

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

Date: August 14, 2026

To: Honorable City Council
c/o City Clerk, Room 395
Attention: Honorable John Lee, Chair, Public Safety Committee

From: Laura Rubio-Cornejo, General Manager 
Department of Transportation

Subject: **REPORT REGARDING POTENTIAL TRANSFER OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PERMITS
FROM THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT TO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

SUMMARY

As directed by the City Council (Council) in Council File (CF) 24-1127, this report outlines whether cost savings can be realized by transferring Transportation Safety Permits from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT).

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council NOTE and FILE this report.

BACKGROUND

The Board of Police Commissioners Permits Section, within the Commission Investigation Division (CID), both administers and enforces Transportation Safety Permits for the City of Los Angeles (City). The Board issues over 60 types of regulatory permits for businesses requiring regulation, including auto park, auto park master, valet parking attendant, valet parking operator master and valet parking operator permits. LADOT assists the CID with reviewing valet zone requests as it relates to impacts to the street and parking, including traffic circulation, signage, curb markings and parking meter revenue recovery.

On June 4, 2025 Council directed LADOT to evaluate cost savings if Transportation Safety Permits (auto park, auto park master, valet parking attendant, valet parking operator master and valet parking operator) were transferred from LAPD to LADOT.

DISCUSSION

CID is responsible for administering and enforcing compliance via LAPD. Enforcement is critical to any permitting model. Currently, LAPD has two Police Officer II positions assigned to enforcement of auto parks and valet permits with part-time as needed support from five detectives and four police officers for investigation and enforcement of all permits. LADOT Transportation Investigators and Traffic Officers are not authorized to enforce Transportation Safety permits. Along with LAPD, the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) investigators, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 61.07(c), have

enforcement authority to cite for violations of the Valet Parking Operator and Valet Parking Attendant permits as outlined in LAMC Sections 103.203 and 103.203.1. LADOT Transportation Investigators are the primary permit enforcement arm of the LADOT. Any transfer of these Safety Permits from LAPD to LADOT would require an amendment to the LAMC to give LADOT Transportation Investigators the authority to enforce these permits.

Administering Transportation Safety Permits requires reviewing applicant criminal background histories and determining appropriate zoning and legal entity status as well as financial viability, and managing compliance. Currently, CID has ten staff assigned to the permit processing section, as listed in Table 1, to administer the 60 regulatory permit types. CID was not able to determine the exact amount of time or full time equivalent staff devoted to the Transportation Safety Permits since their time is not tracked by specific permit.

LADOT currently manages other permitting for taxis, ambulances, and for-hire mobility services. Transferring safety permits from LAPD would create a new program that would require new positions so as to not further impact current service response times. Current turnaround times for driver permits can be any from two to six weeks. Throughout the year, temporary moratoriums on new company permits have been implemented in order to manage the number of new requests. This new workstream for LADOT would require both funding and authority to hire additional positions to both administer and enforce the permits. Table 2 below lists the estimated number of new LADOT positions to manage a new program, as well as Fiscal Year 2027 costs related to the above-mentioned classifications. Each cost is for one full time employee.

Table 1: CID Permit Processing Section Staff for All 60 Regulatory Permit Types Issued

Job Class	Number of Positions	FY 2025 Labor Cost Including Fringe, Central SVCs and Admin.
Lieutenant II	1	\$452,143
Senior Management Analyst I	1	\$336,826
Management Analyst	1	\$274,547
Management Assistants	2	\$343,145
Principal Clerk	1	\$227,569
Senior Administrative Clerk	3	\$553,521
Administrative Clerk	1	\$132,037
TOTAL	10	\$ 2,319,788

Table 2: Minimum LADOT Staff Needed for Processing Transportation Safety Permits

Job Class	Number of Positions	FY 2025 Labor Cost Including Fringe, Central SVCs and Admin.
Administrative Clerk	1	\$126,454
Senior Administrative Clerk	1	\$176,705
Principal Clerk	1	\$217,946
Management Analyst	1	\$262,938
Transportation Investigator	1	\$239,056
Senior Transportation Investigator	1	\$297,289
TOTAL	6	\$1,320,388

In addition to the resource needs outlined above in Table 2, should the responsibility of the Transportation Safety Permits shift from CID to LADOT, the governing authority for permit appeals, denials, suspensions and revocations will also need to be transferred from the Police Permit Review Panel to the Board of Transportation Commissioners.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There is no impact to the General Fund as this report is informational.

LRC:TC:kh/jm