

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to an inventory of the City's critical infrastructure.

Recommendations for Council action pursuant to Motion (Park – Lee):

1. INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) in coordination with Bureau of Engineering, Department of City Planning and Los Angeles Department of Transportation, with other Departments as necessary, to prepare an inventory of the City's critical infrastructure that is essential to the provision of public services, including but not limited to freeway underpasses, overpasses, bridges, train tracks, tunnels, waterways, drainage systems, public utilities, telecommunications systems, government buildings, facilities that house government operations, and transportation systems.
2. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Fire Department to report within 30 days regarding the number of encampment-related fires that have occurred along freeway underpasses, overpasses, and embankments in 2023, year to date.
3. REQUEST the City Attorney to prepare and present potential amendments to existing City laws that would protect critical infrastructure and our City's High Fire Severity Zones and Environmentally Sensitive Areas with the City of Sacramento and County of Sacramento Ordinances being used as a framework.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the CLA has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On November 28, 2023, your Committee considered a Motion (Park – Lee) relative to an inventory of the City's critical infrastructure. According to the Motion, on Saturday, November 11, 2023, a massive fire broke out under the 10 Freeway in downtown Los Angeles, burning approximately eight acres of storage pallets, trailers, and vehicles. Due to the extensive damage, the 10 Freeway will remain closed at least several more weeks, causing long-term traffic and economic impacts for the entire region. This recent fire underscores the vulnerability of the City's infrastructure and the importance of protecting these vital systems against fire and other risks, whether from human or non-human activity.

As the City's homelessness crisis has grown exponentially, our freeway underpasses and overpasses, bridges, tunnels, and other transportation infrastructure have become a focal point. While these locations may provide shade and shelter from the elements, they are incompatible with human habitation. Open flames, gas tanks and generators, excessive personal belongings, trash, and other flammable and hazardous materials in these

encampments are not uncommon. At just one underpass in CD 11, there were more than ten encampment related fires between 2021-2022. When fires in and around our critical infrastructure occur, the lives, health and safety of those living in encampments at those locations, as well as the lives and safety of our City's first responders, are significantly jeopardized. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Public Safety Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
RODRIGUEZ:	YES
LEE:	YES
McOSKER:	YES
PARK:	YES
SOTO-MARTINEZ:	NO

ARL

11/28/23

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-