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February 26, 2015

Mr. Adam Lid, Legislative Assistant
Michael Espinosa, Legislative Assistant
Office of City Clerk
200 Main Street, 3rd floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Regarding: Green Sustainable Streets Council Motion (14-0748)

Dear Adam Lid & Michael Espinosa:

On behalf of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Southern California Chapter it is our pleasure to send this letter in support of the Green Sustainable Streets Council Motion (Council File 14-0748). The spirit of the Green Sustainable Streets Motion closely reflects ASLA's ongoing advocacy platform related to both "Streets as Public Places" and "Designing and Building for Health, Well-Being and Sustainability". As a Steering Committee member of the National Complete Streets Coalition, ASLA advocates for a federal Complete Streets policy and recently participated in the development of "The Best Complete Streets Policies of 2014" that examines and scores newly adopted policies across the nation.

As landscape architecture and design professionals that are involved in infrastructure projects, and as residents that use the streets of Los Angeles, we share the LA City Council's Energy and Environment Committee's concern with the current state of Los Angeles streets. We agree that policies need to be implemented to improve transportation, minimize flooding, reduce watershed pollution and increase storm-water capture. We also agree that an integrated approach needs to be taken by the relevant City departments to develop a cohesive approach to these issues and incorporate these strategies into all street construction and reconstruction projects. Local landscape architects play a key role in streetscape and public space improvement projects in the city and are committed to implementing new policies and techniques that enhance the quality of life in Los Angeles.

ASLA is in agreement with the principals noted as part of the Green Sustainable Streets Council Motion and recommends that the City of Los Angeles implement the best practices listed in the January 14, 2015 letter from Mr. Zaldivar, Mr. Moore and Mr. Saucedo.

Sincerely,

Baxter Miller, ASLA
Southern California Chapter President

Duane Border
Southern California Chapter President Elect