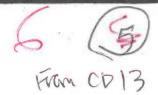


MITCH O'FARRELL

Councilmember
Thirteenth Council District



Education and Neighborhoods Member

Innovation, Technology and General Services Member

Public Safety Member

November 1, 2013

Arts, Parks, Health, Aging and

Los Angeles River

Personnel and Animal

Chair

Welfare Vice-Chalr

TO T T

Ms. Tami Podesta Branch Chief, Division of Environmental Planning California Department of Transportation, District 7 100 S. Main Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Council File No: 05-0173

Item No.: 6

Date:

Submitted in

Re: Glendale Boulevard-Hyperion Avenue Complex of Bridges Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Podesta,

The Glendale Boulevard-Hyperion Avenue Viaduct is an important bridge complex that links the neighborhoods of Atwater Village, Silver Lake and Los Feliz. It is an integral thoroughfare for vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles and should continue to serve all multimodal needs.

The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering, is the lead agency for this improvement project and began community outreach in October 2002. Now, approximately 11 years later, the project has progressed and an initial Community Workshop was held on the evening of Wednesday September 25, 2013, at which varying issues regarding speed and access were expressed. A subsequent public hearing was held the evening of Monday, October 28th, 2013. Community stakeholders have expressed great interest in this project and it is in the spirit of civic engagement that I write this letter.

The improvement project includes a seismic retrofit, the resolution of design deficiencies, traffic circulation improvements and the restoration of the bridge's historic balustrades. Additionally, the improvement project proposes to widen traffic lanes, install a median barrier to separate northbound and southbound traffic lanes and to consolidate the two existing sidewalks into a single sidewalk on the west side of the Hyperion Bridge. The restored balustrades are to be protected from auto collisions with a 3-ft. crash barrier, which will interrupt the interior view.

Project mitigations include the construction of an alternate pedestrian and bicycle crossing over the Los Angeles River across the existing Red Car piers and an adjacent green space that will help infiltrate stormwater before it is discharged into the River. The new pedestrian crossing is to be completed before pedestrian access is temporarily disallowed on the bridge during the construction period. The bridge will remain operational for vehicles throughout construction with at least one operational traffic lane in each direction at all times.

The design phase of the proposed project is currently only at 35%, and as the design further evolves, I want to express my willingness to explore options that would include dedicated bicycle lanes on the Hyperion and Glendale sections, modification to traffic lane widths as currently proposed, a signalized



crosswalk that would span the entire width of the bridge, the removal of the center median barrier and/or decorative treatment and the removal and/or alternative placement of the 3-ft. roadway-edge crash barriers, which are intended to protect the balustrades. I believe it is important to fully explore these options to ensure that the bridge is safe, respects the surrounding neighborhoods and serves vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles.

To that end, as the proposed project progresses I will continue to engage community stakeholders and will form a citizens advisory group to ensure accountability and transparency in the design process. I believe that through a coordinated effort, the Glendale Boulevard-Hyperion Avenue Complex of Bridges Improvement Project can be completed in a manner that is timely and responsive to community stakeholder input.

With kind regards,

MITCH O'FARRELL

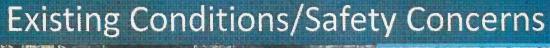
Councilmember, District 13 Los Angeles City Council

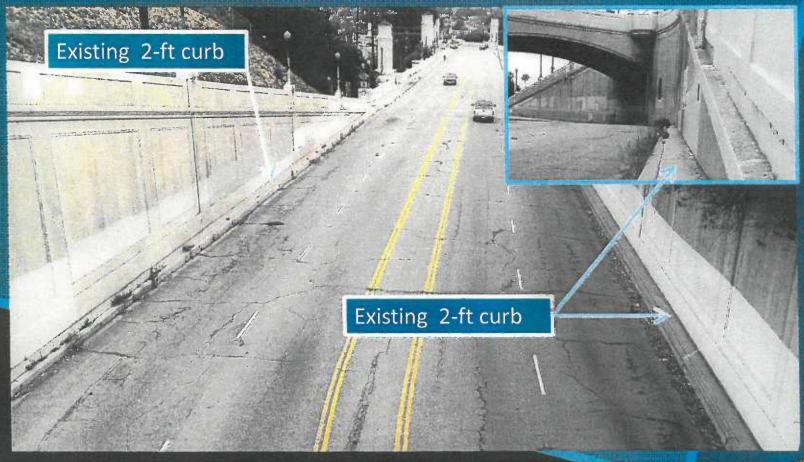
City of Los Angeles

CC: Mayor Eric Garcetti

Councilmember Tom LaBonge, District 4 Deborah Weintraub, Bureau of Engineering

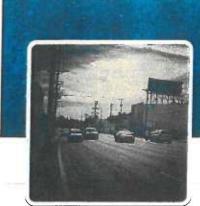
GLENDALE BL – HYPERION AVE COMPLEX OF BRIDGES IMPROVEMENT PROJECT











LA Grim Streets

@LAgrimStreets

too many of LA's streets are grim, dangerous speedways that kill and maim drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. we dream of #LAgreatStreets & #VisionZero

27 Photos and videos



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Los Angeles Walks @LosAngelesWalks · May 12
Come out Friday at 10am to show your support for sidewalks on both sides of Hyperion Bridge bit.ly/1zWY5kX #saveoursidewalk

4 to 13 to 7 ...

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Q

Northeast L.A. Bikes @NELA_BIKES · May 12

.@LAMayorsOffice makes 1 @LAGreatStreets and then thinks it's ok to make Hyperion Bridge a @LAgrimStreets. ugh. #visionzero

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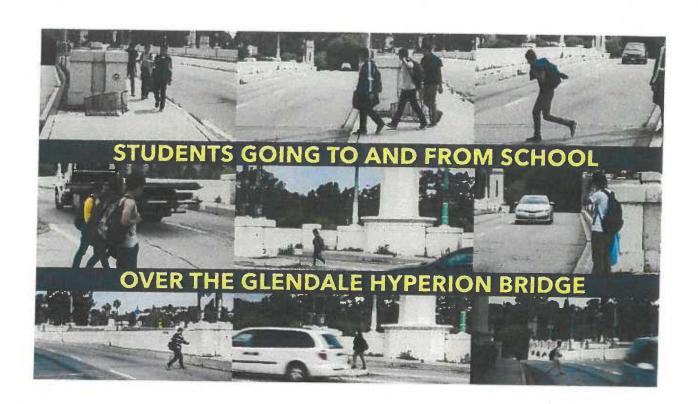
both sides of the Hyperion Bridge

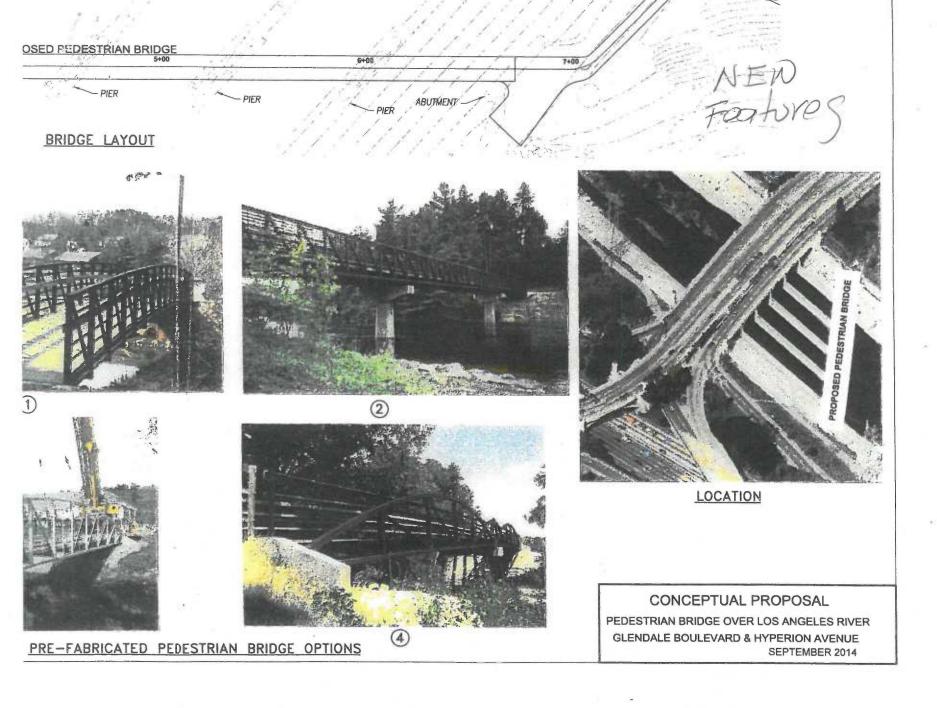
@TomLaBonge @MitchOFarrell





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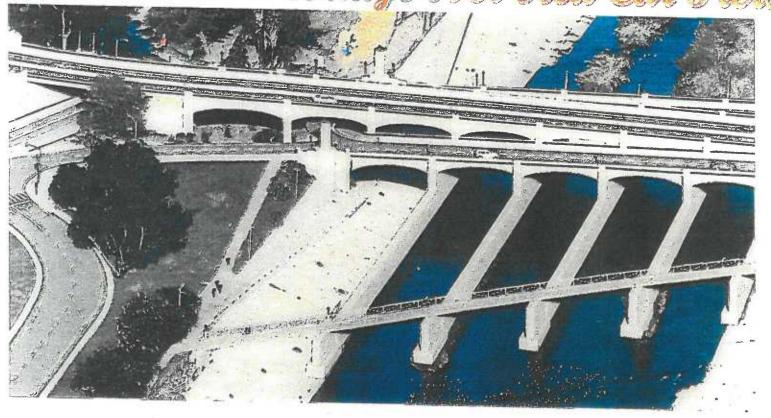






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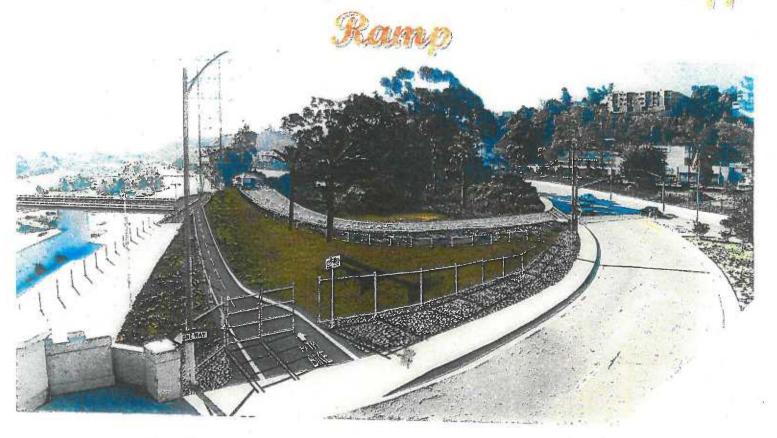


Funding and Studies need CALTRANS Approval

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Motory of Project Development Bridge Re-Alignment of J-5 Northbound Ott



Funding and Design Concept need CALTRANS Approval

