

MOTION

Ocean Front Walk, also known as the Venice Boardwalk, is a roughly 2.5 mile promenade along Venice's beachfront border. It is a uniquely Los Angeles locale that contains in its expanse nearly everything that makes Venice so singular. A kaleidoscope of humanity, commerce, and recreation, it's little wonder Ocean Front Walk is the second most visited destination in Southern California.

The international attention and large number of visitors, however, has also brought its challenges, including the illicit sale of animals. In 2009, similar concerns resulted in the Department of Animal Services partnering with the Police Department and City Attorney to create an Illegal Animal Sales Task Force to address the rampant and inhumane sale of animals in Santee Alley and Ocean Front Walk. The taskforce's work led to municipal code changes as well as efforts to post signage in both Santee Alley and along Ocean Front Walk, calling out the illegal nature of animal sales. Unfortunately, any signage posted back in 2011 has since gone missing or deteriorated beyond legibility. Ongoing reductions in staffing and resources across departments have also made such a taskforce more difficult today.

Given the sheer number of visitors to Ocean Front Walk sometimes creates an incentive leading to the inhumane sale of animals, it is important to remove any possible ambiguity in the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) by listing Ocean Front Walk as a location where the sale or purchase of any animal is prohibited. Other actions should include the installation of signage alerting boardwalk goers to our City's existing laws as well as assessing the resources needed to ensure these laws are consistently enforced.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the City Attorney to prepare and present a draft ordinance that modifies Los Angeles Municipal Code Sections 53.42(a), 53.42(f) and 53.42(h) to explicitly prohibit the sale or purchase of animals on "Ocean Front Walk."

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the Department of Animal Services and the Police Department to report on the staffing and resources required to resume the Illegal Animal Sales Task Force.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the Department of Animal Services, in coordination with the City Administrative Officer and General Services Department, to report on the cost to fabricate and install signage along Ocean Front Walk indicating the prohibition on the sale or purchase of animals.

PRESENTED BY:



TRACI PARK

Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



OCT 02 2026



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