

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT  
ENGINEERING DIVISION  
425 S. Palos Verdes Street  
San Pedro, CA 90733-0151

**STOP NO. 260**

DATE: November 18 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the City Council  
c/o Ms. Holly L. Wolcott, City Clerk  
Office of the City Clerk, Mail Stop #160

FROM: Eugene D. Seroka, Executive Director 

**SUBJECT: COMPLIANCE WITH LIMITED SIDEWALK REPAIR PLAN (C.F. # 13-0600-S109)**

On April 25, 2014, Motion (Krekorian – Buscaino) requested that the Harbor Department survey the sidewalks abutting its facilities for damage and perform repairs as needed. In accordance with the Motion (C.F. #13-0600-S109), this report provides information on the sidewalk survey already undertaken by the Harbor Department's Engineering Division and on plans to repair the damage found.

In September of 2014 nine two-person teams surveyed a total of 17.5 miles of streets adjacent to Harbor Department facilities in the communities of San Pedro and Wilmington, as shown on the attached map. Both sides of the streets were surveyed for damage or other obstructions that would affect pedestrian access. Sidewalks adjacent to Harbor Department property on Terminal Island have not yet been surveyed, due to the general lack of pedestrian traffic in the entirely industrial area, but will be surveyed by the end of 2014. Results for the approximately 35 miles of sidewalks surveyed are summarized below:

- Total number of gaps (greater than 1/2") – 443
- Total number of lifts (greater than 1/4") – 490
- Total number of obstructions – 239
- Total number of temporary repairs – 92
- Total number of curb ramps surveyed – 279
- Total number of curb ramps with issues – 82

Definitions of the above terms are as follows, and are taken from the California Building Standards Commission for disabled accessibility, as adopted by the City of Los Angeles:

- Gap – an opening or crack in the sidewalk perpendicular to the direction of travel that is 1/2 inch or greater in width that presented a tripping hazard or does not leave a minimum 36 inch width passable area.

- Lift – a vertical deviation in the sidewalk surface perpendicular to the direction of travel, typically either at a crack or control joint, that is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch or greater in height that presents a tripping hazard or does not leave a minimum 36 inch width passable area.
- Obstruction – any area of sidewalk where a minimum passable width of 36 inches was not present. The obstruction could be because of a utility such as a light pole, fire hydrant, or electrical box, a tree, damaged or missing pavement, vegetation encroachment, or insufficient sidewalk width.
- Temporary Repairs – a sidewalk lift or gap that has been repaired with an asphalt patch.
- Curb Ramp Issues – two issues regarding curb ramps were recorded – gaps between pavement and ramp of greater than  $\frac{1}{2}$ " , or asphalt "heave" at the curb ramp greater than  $\frac{1}{4}$ " in height.

The Engineering Division staff are continuing to refine the field data obtained to package it into a more usable form, including adding the results to the Harbor Department's GIS database. Results will be clarified to reflect if the sidewalk abuts Harbor Department property. The Harbor Department will include funds in the 2015/2016 Fiscal Year Budget to address the damage and obstructions observed.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Antonio V. Gioiello, Chief Harbor Engineer, at (310) 732-3877 or [tgioiello@portla.org](mailto:tgioiello@portla.org).

GS/MC/AG:tm  
HAR 1-1  
HAR11784

Attachment 1: City of Los Angeles Harbor Department Sidewalk Survey Map

