

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: April 9, 2019

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso 
Chief Legislative Analyst Council File No: 19-0002-S36
Assignment No: 19-02-0179

SUBJECT: Removal of the Caltrans pedestrian bridge over the I-101 freeway at Killion Street and Encino Avenue.

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (Koretz – Cedillo) to include in the City's 2019-2020 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislation and/or administrative action to revise the existing Freeway Agreement with Caltrans in order to allow the removal of the pedestrian bridge over the I-101 freeway at Killion Street and Encino Avenue and implement alternative pedestrian/bicycle improvements in the surrounding communities.

SUMMARY

Resolution (Koretz – Cedillo) notes that Caltrans is planning to reconstruct the pedestrian bridge over the I-101 freeway at Killion Street and Encino Avenue in order to meet current American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. The neighboring communities oppose reconstruction of the pedestrian bridge as a result of numerous nuisances it has created in the area.

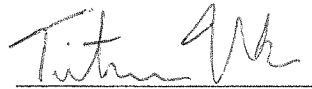
The Resolution recommends support for legislation and/or administrative action to revise the existing Freeway Agreement with Caltrans in order to allow for the removal of a pedestrian bridge.

BACKGROUND

The Caltrans pedestrian bridge over the I-101 freeway at Killion Street and Encino Avenue has become an attractive nuisance for loitering and criminal activity, and has created serious health and public safety concerns for the community resulting from illegal dumping, human waste, syringes, and increased rat infestation. Nuisance reports about activities around this bridge are regularly made to the Los Angeles Police Department because of incidents of thefts and burglaries, constant vandalism, and indecent exposure. Caltrans has to dedicate its resources to ongoing maintenance of the bridge, including regular fence and bolt lock repairs and electrical wire replacements in order to address the above problems.

Caltrans is planning to reconstruct the pedestrian bridge in order to make it compliant with ADA requirements. Recently, outreach was conducted and the adjacent communities are opposed to the reconstruction of the bridge. These communities support alternative pedestrian/bicycle improvements that could better serve the greater community. The existing Freeway Agreement

with Caltrans does not allow for the removal of the pedestrian bridge. Removing the pedestrian bridge could allow the City to implement alternative pedestrian or bicycle improvements which could serve to benefit the surrounding communities in place of the existing bridge, which has repeatedly served as a host for nuisance in the surrounding areas.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tristan Noack", written over a horizontal line.

Tristan Noack
Analyst

SMT:tcjn
Attachment: Resolution

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Caltrans pedestrian bridge over the I-101 freeway at Killion Street and Encino Avenue has become an attractive nuisance for loitering and criminal activity, and has created serious health and public safety concerns for the community due to illegal dumping, human waste, syringes, and an increase in rat infestation; and

WHEREAS, nuisance reports are regularly made to the Los Angeles Police Department because of incidents of thefts and burglaries, constant vandalism, and indecent exposure; and

WHEREAS, scarce Caltrans resources are dedicated to the ongoing maintenance of the bridge, including regular fence and bolt lock repairs and electrical wire replacements to address the problems noted above; and

WHEREAS, Caltrans is planning to reconstruct the pedestrian bridge to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements; and

WHEREAS, the adjacent communities are opposed to the reconstruction and support alternative pedestrian/bicycle improvements that service the greater community;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-2020 State Legislative Program support for legislation and/or administrative actions to revise the existing Freeway Agreement with Caltrans that would allow the removal of the pedestrian bridge over the I-101 freeway at Killion Street and Encino Avenue and implement alternative pedestrian/bicycle improvements in the surrounding communities.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Koretz
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY: Si Galillo

mst

FEB 26 2013

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