

OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

NOTICE NO. 37

August 18, 1997

TO: All Personnel, Office of Operations

FROM: Director, Office of Operations

SUBJECT: PROCEDURES FOR ENFORCING SECTION 80.71.3 LAMC,
PARKING IN FRONT YARDS

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE

This Notice informs Office of Operations (O.O.) personnel of the procedures for enforcing Section 80.71.3 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), "Parking Vehicles in Front Yards."

INFORMATION

The Los Angeles City Council enacted an ordinance on March 16, 1996, which added Section 80.71.3, Parking Vehicles in Front Yards, to the LAMC. Section 80.71.3 LAMC makes it an infraction to park a vehicle in any front yard of a private residence. A violation of Section 80.71.3 LAMC exists, "when a vehicle is parked between the front of a building used for habitation and the adjacent street, except for any area used as a driveway to access a garage or other parking structure." The intent of this section is to combat blight, and maintain and enhance the appearance of communities. This section has inherent value relative to the ability of Department personnel to address quality of life issues existing throughout the City.

PROCEDURES

Effective immediately, officers may issue citations for violations of Section 80.71.3 LAMC "Parking Vehicles in Front Yards." Section 80.71.3 contains a three-level fine schedule that begins with a \$35 fine, escalates to a \$55 fine for a second offense and a \$105 fine for a third or subsequent offense. The fine escalation provision goes into effect only if the first

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citation was issued within a year of the current citation. To determine the appropriate fine to record on the citation and prior to completion of the citation, officers shall request Communications Division to contact the Department of Transportation's Communications to ascertain if the vehicle has been cited for prior 80.71.3 violations. Upon determining the bail amount, the officer shall write the correct fine amount in the space provided on the citation. In addition to the above procedures, the following procedures shall apply:

- * Cite only on an absentee parking citation;
- * Clearly identify in the notes section of the citation where, within the front yard, the vehicle was parked (e.g., vehicle parked on pavement, dirt or grassy area, etc.);
- * Include a statement on all citations that "the vehicle was not parked in the driveway" and indicate where in relation to the residence the vehicle was parked (e.g., 15' east of the living room window, directly in front of porch). Officers shall ensure that the words "front yard" are included in the narrative section; and,

NOTE: When an officer observes a vehicle parked in a front yard that is secured by a fence, locked gate and/or other obstacle, the officer shall not climb over the fence or force entry onto the property by any means.

- * Vehicles shall not be impounded from private property for violations of this section.

Questions regarding the enforcement of Section 80.71.3 LAMC should be directed to Evaluation and Administration Section, O.O., at extension 5-4111.



BERNARD C. PARKS, Deputy Chief
Director
Office of Operations

DISTRIBUTION "A"