

Office of the City Engineer

Los Angeles, California

To the Public Works Committee

Of the Honorable Council

Of the City of Los Angeles

SEP 14 2012

Honorable Members:

C. D. No. 7

SUBJECT:

Temporary Closure of the Walkway Northeasterly of Sharp Avenue between Brand Boulevard and MacNeil Street. – Council File No. 12-0398

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. That the walkway as shown on the attached sketch, subject to the conditions contained herein, be temporarily closed pursuant to State Vehicle Code Section 21101.4 for a period of eighteen (18) months upon Council approval.
- B. That the City Council find that this is categorically exempt under Article III, Class 5, of the Los Angeles City Guidelines for the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970.
- C. That the City Council adopt the accompanying Resolution signed by the City Attorney.
- D. That the City Council adopt the following findings:
  - 1. There is substantial evidence of serious and continual criminal activities in the walkway recommended for temporary closure.
  - 2. The temporary closure of the walkway will reduce the criminal activity in the area.
  - 3. The walkway does not provide necessary vehicular or pedestrian access to adjacent properties but affected property owners have agreed to the temporary closure.

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12-0398

4. The closure will not substantially adversely affect traffic flow, safety on adjacent streets or in the surrounding neighborhoods, the operation of emergency vehicles, the performance of municipal or public utility services, or the delivery of freight by commercial vehicles in the walkway proposed to be temporarily closed.
  5. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic on the walkway contributes to the criminal activities.
  6. The walkway has not been designated as a though highway or arterial street.
- E. That notification of the time and place on the Public Works committee meeting to consider this request be sent to:
1. Ronald and Wendy Zajicek  
14640 MacNeil Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
  2. Pat and Hipolito Hernando  
14607 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
  3. CALTRANS  
Attn: Melanie Bradford, Planning Department  
100 S. Main Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012
  4. Michael Trujillo, Sr.  
14615 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
  5. Ana Flores  
14619 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
  6. Robert Watkins  
14625 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
  7. Joe and Virginia Lozano  
14631 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345

8. Alexandra Rivera  
475 Royce Street  
Altadena, CA 91001
9. Charles and Esmeralda Avila  
14652 MacNeil Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
10. Julia Watters  
14658 MacNeil Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
11. Judd Property LLC  
12282 Sunset Parkway  
Los Angeles, CA 90064
12. Rogelio and Susana Almanza  
14700 MacNeil Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
13. Celeste Iida  
P.O. Box 641374  
Los Angeles, CA 90064
14. Heriberto and Elsa Gutierrez  
16850 Liggett Street  
Northridge, CA 91343
15. Martin and Yolanda Padilla  
14647 MacNeil Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
16. Julio and Ligia Gonzalez  
14653 MacNeil Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
17. Ana Jacinto  
14659 MacNeil Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
18. Gabriela Thomas  
28607 Avocado Place  
Santa Clarita, CA 91390

19. Josephine Favis  
14586 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
20. Felicisima Lagunzad  
14592 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
21. Los Angeles County Flood Control District  
500 W. Temple Street, Room 754  
Los Angeles, CA 90012
22. Joseph and Ada Hamamoto  
14612 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
23. Frank and Nellie Garcia  
14620 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
24. Gustavo and Estella Montenegro  
14624 Brand Boulevard  
San Fernando, CA 91345
25. Ana Hernandez  
14641 MacNeil Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
26. Raphaela Hunter  
4233 150<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tukwila, WA 98188
27. Michael Martinez  
14658 Maclay Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
28. Victorino and Estelita Pasamonte  
14700 Maclay Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345
29. Humberto Becerra  
14706 Maclay Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345

30. Jose Sandoval  
Council District No. 7  
13520 Van Nuys Boulevard, Suite 209  
Pacoima, CA 91331

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The Bureau of Engineering is absorbing the cost of processing the request in the approximate amount of \$5,000.00. Maintenance of the public easement by City forces will be eliminated.

TRANSMITTALS:

1. Sketch indicating the area to be temporarily closed.
2. Motion from Council District No. 7, dated March 16, 2012.
3. Letter from the Police Department, received July 20, 2012.
4. Draft of Resolution for Temporary Walkway closure.

CONDITIONS:

1. That any gates to be installed to effectuate a physical closure of the walkway area together with the gate locations be approved by the Fire Department, and the Department of Water and Power and the Department of Transportation and the Bureau of Sanitation's Wastewater Collection Systems Division and be done under "B Permit" issued by the City Engineer and be installed at no cost to the City.
2. The keys to any gates to be installed be provided to all affected City Departments and Public Utility Companies.
3. The routine clean-up of the closed area be provided by the adjoining property owners/residents.
4. That the closed area be physically closed within 6 months of Council approval of the temporary closure or the approval be rescinded.
5. That the petitioners agree to remove the gates/fences upon termination of the allowed closure period at no cost to the City.

DISCUSSION:

On May 25, 2012, under Council File No. 12-0398 a motion from Council District No. 7 was adopted by the City Council directing the City Engineer to initiate proceedings to close the Walkway northeasterly of Sharp Avenue between Brand Boulevard and MacNeil Street.

Senior Lead Officer Philip Ruiz of Los Angeles Police Department in a letter received July 20, 2012 stated "Part of my duties of handling the citizen complaints is to conduct frequent foot beats in the walkway and monitor the activity. During my foot beats, I have observed piles of trash on the ground, graffiti along the freeway walls, empty beer cans/bottles on the ground, and on a few occasions I have observed discarded drug paraphernalia on the ground of the walkway. Also on one occasion, I had to run off an area transient who had set up an encampment and used the walkway for shelter." Officer Philip Ruiz further stated "While conducting a study of crimes and Police calls for service for the area over the last two years, one of the residences in the area that has been hit the hardest due to the walkway is the residence located at 14607 Brand Blvd. This particular residence is directly adjacent to the walkway with its east side wall of the residence being directly next to the walkway. Because of its close proximity and easy access to and from the walkway, suspects can easily jump onto the property from the walkway and victimize the location. In the last two years, this residence has been the victim of (1) residential burglary, (1) grand theft auto, and (1) theft of outside Air Conditioning parts."

There were two emails received in support of the walkway closure.

Conclusion:

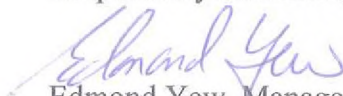
The temporary closure of the Walkway northeasterly of Sharp Avenue between Brand Boulevard and MacNeil Street is feasible subject to the conditions of this report.

Report prepared by:  
Land Development Group

Phillip Martinez  
Civil Engineering Associate II  
Phone (213) 202-3487

EY/ /pm  
LDG

Respectfully submitted,

  
Edmond Yew, Manager  
Land Development Group  
Bureau of Engineering

RESOLUTION FOR TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF A WALKWAY  
(California State Vehicle Code Section 21101.4)

The Council of the City of Los Angeles hereby finds and determines that the walkway northeasterly of Sharp Avenue between Brand Boulevard and MacNeil Street should be temporarily closed for a period of 18 months due to serious and continuing criminal activities as determined and recommended by the Police Department; and

That there is substantial evidence of serious and continual criminal activities in the walkway recommended for temporary closure; and

That the temporary closure of the walkway will help reduce the criminal activities; and

That the temporary closure of the walkway will not substantially adversely affect traffic flow, safety on the adjacent streets or in the surrounding neighborhoods, the operation of emergency vehicles and performance of municipal and public utility services and the delivery of freight by commercial vehicles in the area proposed to be temporarily closed; and

That the vehicular or pedestrian traffic in the walkway contributes to the criminal activities; and

That the walkway has not been designated as a through highway or arterial street; and

The Council of the City of Los Angeles hereby finds and determines that the walkway northeasterly of Sharp Avenue between Brand Boulevard and MacNeil Street as shown on attached "Exhibit A" is unnecessary to remain open for pedestrians and vehicular traffic; and

The City Council hereby elects to proceed under the above captioned provision of the said Code Section; and hereby resolves that the said walkway be and the same is temporarily closed; and

The particular portion of the public walkway which is to be temporarily closed is described herein as follows:

The walkway northeasterly of Sharp Avenue between Brand Boulevard and MacNeil Street.

The City Clerk shall certify this resolution and affix the City seal, and shall transmit a sealed copy of this resolution to the City Engineer.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the alley area described hereinabove and shown on attached "Exhibit A" is closed for a maximum period of eighteen (18) months.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Los Angeles at its meeting of \_\_\_\_\_ by a majority vote of all its members.

JUNE LAGMAY, City Clerk

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

Approved as to Form and Legality  
Carmen A. Trutanich, City Attorney

BY Laura Cadogan Hiral 9-11-12  
Deputy Date

Council File No. 12-0398



# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



JUNE LAGMAY  
City Clerk

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT  
Executive Officer

When making inquiries relative to  
this matter, please refer to the  
Council File No.

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
MAYOR

Office of the  
CITY CLERK

Council and Public Services  
Room 395, City Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
General Information - (213) 978-1133  
Fax: (213) 978-1040

SHANNON HOPPE  
Council and Public Services  
Division

[www.cityclerk.lacity.org](http://www.cityclerk.lacity.org)

May 29, 2012

To All Interested Parties:

The City Council adopted the action(s), as attached, under Council File No. 12-0398,  
at its meeting held May 25, 2012.

City Clerk  
io

3

F15/25

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

File No. 12-0398

Your

PUBLIC WORKS

Committee

reports as follows:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the closure of the Brand Boulevard/San Fernando Mission Walkway located between the 14600 block of Brand Boulevard and 14600 of MacNeil Street.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Alarcón - Buscaino):

DIRECT the Bureau of Engineering to report with recommendations for the closure of the Brand Boulevard /San Fernando Mission Walkway located between the 14600 block of Brand Boulevard and 14600 of MacNeil Street, including:

- a. Placing a 10 foot gate at each end of the walkway
- b. Maintaining the area clear of debris
- c. Providing keys and access to the Police Department and the Fire Department.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None Submitted.

SUMMARY

At its regular meeting held on May 9, 2012, the Public Works Committee considered the Motion (Alarcón - Buscaino) relative to the closure of the Brand Boulevard/San Fernando Mission Walkway located between the 14600 block of Brand Boulevard and 14600 of MacNeil Street.

An opportunity for public comment was held. After a brief discussion, the Committee moved to approve the recommendation contained in the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

MEMBER	VOTE
BUSCAINO:	YES
KREKORIAN:	ABSENT
GARCETTI:	YES

ME  
12-0398\_rpt\_pw\_5-15-12



**ADOPTED**

MAY 25 2012

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

-Not Official Until Council Acts-

12-0398

PUBLIC WORKS

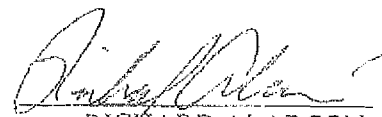
MOTION

The neighbors of the 14600 block of S. Brand Blvd and the 14600 block of MacNeil Street have expressed a request for the closure of the Brand Blvd/San Fernando Mission Walkway located between the 14600 block of Brand Blvd and 14600 of MacNeil Street.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Engineering be directed to report with recommendations for the closure of the Brand Blvd/San Fernando Mission Walkway located between the 14600 block of Brand Blvd and 14600 of MacNeil Street, including:

1. Placing a 10ft gate at each end of the walkway
2. Maintaining the area clear of debris
3. Providing keys and access to the Police Department and the Fire Department.

PRESENTED BY:




RICHARD ALARCON,  
Councilman, 7<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



OFFICE OF THE CLERK

  
MAR 16 2012

September 24, 2011

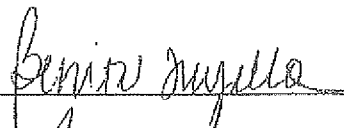

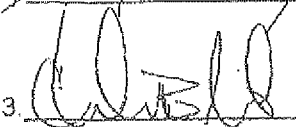
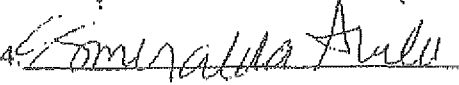

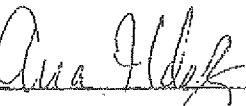

Dear Councilmember Alarcon:

We would like to request your office to please help assist us to close and gate up the walkway path adjacent to the #5 Freeway from Brand Blvd onward to MacNeil Street in Mission Hills. You and your staff have eye witnessed that the walkway path is an eyesore by recently helping us with 2-weekends of cleaning up the over grown dried up bushes, weeds and trees. But, we who live adjacent to and close by to the walkway path have suffered for over 30-years with 'others abusing' the walkway way path with the following: drugs/drug dealing, crime/burglary, attempting to rape, congregating and drinking alcohol, etc, etc...

Therefore, we the property homeowners in Mission Hills are in agreement by signing the petition below to close up the walkway path by installing rod iron gates.

PRINT NAME & SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

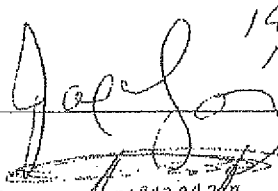
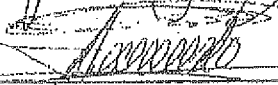

1. Benita Trujillo  14615 Brand Blvd. MH.
2.  Michael Trujillo, Sr. 14615 Brand Blvd. MH.
3.  Charles B. Avila 14652 Macneil St  
Esmeralda
4.  Esmeralda Avila 14652 Macneil St
5. Edwin Padilla  14647 Macneil St
6. Ana Hernandez  14641 Macneil St
7. Martin Padilla  14647 Macneil St

September 24, 2011

Dear Councilmember Alarcon:

We would like to request your office to please help assist us to close and gate up the walkway path adjacent to the #5 Freeway from Brand Blvd onward to MacNeil Street in Mission Hills. You and your staff have eye witnessed that the walkway path is an eyesore by recently helping us with 2-weekends of cleaning up the over grown dried up bushes, weeds and trees. But, we who live adjacent to and close by to the walkway path have suffered for over 30-years with 'others abusing' the walkway way path with the following: drugs/drug dealing, crime/burglary, attempting to rape, congregating and drinking alcohol, etc, etc...

Therefore, we the property homeowners in Mission Hills are in agreement by signing the petition below to close up the walkway path by installing rod iron gates.

PRINT NAME & SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1. 	14631 BRAND BLVD MISSION HILLS CA 91345
2. 	14607 Brand Blvd PAT Hernandez Mission Hills ca 91345
3. 	14607 Brand Blvd Mission Hill ca 91345
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____

September 24, 2011

Dear Councilmember Alarcon:

We would like to request your office to please help assist us to close and gate up the walkway path adjacent to the #5 Freeway from Brand Blvd onward to MacNeil Street in Mission Hills. You and your staff have eye witnessed that the walkway path is an eyesore by recently helping us with 2-weekends of cleaning up the over grown dried up bushes, weeds and trees. But, we who live adjacent to and close by to the walkway path have suffered for over 30-years with 'others abusing' the walkway way path with the following: drugs/drug dealing, crime/burglary, attempting to rape, congregating and drinking alcohol, etc, etc...

Therefore, we the property homeowners in Mission Hills are in agreement by signing the petition below to close up the walkway path by installing rod iron gates.

PRINT NAME & SIGNATURE 14658 MACNEIL ST ADDRESS

1. JULIA WATTERS 14658 MACNEIL ST. M.H. 91345

2. Nendy Zajicek Wendy Zajicek  
14640 Macneil St. M.H. CA 91345

3. \_\_\_\_\_

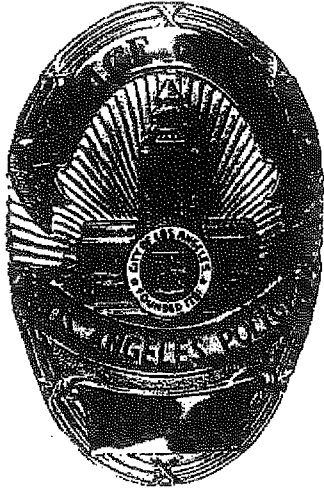
4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

*A note from the desk of*



***Senior Lead Officer  
Philip Ruiz #31524***

*Mission Area, Senior Lead Office  
11121 Sepulveda Boulevard, Mission Hills, CA. 91345  
Telephone: (818) 838-9843*

RECEIVED  
LAND DEVELOPMENT GROUP  
12 JUL 20 PM 12:55

**Attn: To all Interested Parties:**

**Subject: Citizen requests for the closure of "pedestrian walkway" located just west of the Golden State 5 Fwy between Brand Blvd and San Fernando Mission Blvd.**

Hello,

My name is Officer Philip Ruiz from the LAPD Mission Station, and I am the Senior Lead Officer for the Mission Hills Area (Basic Car 19A43). My job as a Senior Lead Officer is to reduce crime and improve the "Quality of Life" in the community I serve.

I am writing to you regarding the pedestrian walkway located adjacent to the 5 freeway between Brand Blvd and San Fernando Mission Blvd. Since being assigned as the Senior Lead Officer for the area, I have received numerous citizen complaints about the pedestrian walkway involving quality of life issues. The complaints range from graffiti, to people loitering in the walkway, people drinking alcohol in the walkway, and people doing illegal narcotics in the walkway.

Part of my duties of handling the citizen complaints is to conduct frequent foot beats in the walkway and monitor the activity. During my foot beats, I have observed piles of trash on the ground, graffiti along the freeway walls, empty beer cans/bottles on the ground, and on a few occasions I have observed discarded drug paraphernalia on the ground of the walkway. Also on one occasion, I had to run off an area transient who had set up an encampment and used the walkway for shelter.

Though no major incidents such as (Murders or Rapes) have occurred in the walkway, the quality of life issues have been a nuisance to the community for years and have taken a toll on nearby residents.

While conducting a study of crimes and Police calls for service for the area over the last **two years**, one of the residences in the area that has been hit the hardest due to the walkway is the residence located at 14607 Brand Blvd. This particular residence is directly adjacent to the walkway with its east side wall of the residence being directly next to the walkway. Because of its close proximity and easy access to and from the walkway, suspects can easily jump onto the property from the walkway and victimize the location. In the last two years, this residence has been the victim of (1) residential burglary, (1) grand theft auto, and (1) theft of outside Air Conditioning parts.

I feel the closure of this walkway would benefit the nearby residents and would improve the quality of life in the area.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Senior Lead Officer  
Philip Ruiz  
(818) 838-9843



*A note from the desk of*

***Senior Lead Officer  
Philip Ruiz #31524***

*Mission Area, Senior Lead Office  
11121 Sepulveda Boulevard, Mission Hills, CA. 91345  
Telephone: (818) 838-9843*

CONSENT FORM FOR TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF THE WALKWAY  
NORTHEASTERLY OF SHARP AVENUE BETWEEN BRAND BOULEVARD AND  
MACNEIL STREET

We, the undersigned property owners, consent to the temporary closure of the Walkway  
northeasterly of Sharp Avenue between Brand Boulevard and MacNeil Street.

It is understood that all abutting property owners or residents, as well as certain City  
Departments and public utility companies will retain all rights of access and use of this walkway.  
It is understood that the construction and maintenance of the required gates and the routine  
clean-up of the area will not be provided by the City.

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

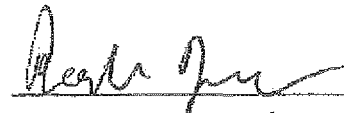
DATE

Pat Hernando  
14607 Brand Boulevard  
Mission Hills, CA 91345



06-12-12

Ronald Zajicek  
14640 MacNeil Street  
Mission Hills, CA 91345

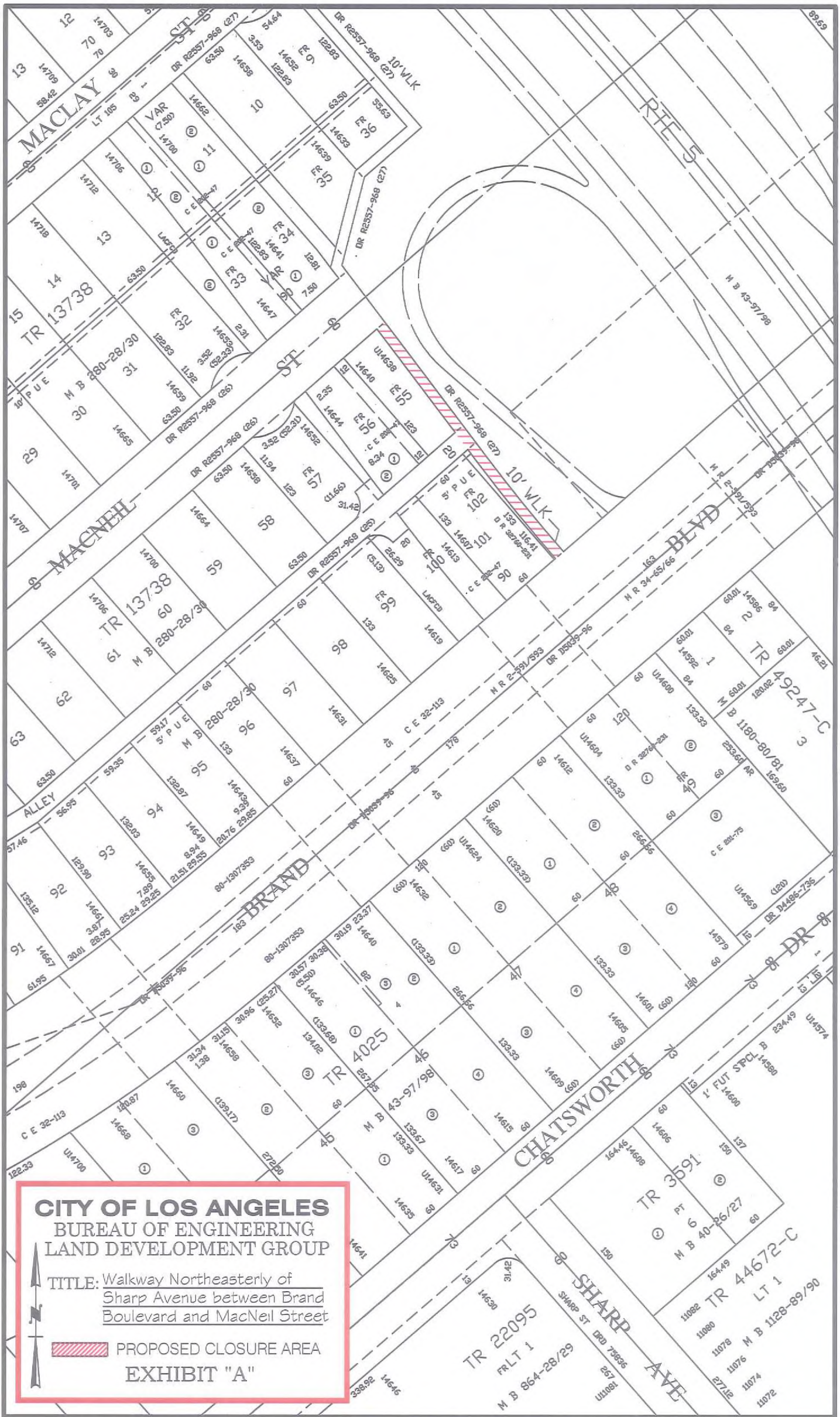


06-09-12

CALTRANS  
Right of Way Division  
100 S. Main Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**BUREAU OF ENGINEERING**  
**LAND DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

**TITLE:** Walkway Northeasterly of  
Sharp Avenue between Brand  
Boulevard and MacNeil Street



PROPOSED CLOSURE AREA

**EXHIBIT "A"**