

# MOTION

PUBLIC WORKS

Pedestrian bridges and tunnels provide important access across highways, busy streets, bike paths, the Los Angeles River, and other barriers that residents may face in traversing the City. These tunnels and bridges are critical elements of our transportation infrastructure, providing safe walkways to schools for students and their families, enhancing access to green space, connecting communities broken up by highways, and enabling access to public transit.


In Elysian Valley, the City has recently constructed three pedestrian bridges that cross over the Los Angeles River. In Council District 3, the City is currently expanding a park at the Aliso Creek confluence of the Los Angeles River that will include a pedestrian bridge. The City is also planning to construct a bridge over Caballero Creek as part of the Los Angeles River Bike Path. These projects have raised issues over which City agencies are responsible for upkeep and maintenance of pedestrian bridges and tunnels, which has taken up significant staff time in determining who has what responsibilities on a case-by-case basis.

The City should develop and adopt clear policies on which agencies are responsible for the maintenance of pedestrian facilities, be it future or existing infrastructure. The relevant City departments should coordinate to propose a cohesive strategy that lays out clear responsibilities and expectations for the upkeep of pedestrian bridges and tunnels. Any proposed policy should require that departments that will have maintenance responsibilities be included in the design of projects to ensure that planned infrastructure is compatible with departments' maintenance capabilities. As the City funds active transportation infrastructure and builds out walkable facilities, it is imperative that the City also plan for the upkeep and maintenance of these improvements to maximize their usable lifespans.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Engineering, with the assistance of the Bureau of Street Services, Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Transportation, and the Bureau of Street Lighting, be instructed to report with recommendations to determine which agencies will be responsible for maintenance of current and future pedestrian bridge and tunnel projects, including recommendations to incorporate maintenance needs in the planning and approval phases of future projects, as well as recommendations to incorporate agencies responsible for maintenance in the design of future projects.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Bureau of Engineering, with the assistance of the Bureau of Street Services, Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Transportation, and the Bureau of Street Lighting, be instructed to report on the current maintenance responsibilities for existing pedestrian bridges and tunnels, including ongoing funding needs for maintenance, and to report with recommendations to ensure consistent maintenance policies across all existing pedestrian bridges and tunnels.

PRESENTED BY:

  
BOB BLUMENFELD  
Councilmember, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



  
MAR 08 2024

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