

14-0163-56

**MOTION**

In a time of scarce resources and enormous demand for City services, it is vitally important that the City of Los Angeles make it easier for residents, businesses and other stakeholders to provide services or build projects that benefit the community. It is important and necessary for the City to cut red tape and remove obstacles preventing people and organizations from bettering their neighborhoods.

A number of the City's business improvement districts, non-profit streetscape improvement associations, homeowners associations, private property owners and others have expressed strong interest in undertaking sidewalk improvement and/or repairs, at their sole cost - but are prevented from doing so by the high costs of liability insurance. Our neighborhoods would benefit from better sidewalks if the City's policies were set up to protect such efforts from liability.

Even with a reconstituted "50/50 shared cost sidewalk program" the cost of repair to private entities could be more than their cost of hiring a competent, local, private sector contractor at their sole cost. The same may be true for most homeowners throughout the City.

As the City moves forward with a new, comprehensive and sustainable sidewalk repair plan (CF 1400163-S3 and 14-0420-S1) it should consider adopting a policy of holding harmless those individuals and business districts undertaking sidewalk repair projects, if those projects are permitted, inspected and accepted by the City. Permits and inspections for these projects should also be at "no cost."

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst and the Bureau of Street Services be requested to formulate a policy of holding harmless those entities or persons undertaking sidewalk repair projects if those projects are permitted, inspected and accepted by the City, with those permits and inspections for these projects being at "no cost."

PRESENTED BY:



MIKE BONIN  
Councilmember, 11th District



JOE BUSCAINO  
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



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**ORIGINAL**