

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BY THE
CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS
CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Traffic Violator Apprehension Program Fee

PROPOSAL: The City is considering the adoption of a modified administrative fee that the County of Orange charges on the City's behalf to recover no more than the Orange County Sheriff's Department's reasonable administrative costs relating to the removal, impound, storage or release of vehicles properly impounded pursuant to the California Vehicle Code ("Traffic Violator Apprehension Program Fee"). Following the close of the public hearing, the City Council will consider adopting the modified Traffic Violator Apprehension Program Fee, which would take effect beginning on October 15, 2024.

The existing Traffic Violator Apprehension Program Fee is \$144 per removal of a vehicle (City Council Resolution No. 21-04 dated February 17, 2021). The proposed Traffic Violator Apprehension Program Fee is \$174 per removal of a vehicle.

APPLICANT: City of Laguna Woods, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637

PROJECT LOCATION: Citywide

HEARING DATE: October 14, 2024

HEARING TIME: 2:00 P.M.

HEARING LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: The City Council will be asked to find that this action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, Sec. 21000 et seq.) ("CEQA") pursuant to sections 15060(c)(2) (the activities will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activities are not a project as defined in section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3. CEQA Guideline section 15378(b)(4) excludes "government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities" from its definition of "project" when they "do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment," as is the case here.

The City Council will also be asked to find that, even if this action were subject to CEQA, it would be categorically exempt under CEQA Guideline section 15273, which applies to the establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, or other charges by the City, when such charges are for the purpose of (1) meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, and (2) purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials – as is the case with the Traffic Violator Apprehension Program Fee.

Finally, the City Council will be asked to find that this action is exempt from CEQA based on CEQA Guideline section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW: Related documents – including the Orange County Sheriff’s Department’s cost study showing the current reasonable administrative costs relating to the removal, impound, storage or release of vehicles properly impounded pursuant to the California Vehicle Code – are available for public review at City Hall during normal working hours and on the City’s website at www.cityoflagunawoods.org/projects.

INVITATION TO BE HEARD: All persons either favoring or opposing this proposal are invited to present their views at this hearing. It is requested that any written response and all supporting documents be submitted to the City Hall office a minimum of 24 hours prior to the hearing date. If you challenge the action taken on this proposal in court you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk’s Office by the end of the public hearing.

Contact: Christopher Macon, City Manager, at (949) 639-0500

Yolie Trippy, CMC, City Clerk

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