

Under the City Charter of the City of Los Angeles, under Section 580, the Department of Public Works has the responsibility over our public right-of-way. The Department of Public Works has the expertise, staff, and responsibility to design, construct, and maintain our streets and public works improvements in the public-right-of-way.

There are occasions where public pathways and other public works improvements may be made or adopted by the City that are *not* on a dedicated public right-of-way. Key examples include multi-use pathways along channelized waterways, such as the LARiverWay, the Ballona Creek Bike Path, and others. In such cases, the City has agreed to operations and maintenance of such facilities, yet there has been a lack of clarity on the first point of contact or responsibility within the City. While changes by Ordinance or motion (such as instructed in CF 25-0124) can assign lead agencies for maintenance and handle existing contracts and staffing, the City Charter should be clear in assigning the Department of Public Works, due to their area expertise, as the Department within the City with the duty and responsibility to maintain such features if part of an agreement, similar to how they maintain the public right-of-way.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to prepare the documents necessary to place on the November 2026 General Election a measure that would amend Charter Section 580 to ensure that the Department of Public Works also has the powers and duties to conduct all the activities under subsection 580(a) for facilities where the City has an agreement with another governmental or private entity to construct, operate, and maintain (or operate and maintain) but that are not in the City of Los Angeles public right-of-way, as part of the Council's consideration for any Charter Reform package.

PRESENTED BY: Nithya Raman
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Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: Bob Berman

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