

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL

July 13, 2021

Support for AB 1238, The Freedom to Walk Act to Decriminalize Walking

Pursuant to my motion approved on May 4, 2021, “Support for AB 1238, The Freedom to Walk Act to Decriminalize Walking”, the Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), along with the Director of the Department of Public Works, to conduct an analysis of AB 1238, The Freedom To Walk Act (AB 1238) and report back to the Board. AB 1238 will right-size existing jaywalking laws by repealing provisions of current law that prohibit pedestrians from entering a roadway (jaywalking) and specifying that pedestrians shall not be subject to a fine or criminal penalty for crossing or entering a roadway when no cars are present.

According to the CEO’s report, prepared with input from the Los Angeles County (County) Department of Public Works, the Office of Diversion and Re-entry, and the Office of Alternatives to Incarceration, as well as the National Association of City Transportation Officials and Vision Zero Network, the intent of AB 1238 is generally in keeping with the County’s policies related to diversion, re-entry, and alternatives to incarceration, as well as policy to support proposals that eliminate criminal system administrative fines and fees imposed by the State.

Because the State Legislative Agenda does not contain existing Board-approved policy related to the elimination of laws regarding pedestrians crossing the street, a County advocacy position on AB 1238 is a matter of Board policy determination.

MOTION

MITCHELL _____

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MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL
July 13, 2021
Page 2

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS instruct the Los Angeles County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to support Assembly Bill (AB) 1238, The Freedom to Walk Act to Decriminalize Walking, which decriminalizes walking.

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