

JUL 30 2013

ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH, AGING & RIVER

MOTION PUBLIC WORKS & GANG REDUCTION

13-0954  
CD 14

There is a growing need to establish green space and pedestrian connections in Downtown Los Angeles. The development of Grand Park was a major step in creating vibrant open space in the Civic Center but more open space and pedestrian linkages are needed.

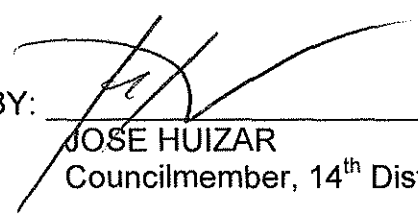
A cap park over the 101 Freeway in Downtown is an innovative idea to reconnect Downtown neighborhoods separated by the 101 Freeway chasm. A freeway cap park in Downtown could create important linkages and open space connecting the Civic Center with Olvera Street, Chinatown, and Union Station as well as minimize freeway pollution and noise and promote economic development of the areas north of the Civic Center.

A Downtown freeway cap park is not a new idea. The City Planning Commission has previously considered reports of this proposal and the Union Station Master Plan effort also considers pedestrian linkage important to the success of the area. Dallas has just completed a freeway park while others in our area including Hollywood, Santa Monica, Ventura, and Glendale are proposing freeway cap parks.

The Friends of Park 101 District is a non-profit under the fiscal sponsorship of Community Partners formed to promote the creation of a freeway cap park in Downtown. The Friends of Park 101 District Board is comprised of local business and community leaders with a deep commitment to advancing the project. The focus of the organization includes coalition building, identifying and accessing funds for the design, planning and development of this project. The City should utilize the expertise and work of Friends of Park 101 District to explore the viability of a Downtown freeway cap park over the 101 Freeway including the formation of a coalition now being led by SCAG.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the Council authorize and direct the Planning Department, Bureau of Engineering, and other Departments as necessary, to partner with Friends of Park 101 District as an advisory group providing information to the City concerning potential implementation of the Downtown Park 101 freeway cap park project; including applications for Southern California Association of Governments Compass Blueprint grants, federal and state grants, and other potential funding for the project.

PRESENTED BY:



JOSE HUIZAR  
Councilmember, 14<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

  
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ORIGINAL