

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 have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, copper wire theft continues to be a persistent and costly issue impacting communities throughout Los Angeles, having far-reaching consequences such as prolonged power outages and darkened streets, which directly diminishes neighborhood security and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the constant need for repair and replacement of stolen infrastructure places a substantial financial burden on the city, draining taxpayer funds that could otherwise be allocated to essential public services; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, persistent wire theft resulted in nearly forty-five thousand service requests that seriously strained the Bureau of Street Lighting's resources, causing repair delays of over six months; and

WHEREAS, despite the City's best efforts to curb rampant copper wire theft through task forces and creative lighting, the damages caused by copper wire theft continue to be a significant financial cost and public safety concern; and

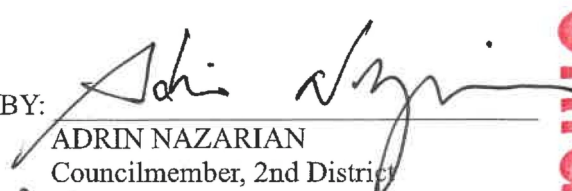
WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 476, signed by the Governor in October 2025, requires junk dealers and recyclers to include the time, amount paid, and employee name for each transaction in their written records, revise the description of junk items, and obtain a signed statement of ownership or source; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1941, introduced by Assemblymember Mark Gonzalez, builds upon the effective legislation of AB 476 by targeting repeat and organized offenders who steal or traffic prohibited metal materials and creates a statewide data-sharing tool to allow for increased visibility into organized metal theft operations; and

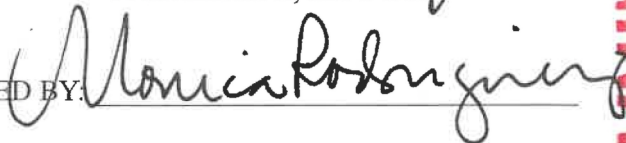
WHEREAS, AB 1941 would establish organized metal theft punishable as either a misdemeanor or a felony, sending a clear message that those who damage our City's infrastructure and make our communities less safe will face stiff consequences;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-2026 State Legislative Program SUPPORT of AB 1941 (Gonzalez) and would encourage additional amendments to clarify that criminal liability of metal theft be calculated based upon the full cost to the victim to repair and replace the stolen materials, including labor and equipment, rather than the fair market scrap value.

PRESENTED BY:


ADRIAN NAZARIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL


FEB 25 2026