

MOTION

In the 1920s and 1930s, the City constructed multiple pedestrian tunnels under busy streets to provide safe passages for school children. Since that time, many of these tunnels have been closed or gated due to public safety concerns.

The pedestrian tunnel at Tonopah Street under the I-5 and I-170 freeways was intended to provide safe access to a local high school, but has since become a location for nuisance and illegal activity. The City had attempted to take action to close this tunnel in the past (CF 09-0651), but at the time it was reported that the tunnel was under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

There was and still is strong support to close this pedestrian tunnel from both the local community and the Los Angeles Police Department. The City should reassess its ability to close this tunnel in order to address the public safety issues.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Engineer, with the assistance of the Department of Transportation and any other appropriate City departments, be instructed to report with recommendations to temporarily close the pedestrian tunnel at Tonopah Street under the I-5 and I-170 freeways to abate the public safety issues occurring at this site.

PRESENTED BY: 
NURY MARTINEZ
Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY: 

AUG 28 2013

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