCID
Osama Younan, General Manager LADBS
Barbara Romero, Director/General Manager, LASAN