

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to compliance with Cruising Laws (Assembly Bill 436 (Alvarez)).

Recommendation for Council action pursuant to Motion (Padilla – Hernandez):

REQUEST the City Attorney, in consultation with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, to report within 30 days on what is needed to bring the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) into compliance with the new state law legalizing cruising, including an educational piece on necessary City procedures i.e. permits, noise ordinance rules, etc., that may apply to cruisers and cruising events.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On April 9, 2024, your Committee considered a Motion (Padilla - Hernandez) relative to compliance with Cruising Laws (Assembly Bill 436 (Alvarez)). According to the Motion, on January 1, 2024, California Assembly Bill 436 (Alvarez) took effect, which repeals local laws that prohibit cruising across the State. Cruising is defined in LAMC Section 80.36.10 to mean “the driving of a motor vehicle two or more times within a six-hour period, in a particular direction...” This bill would also remove a provision prohibiting a common modification made to cars used in cruising to have the vehicles ride low to the ground, often referred to as "low riding."

Upon the new law's effective date, a “Cruise Night” was planned and occurred on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 5:00 PM on Van Nuys Blvd. between Oxnard Street and Burbank Blvd. Despite the new legislation prohibiting the enforcement of anti-cruising laws, LAPD Van Nuys Division communicated to the event organizers that all vehicle code violations and LAMCs are still enforceable and that night street events require event permits and must be approved by the City. Cruising has been known to be a part of many multicultural communities, and is seen as a way of artistic expression, popularized by Chicano/Latino communities and vehicle enthusiasts in general. The confusion between the State’s messaging and the LAPD’s understanding of the law has created unnecessary inconveniences to local communities. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Public Safety Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
RODRIGUEZ:	ABSENT
LEE:	YES
McOSKER:	YES
PARK:	YES
SOTO-MARTINEZ:	YES

ARL
4/9/24

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-