

MOTION

The 2023 point-in-time count from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority revealed that 14,096 individuals are experiencing homelessness in their vehicles in Los Angeles County, representing a 9.5% increase over 2022. Oversized vehicles, specifically recreational vehicles, are the most visible manifestation of this crisis, creating a host of challenges along the residential and commercial corridors where they park, in addition to creating severe habitability issues for the vehicle occupants.

The impacts of oversized vehicles, which are designed for recreational use, not long-term urban dwelling, are felt across our City. They include the illegal discharge of hazardous substances into storm drains and public rights of way, harming our environment; occupying parking spaces in parking scarce neighborhoods; reducing roadway space on narrow streets; impeding line of sight at intersections and driveways; and, in certain instances, contributing to crime and heightened risk of fire.

Recognizing these challenges, the City has explored ways to mitigate these impacts, going back decades. These efforts include restrictions on oversize vehicle parking during certain hours (CF 13-0793); the feasibility of creating a permitting system (14-1057-S6); exploring the approach of other cities relative to oversize vehicle parking (CF 17-0956); assessing the feasibility and cost of waste pumping services (CF 15-1138-S27); enforcing against van-lords, who prey on the vulnerability of unhoused individuals (CF 23-0529); implementing rehousing pilot programs (CF 22-1324); and, in 2023, adopting a Citywide framework to rehouse individuals who are experiencing homelessness in their RVs (CF 22-1313).

In spite of these steps, numerous obstacles have been encountered: space management challenges at Official Police Garages, which provide contractual services for vehicle towing and storage across our City; a zoning code that restricts where salvaged vehicles can be stored; lack of safe parking lots with water and power connections and proper turn radiuses; and a sense among oversized vehicle dwellers that they don't consider themselves to be homeless.

The urgency of this crisis, in addition to the profound neighborhood impacts, demands immediate action. While the City may lack parking lots of its own where RVs can safely park and access services, the City should leverage every public asset within its jurisdiction, leaving no stone unturned. This includes our public rights of way, where a program, with proper restrictions, could provide centralized locations for RVs to park and access services.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst and City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the City Attorney, Department of Transportation, LA Sanitation and Environment, Department of City Planning and other relevant departments, to report back with recommendations for a citywide program that would restrict oversize vehicle dwelling in residential areas, commercial corridors and other sensitive uses, while designating streets where oversize vehicle dwellings can park with access to services, including housing

navigation, portable restroom facilities, automotive repair and septic tank waste disposal. Departments should report back on the feasibility of the following:

- Locations in each Council District where oversized vehicle dwellings can park on the public right of way, outside of residential areas, commercial corridors and other sensitive uses
- A permit requirement, free of charge, to participate in the program
- Provision of shower and restroom services, similar to the City's Mobile Pit Stop/Shower Stop program
- Regular sanitation services, including waste disposal and trash collection
- Provision of wrap-around services and safety
- Changes to the Los Angeles Municipal Code that may be required to create said program

PRESENTED BY: Traci Park
TRACI PARK
Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY: Paul Reboredo

Ed Hernandez
Katy Garibay
Arabella Pacheco

ORIGINAL