

ISABEL AGUAYO Mayor

ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO Vice Mayor

PEGGY LEMONS
Councilmember

BRENDA OLMOS Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS Councilmember

October 19, 2023

Senator Anthony Portantino Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 412 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 50 – VEHICLES: ENFORCEMENT

Dear Senator Portantino:

The City of Paramount writes to express our opposition to Senate Bill 50, which would prohibit a peace officer from stopping an operator of a motor vehicle or bicycle for a low-level infraction unless there is an independent basis for the stop.

Paramount is concerned that SB 50 will limit local law enforcement's ability to safeguard communities across the State of California. A low-level infraction often serves as a small tool with a big impact in terms of its ability to enhance public safety in communities. These kinds of infractions often make operators of vehicles and bicycles aware of hazards that could lead to accidents. Should there be less everyday management from law enforcement on low-level infractions, we are worried there could be more unsafe vehicles on the streets.

Further, Paramount recognizes that SB 50 allows municipalities to enforce violations in the Vehicle Code using government employees that are not peace officers. However, we are concerned that this would in turn place new responsibilities on local governments to restructure and identify ways for government workers to oversee urgent traffic safety issues that require active monitoring. This will undoubtedly be difficult for cities like Paramount that have limited resources.

For these reasons, the City of Paramount respectfully opposes SB 50. Please feel free to contact City Manager John Moreno at (562) 220-2222, if you have any questions. On behalf of the City of Paramount, we thank you for your time and consideration.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT

Isabel Aguayo

Mayor

CC. Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District
Honorable Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, 62nd District
Kristine Guerrero, Regional Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California Contract Cities Association