

MOTION

The City of Los Angeles has made meaningful, long-term investments in public spaces through the Proposition K – LA for Kids (Prop K) program. However, the phased, decades-long rollout of Prop K projects has too often resulted in parks that no longer reflect the evolving, holistic needs of our communities. Sheldon Skatepark is a clear example.

Located on the Northside of Sheldon St between the Interstate 5 and State Route 170, Sheldon Skate Park includes the existing built project, or Phase I, at Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN) 26340066908, the in-design portion and future roller rink and community building at Phase II, at APN 2634006909, and including the adjacent LADWP-owned property at APN, 2634006902 and 2634004913. Sheldon Skatepark today remains physically fragmented and underutilized. The initial Phase I design—built decades ago—lacked key community-serving features. It was developed with minimal space for gathering, poor landscaping, no on-site staff facilities, and few elements that encourage positive activation. There was no intentional connection to the adjacent, well-maintained trail on the LADWP property. And with no clear plan to integrate future improvements, excessive fencing, poor lighting, and dead spaces became the norm.

These missed opportunities have had real consequences. Vandalism, loitering, and youth crime have made the park less inviting—not only for skaters but also for families, seniors, and community members who deserve access to safe, vibrant public spaces. Now, as the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) advances the Prop K Phase II work, the same siloed approach risks building more disconnected infrastructure. While Prop K-funded improvements should absolutely proceed, they should not box us into a piecemeal, incomplete park experience. We must think bigger and bolder.

A new Vision Plan is urgently needed. One that thoughtfully integrates the existing skatepark, the LADWP trail, and new Phase II improvements into a unified, accessible, and welcoming public space. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform Sheldon Skatepark from a fenced-off skate facility into a dynamic, multigenerational public space. One that welcomes families, skaters, seniors, and neighbors alike—and reflects the pride and potential of the communities of Sun Valley and beyond.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the BOE, in coordination with the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and with input from LADWP, be directed to initiate a Vision Plan for Sheldon Skatepark to create a cohesive, community-driven design that enhances safety, connectivity, and recreational opportunities as it builds out the new roller-derby section for Phase II.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that BOE and RAP, with input from local skating groups, the larger community, and Council District 6, develop a plan that includes, but is not limited to:

- A cohesive and holistic park layout that unifies the skatepark, roller derby area, and LADWP trail as one continuous green space.
- Improved landscaping with drought-tolerant, shade-providing trees and vibrant native California plants that bloom year-round.
- Elimination of underutilized or “dead” spaces to maximize recreational and community use.
- Clear, accessible pathways, lighting, and entry points that connect seamlessly to the LADWP trail without forcing park users to exit and re-enter.
- Expanded seating and shaded areas, including gazebos, benches, and gathering spots.

  
MAR 28 2025

- A community center with flexible space for meetings, park operations, programming, and community engagement to improve safety and reduce vandalism.
- A balanced mix of active and passive recreation opportunities, integrating the existing park footprint with Prop K Phase II improvements and accommodating future phases.
- Reduced excessive fencing, paired with safe, accessible parking areas.
- A phased implementation strategy that bridges the gap between current and future Prop K phases.
- Long-term strategies for programming, community activation, and ongoing maintenance in partnership with RAP.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that BOE, with assistance from RAP and LADWP, provides a cost estimate and timeline within 30 days for the completion of the Vision Plan, with the goal of finalizing the plan by 2027.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that RAP incorporates the City's park naming policy into the Vision Plan process to ensure that the community has an opportunity to provide input on any potential naming or renaming considerations.

PRESENTED BY:   
**IMELDA PADILLA**  
Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY: 

**ORIGINAL**