In recent weeks, it has come to the attention of many in the City that a new car sharing company, Turo, is storing vehicles in the public right-of-way on Manchester Boulevard near Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). Turo, a mobile and web-based application, enables users to rent vehicles from independent owners who are paid for the use of their vehicle through the application. While Turo states that it is a technology company and not a car rental service, their application is still enabling the storage of vehicles in the public right-of-way, in violation of Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 80.73. However, due to Police Department (LAPD) resource constraints, it is currently difficult to enforce this Section of the LAMC.

In an effort to address this problem in an efficient and effective manner, the City should expand the authority of Bureau of Street Services (BSS) investigators to cover all public right-of-way issues. BSS investigators are trained in general law enforcement techniques and all certified graduates of the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Penal Code 832 Course and have all completed Level III Reserve Police Officer Academy Training. These investigators also complete the California Environmental Protection Agency’s Basic Inspectors Academy. However, BSS Investigators are currently limited to the investigation and enforcement of illegal dumping issues by the LAMC. If the LAMC was amended to give BSS Investigators the authority to enforce all laws related to the public right-of-way, it would enable the City to ensure that laws and ordinances related to the use of the public right-of-way are enforced without straining the City’s limited resources.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council request the City Attorney’s Office to prepare and present an ordinance amending Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 61.07(a) to allow Bureau of Street Services Investigators to enforce any and all laws related to the use or misuse of the public right-of-way, including the use of the public right-of-way by rental car companies for storage.

PRESENTED BY
MIKE BONIN
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY

APR 25 2017
jwd
The Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 80.73.3 prohibits a person or entity from selling, leasing, reserving any street, parking space or other public space without written authorization from the City. Several new web-based car sharing/rental companies, however, are storing their vehicles in the public right-of-way. It is critical that the LAMC be revised to expressly prohibit storing vehicles or facilitating the storage of vehicles on local streets and increase the penalties for violations of LAMC Section 80.73.3.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council request the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance that amends Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 80.73.3 relative to storing vehicles in the street to expressly prohibit this activity and to make it a criminal violation subject to prosecution as a misdemeanor violation.

PRESENTED BY: MIKE BONIN
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:

msr

APR 25 2017