

PRESS RELEASE

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Greig Smith Council District 12



LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCILMAN GREIG SMITH

Councilman Smith Calls for Audit of Vehicle Fleet in Response to Public Outcry Over Inappropriate Vehicle Use

Los Angeles - Councilman Greig Smith introduced a motion Wednesday, June 27, calling for an audit of the City fleet of vehicles and a comprehensive review of City policy on fleet vehicle use, in response to serious questions about inappropriate use of City-owned vehicles.

Recently, the public has raised overwhelming concerns regarding the use of City vehicles assigned to employees for City use. During the recent City Budget hearings, questions emerged about the Police Department's use of more than 1,000 fleet vehicles, and more recently we learned that a high-ranking City official made serious misuse of fleet vehicles.

"It's high time that we gained a thorough understanding of the City's vehicle policy and use to ensure that all City-owned vehicles are used responsibly, efficiently, and in line with City policy," Councilman Smith said. "These vehicles are paid for by the taxpayers and their use has implications for the budget. We must not abuse the people's trust."

Councilman Smith's motion calls for the City Administrative Officer, Chief Legislative Analyst, and Department of General Services to conduct a comprehensive review of City policy on fleet vehicle use.

The audit, to be submitted to City Council within 30 days, would include:

- An inventory of the City's existing fleet by department, including number of vehicles by type, vehicles assigned to specific employees, and whether City vehicles are home-garaged.
- Criteria used for approving long-term assignment of City vehicles to employees.
- Criteria for approval of occasional overnight home garaging by employees of City vehicles.
- Rules for use of City vehicles for occasional use, long-term assignment and use by elected officials, if different.
- Recommendations to change or clarify the City's rules or policies on the use of City vehicles to prevent potential abuse.

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