



## City Council Agenda Report

**Meeting Date:** April 8, 2025

**Initiated By:** City Council

**Prepared By:** Anthony Carnesecca and Saskia Lagergren

**Approved By:** Gabe Engeland

**Subject:** Parking Enforcement Code Update

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### COUNCIL PRIORITY AREA

- ☐ Public Safety
- ☒ Business Communities
- ☒ Circulation Safety and Efficiency
- ☐ Environmental Sustainability
- ☐ Housing
- ☒ General Government

### RECOMMENDATION

- Adopt an Ordinance adding Section 1.50 of the Los Altos Municipal Code governing Motor Vehicle Parking Enforcement
- Adopt an Ordinance amending Section 8.04 of the Los Altos Municipal Code governing Vehicles and Traffic
- Adopt an Ordinance amending Section 8.20 of the Los Altos Municipal Code governing Stopping, Standing and Parking

### POLICY QUESTION(S) FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- Does the City Council wish to allow expanded enforcement of parking regulations?

### FISCAL IMPACT

None.

### ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The adoption of the resolution does not constitute a project under CEQA. The subsequent action of inspections of enforcement officers are exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15309.

### PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

August 27, 2024

### BACKGROUND

During the August 27, 2024 meeting, City Council directed City staff to explore private sector parking enforcement services throughout the City of Los Altos.

## **DISCUSSION**

Upon review of the Los Altos Municipal Code, City staff discovered that the Los Altos Municipal Code will need to be amended to ensure clarity across different code sections. These proposed modifications will allow a more uniform definition of enforcement officer across the Municipal Code and defined enforcement officers for the City of Los Altos.

LAMC 1.30 clearly defines “enforcement officer” as any city employee or agent of the city with the authority to enforce any provision of the city code, including, but not limited to, the city manager, or his or her designee, as set forth in a resolution adopted by the city council. As new contracts for enforcement are approved by City Council for enforcement of code sections, such as parking, the contractors will be named by resolution as enforcement officers of the City.

LAMC Section 1.30 provides the general provisions, administration, and enforcement of administrative citations, but City staff would like to add an additional section specifically for parking citations.

The new LAMC Section 1.50 will provide the general provisions, administration, and enforcement of motor vehicle parking citations.

LAMC Section 8.04 provides the general provisions, administration, and enforcement of vehicles and traffic. It limits authority for street traffic laws to only sworn peace officers within the City. The recommended modifications create the definition of enforcement officer incorporating language from LAMC 1.30. Additionally, it will allow directed enforcement officers to enforce all parking laws and issue citations to any person responsible for violation of the city parking code.

Proposed modifications to LAMC Section 8.20 would allow enforcement officers under the broader definition to remove vehicles found to be “parked or left standing upon a street, highway, or public parking lot for seventy-two (72) or more consecutive hours” and “any vehicle which remains parked or standing longer than sixty (60) minutes after a citation has been issued in any area where parking is prohibited, provided signs are posted giving notice of such removal.” Additionally, City staff recommends a minor modification to LAMC Section 8.20.030 to comply with prior judicial decisions regarding protected speech.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Ordinance
2. Ordinance
3. Ordinance