

City Council Meeting December 19, 2023

Santa Monica, California

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2771 (CCS)

(City Council Series)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
SANTA MONICA AMENDING SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE (SMMC) Section
4.85.020 RELATED TO LOBBYIST REGISTRATION AND REPORTING
REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, in 2016, Council adopted Ordinance No. 2511 (CCS) requiring lobbyist to register with the City Clerk's Office; and

WHEREAS, the efficacy of registrations is enhanced through prompt, electronic filings, which serve to make information available to the public expeditiously and in a form that is readily accessible; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment clarifies that lobbyist forms must be electronically filed through the City Clerk's registration system.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 4.85.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4.85.020 Registration and reporting requirements.

(a) A lobbyist shall annually register with the City Clerk, no later than ten days after qualifying as a lobbyist under this chapter, using an electronic registration system provided by the City, and shall thereon disclose:

- (1) Lobbyist/lobbyist firm;

- (2) Business/mailing address;
 - (3) E-mail address;
 - (4) Telephone number;
 - (5) The names of all owners of the lobbyist's business if the business is a sole proprietorship or partnership of less than five members;
 - (6) Names of each individual lobbyist;
 - (7) A description of the nature of the business entity or organization;
 - (8) The name, business address and phone number of each client receiving lobbying services;
 - (9) The nature of each client's business;
 - (10) A brief description of the governmental decision that the Lobbyist seeks to influence on each client's behalf and the names of the officials the lobbyist has contacted on each client's behalf;
 - (11) The name of each person employed or retained by the lobbyist to engage in lobbying activities on each client's behalf; and
 - (12) The date, amount, and description of any payment made to, or on behalf of any City official or member of an official's family. Payments to be disclosed include gifts, meals, fees, salaries and any other form of compensation or remuneration, but do not include campaign contributions.
- (b) A lobbyist shall electronically file an amendment to his or her registration and reporting form within ten days of representation of a new client. An addendum must be

filed electronically within ten days of any change in the information required to be disclosed on the form related to existing clients. Lobbyists shall report the names of all officials contacted about a governmental decision prior to any public hearing on that decision.

(c) The following are exempt from this Chapter:

(1) Persons whose attempts to influence government action are limited to appearing at public meetings or preparing, processing or limited to submitting writings for consideration of use at public meetings if their communications are part of the public record; and

(2) Persons representing themselves in attempting to obtain decisions relating to their own properties or business; and

(3) Persons whose communications related solely to a memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement between the City and its employee organization; and


(4) Persons who are officials or members of neighborhood groups who are not economically compensated for advocating or speaking on behalf of neighborhood groups to influence a City action.

SECTION 2. Any provision of the Santa Monica Municipal Code or appendices thereto inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, to the extent of such inconsistencies and no further, is hereby repealed or modified to that extent necessary to effect the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase not declared invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any portion of the ordinance would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.


SECTION 4. The Mayor shall sign and the City Clerk shall attest to the passage of this Ordinance. The City Clerk shall cause the same to be published once in the official newspaper within 15 days after its adoption. This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days from its adoption.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:

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Douglas Sloan, City Attorney

Approved and adopted this 19th day of December, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

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Phil Brock, Mayor

State of California)
County of Los Angeles) ss.
City of Santa Monica)

I, Nikima Newsome, Assistant City Clerk of the City of Santa Monica, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 2771 (CCS) had its introduction on December 12, 2023 and was adopted at the Santa Monica City Council meeting held on December 19, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Torosis, Davis, Parra, Zwick
Mayor Pro Tem Negrete, Mayor Brock

NOES: None

ABSENT: Councilmember de la Torre

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

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Nikima Newsome, Assistant City Clerk

12/21/2023

Date

A summary of Ordinance No. 2771 (CCS) was duly published pursuant to California Government Code Section 40806.