


REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: September 14, 2021

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso 
Chief Legislative Analyst Council File No: 21-0002-S158
Assignment No.: 21-09-0664

SUBJECT: Resolution (Raman - Koretz) relative to 100% Zero-Emission Vehicle sales by 2030

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution to include in the City's 2021-2022 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislation and/or administrative action to achieve 100% zero-emission vehicle sales in the State by 2030.

SUMMARY:

Resolution (Raman - Koretz), introduced on August 17, 2021, states that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change maintains that the world has until 2030 to transform the way we live to avoid the most catastrophic and irreversible effects of the climate crisis. It notes that extreme weather events stemming from the climate crisis are already causing devastating floods and fires all over the world, including Southern California.

The Resolution states that due to the ongoing use of gasoline-powered vehicles, the transportation sector is the largest contributor of greenhouse-gas emissions in the State, making up 40% of those emissions. The Resolution stresses that widespread adoption of zero-emission vehicles will reduce air and climate pollution, resulting in healthier air for all residents.

The Resolution indicates that the number of zero-emission vehicles in the State has increased by more than 3,000% over the last eight years, growing from 25,000 in 2012 to 763,816 in 2020. In addition, the Resolution notes that zero-emission vehicle technology continues to progress, making a transition to an 100% electric transportation system in the near future both feasible and achievable.

The Los Angeles Green New Deal sets goals for greenhouse gas emissions reductions which includes increasing the percentage of electric and zero-emissions vehicles in the City to 25% by 2025; 80% by 2035; and 100% by 2050.

The Resolution maintains that the Governor's current 2035 target to end the sale of new gasoline-powered vehicles in the State is not adequate to enable the City to achieve the City's Green New Deal goals, as gasoline-powered vehicles purchased in 2034 could last beyond 2050. Therefore, the Resolution requests that the City support legislation to achieve 100% zero-emission vehicle sales in the State by 2030.

BACKGROUND:

Over the course of the past three decades, the City has led the nation in converting its vehicle fleet from traditional gasoline powered to clean fuel. This includes a sizable percentage of the City's motor pool as well as solid resources collection vehicles.

In addition, the City has been supportive of the electrification of the transportation sector to continue to foster the growth of zero-emission vehicles. This objective has been identified in the Department of Water and Power's (DWP) recent "LA 100 Study" which will serve as a pathway to carbon reduction in the City by 2035. To date, the DWP has installed over 10,000 commercial electric vehicle (EV) charging stations throughout the City to support zero-emission vehicles. In some instances, these efforts are being conducted with the Bureau of Street Lighting, the Department of Transportation and the General Services Department.

The Council is also in the process of considering a Motion (O'Farrell – Krekorian – Price; CF No. 21-0890) that requests the DWP, with other City departments, to create a strategic long term EV Master Plan that includes provisions to maximize Federal and State funding for the equitable placement of EV infrastructure throughout the City. The Motion states that the plan should include incentives for the adoption of electric vehicles for both residential and commercial customers, with a focus on maximizing current and future renewable infrastructure.



Rafael E. Prieto
Analyst

Attachment(s): Resolution (Raman - Koretz)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change maintains that we have until 2030 to transform our economy and the way we live to avoid the most catastrophic and irreversible effects of the climate crisis; and

WHEREAS, extreme weather events stemming from the climate crisis are already causing devastating floods and fires all over the world – including in Southern California; and

WHEREAS, due primarily to the ongoing use of gasoline-powered vehicles, the transportation sector is the largest contributor of greenhouse-gas emissions in California, making up 40% of those emissions; and

WHEREAS, Angelenos – particularly those who face socioeconomic and health inequities – are daily affected by the health and safety risks of air pollution resulting from the widespread use of gasoline-powered vehicles within Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, widespread adoption of zero-emission vehicles will reduce air and climate pollution, resulting in healthier air for all Angelenos and saving lives; and

WHEREAS, the number of zero-emission vehicles in the California has increased by more than 3,000% over the last eight years, growing from 25,000 in 2012 to 763,816 in 2020, with sales continuing to expand every year; and

WHEREAS, zero-emission vehicle technology continues to progress, making a transition to an 100% electric transportation system in the near future both feasible and achievable; and

WHEREAS, zero-emission vehicles are expected to soon achieve price parity with gasoline-powered vehicles, removing financial barriers to their widespread adoption; and

WHEREAS, zero-emission vehicles and related services are an important and growing sector of California's economy, providing an opportunity for quality jobs and tax revenue that will help to implement aspects of the Green New Deal in our state; and

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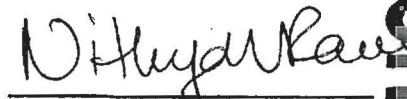
WHEREAS, L.A.'s Green New Deal sets goals for the City's greenhouse gas emissions reductions, which include targets of increasing the percentage of electric and zero-emissions vehicles in the city to 25% by 2025; 80% by 2035; and 100% by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's current 2035 target to end the sale of new gasoline-powered vehicles in California is not adequate to enable the City to achieve our Green New Deal's goals, as a gasoline-powered vehicle purchased in 2034 could easily last beyond 2050; and

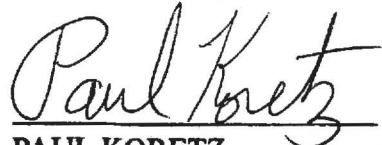
WHEREAS, the cities of Berkeley, Culver City, Hayward, Oakland, Richmond, San Leandro, and Mountain View have all already passed resolutions calling for the goal of 100% zero-emission vehicle sales in California by 2030, and more California cities will likely follow suit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program support for legislation or administrative action to achieve the goal of 100% zero-emission vehicle sales in California by 2030.

PRESENTED BY:


NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY:


PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

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