

MOTION

The Los Angeles region has continued to experience fires and hazardous conditions in and around Caltrans infrastructure and freeway-adjacent areas, including spaces that should not be publicly accessible. These incidents pose an immediate threat to public safety, infrastructure integrity, and surrounding communities. The most recent event involved a fire in an access portal (per Caltrans) within the 110 Freeway structure in the Wilmington and San Pedro area, which resulted in a full freeway closure and raised concerns about structural integrity, underscoring ongoing risks associated with Caltrans' failure to secure its assets.

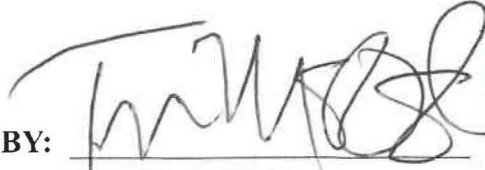
As reflected in prior Council action under Council File 26-0251, the City has had to demonstrate its willingness to respond quickly and coordinate across agencies to address emerging safety concerns and provide maintenance and public safety support, even where jurisdiction may lie with Caltrans, and other agencies.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), Emergency Management Department (EMD), and Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), and any other departments, in coordination with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), to report on:

- The responsibility, if any, of Caltrans to install and maintain fire detection, warning, and emergency notification systems in freeway infrastructure, including tunnels, underpasses, and similar spaces;
- Existing gaps in Caltrans' early warning, monitoring, or communication systems in these areas;
- Frequency of Caltrans' monitoring of public access points and maintenance of these spaces; and
- Opportunities for Caltrans to deploy real-time alerting, access control, or hazard detection systems in confined freeway-adjacent spaces.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council request that Caltrans report on its current protocols for identifying, monitoring, and mitigating fire risk in enclosed or semi-enclosed areas within the freeway system.


MAY 5 2026

PRESENTED BY: 
TIM McOSKER
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY: 

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