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Long Beach, California

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November 1, 2005

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Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
City of Long Beach
CALIFORNIA

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to receive supporting documentation into the record and conclude the hearing; adopt an urgency ordinance establishing a temporary limitation (moratorium) of certain used car sales businesses on Long Beach Boulevard between Willow Street and Anaheim Street; and declare the ordinance read the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading. (Sixth District)

DISCUSSION:

As per the minute order adopted by the City Council at its meeting of October 4, 2005, the City Attorney's office has prepared the attached Ordinance which, if adopted, would place a limitation (moratorium) of certain used car sales businesses on Long Beach Boulevard between Willow Street and Anaheim Street.

The moratorium is being proposed because of the proliferation of small used car sales businesses on Long Beach Boulevard between Willow Street on the north and Anaheim Street on the south. Such proliferation has led to visual blight along the Long Beach Boulevard corridor and has further led to the appearance of overcrowding. Concerned citizens and other individuals, have expressed that changes to the existing zoning regulations are desired and that continued development of used automobile sales businesses during the pendency of studies undertaken to amend the zoning regulations may defeat the effectiveness of regulations ultimately adopted as a result of the current study and review.

The moratorium would remain in effect for up to one year while the Planning Commission and the Department of Planning and Building undertake the study necessary to determine if the current zoning regulations relating to this issue require modification or amendment. The moratorium will have the effect of maintaining the status quo during the time that the zoning issues are under study.

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As presented, the proposed Ordinance would be adopted as an "urgency ordinance" that would become effective immediately upon adoption. The purpose of proceeding on an "urgency" basis is to facilitate the status quo and to prevent new building or development or business license permits from being issued during the time period normally required for the passage of a "non-urgency" ordinance. A separate roll call vote is required for the passage of this item on an urgency basis.


SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney

By


MICHAEL J. MAIS
Assistant City Attorney

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