

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

May 13, 2014

**Amendment to Item 57**

The Department of Beaches and Harbors is proposing a number of fee revisions and new fees to be charged by the Department for facilities and services provided at Marina del Rey and County-owned, controlled, or managed beaches. Current fees charged by the Department were last increased in 2009. The proposed increases would generate approximately \$1.2 million for Department operations.

While I appreciate the need for additional revenue for Department operations, many of the proposed fees are big one-time jumps. The proposed increases range from a low of 13% to a high of 236%, with a majority being around 50%, especially for parking. I understand that some surrounding communities charge as much or more as the proposed fees, but they didn't necessarily get to those levels all at once. Even then, we need to remember it is our residents and visitors who pay the price when we increase our fees to "keep up with the Joneses." And for many of these residents and visitors, the Great Recession is still a factor in their bottom line, so some of our hardest hitting increases should start lower and be increased over time rather than all at once.

Moreover, the increases in the County's W.A.T.E.R program are upwards of 127%, despite the fact that these programs specifically target the disadvantaged and inner-city youth who may not otherwise experience these ocean-related safety activities.

- M O R E -

MOTION

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YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

Rather than make large one-time increases in these programs, these fees should also start lower and increase over time. Additionally, the Department should make continuing efforts to secure sponsors for these programs to help defray the cost.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Beaches and Harbors to adjust the proposed fees as follows:

1. Fiscal year 2014-15 increases for autos at County-owned, operated, or managed beach parking lots shall not exceed \$2.50 per entry above the existing fee;
2. Fiscal year 2014-15 increases for autos at County-owned, operated, or managed parking lots in Marina del Rey shall not exceed \$2.50 per entry above the existing fee; and
3. Fiscal year 2014-15 increases in the County's W.A.T.E.R. program shall not exceed \$35 above the existing fee.

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