

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Todd Warner

**Date Submitted:** 08/22/2026 08:07 PM

**Council File No:** 21-4118-S1

**Comments for Public Posting:** I live and work in this community and see the Bronson Avenue bridge over the 101 Freeway near Franklin Avenue nearly every day. I personally witnessed how the previous encampments affected my employees, neighborhood residents, pedestrians, animals, and the people living there. Many of my employees rely on public transportation and must cross this bridge to reach nearby transit stops. When encampments covered the bridge, employees regularly told me they felt unsafe, especially early in the morning and after dark. Some ultimately quit because they no longer felt safe traveling to and from work. Since the 41.18 designation was implemented, the sidewalks have remained clear and accessible. This has made a meaningful difference for my employees and others who depend on the bridge. Public sidewalks should remain safely available to everyone, including transit riders, people with disabilities, employees, residents, and other pedestrians. Whenever possible, I have tried to hire people who are rebuilding their lives in addiction recovery. Having to walk through an area where open drug use and discarded needles were common was especially dangerous and triggering for them. No employee should have to choose between keeping a job and protecting their safety or sobriety. I was also deeply troubled by the treatment of animals within the encampments. I personally witnessed dogs tied to the bridge and left alone beside extremely busy freeway traffic without any shade to protect them from the sun. After more than 20 years working in the pet-care community, seeing animals in those conditions was heartbreaking. Your office has cited data indicating that 43% of those surveyed supported removing these 41.18 designations. However, that figure does not reflect what I have heard from people directly affected by this location. Neither I nor anyone I know in the immediate area was informed, surveyed, or asked for input. I respectfully request information explaining how the 43% figure was obtained, including who was surveyed, how many people participated, and whether nearby residents, employees, neighborhood councils, and local small-business owners were included. I am concerned that this decision moved forward without meaningful public involvement. A decision affecting public safety, sidewalk access, transportation, local businesses, vulnerable people, and animals should not be made without hearing from the communities that

experience these conditions every day. I understand that homelessness is complicated and that moving people from one location to another is not a complete solution. However, allowing encampments to return to a narrow pedestrian bridge over one of the busiest freeways in Los Angeles is neither safe nor compassionate. As someone who personally understands drug addiction and has experienced recovery, I do not believe leaving people on the streets surrounded by drugs helps them rebuild their lives. We need an approach that combines housing, addiction treatment, mental-health services, animal-welfare assistance, and appropriate enforcement. The safety and dignity of everyone matter, including people experiencing homelessness, employees, residents, transit riders, people with disabilities, local businesses, and animals. These interests should not be treated as mutually exclusive. I respectfully ask your office to reconsider removing the 41.18 designation from the Bronson Avenue bridge. At a minimum, the decision should be paused until meaningful public outreach has occurred. I also request the data supporting the reported 43% figure and a specific plan for keeping the bridge safe, accessible, and free from hazardous conditions.