

Over the past 20 years, the City and region have taken many steps to reintegrate the Los Angeles River into the urban fabric of Los Angeles. The Los Angeles River lies at the heart of Los Angeles, but for many years we treated it as no more than a drainage liability. Among efforts including ecological restoration and the creation of new open space, one crucial piece of this reintegration is the completion of the LARiverWay, a continuous off-street multi-use active transportation path along the banks of the Los Angeles River from the headwaters in Canoga Park, through Downtown Los Angeles, and beyond to existing pathways outside of the City of Los Angeles. The completion of this continuous bikeway is a goal for the City due to the safety and quality of life benefits, but also the decarbonization benefits of reducing car trips and Greenhouse Gas emissions.

The City has established the importance of the LARiverWay in various ways, from the adoption of the 2007 Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (Revitalization Master Plan) and the Mobility Plan 2035 Circulation Element of the General Plan, to the assignment of dedicated staff to working on LARiverWay projects, and active participation in regional efforts and planning. In the San Fernando Valley, the completion of the LARiverWay has been actively pursued by the Bureau of Engineering, organized through the 2017 Los Angeles Valley River Bikeways and Greenways Feasibility Study Design Report and the LARiverWay - San Fernando Valley Completion Project. The Completion Project identifies sections 1-9 in the San Fernando Valley in Council Districts 3, 6, 4, and 2, from Vanalden Avenue to Forest Lawn/Zoo Drive, hereto referred as the "Valley LARiverWay."

That investment of staff and time has paid off with a number of successful outside grant applications and funding secured in. A total of approximately \$126M has been secured so far for completing the Valley LARiverWay, including Measure M (2016) funding administered by Metro. Yet a funding gap of approximately \$100M still exists to complete the Valley LARiverWay. The City Council approved a resolution in support of State funding to close the funding gap in 2022 (CF 22-0002-S18), but the State failed to allocate funding for this gap.

To close the remaining funding gap and ensure the design and construction phases of the remaining gaps, and given the importance of the LARiverWay to the City and to the region, the City should explore methods to leverage existing funding and alternative financing and project delivery models to complete the Valley LARiverWay. The intention of this motion is that the City use 2028 and 2038, respectively, as goals for completing "essential connectivity" and "full build out" of the Valley LARiverWay.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the Bureau of Engineering, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Department of Water and Power, and any other relevant departments to report back, within 60 days, with recommendations for how to best proceed with identifying funding and completing project delivery in an accelerated manner for the Valley LARiverWay, including:

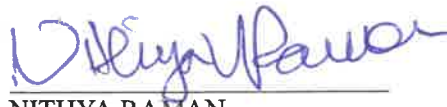
- A summary of all secured funding to date for the completion of the Valley LARiverWay, specifically sections 1-9 between Vanalden Avenue and Forest Lawn/Zoo Drive as identified in the LARiverWay - San Fernando Valley Completion Project;
- An updated estimate of the funding gaps which remain for completing essential connectivity and the full build out for the Valley LARiverWay;
- Overall staff resources needed to implement the full completion of the Valley LARiverWay;
- A catalog of grant opportunities and the anticipated necessary resources required to perform grant writing over the next several fiscal years in pursuit of those opportunities;
- An overview of alternative delivery models that may be employed to accelerate the Valley LARiverWay project delivery including any that may be used to fund both planning/design/construction and operations and maintenance;
- Engaging relevant external agency stakeholders including Los Angeles County, Caltrans, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Metro to discuss the potential of using various funding sources in a pooled approach in pursuit of an accelerated delivery model;
- A description of potential implementation and funding partnerships via City, county, federal, private, foundation, and nonprofit entities, and;

*Mr*  
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- Details regarding the potential financial benefits and cost savings of accelerating the Valley LARiverWay project delivery with proposed resources to hire consultant support to perform the analysis.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer to identify up to \$500,000 in current fiscal year funding for consultant services or City resources that could be made available to effectuate the intent of this motion.

PRESENTED BY:



NITHYA RAMAN  
Councilmember, 4th District



BOB BLUMENFIELD  
Councilmember, 3rd District



PAUL KREKORIAN  
Councilmember, 2nd District



IMELDA PADILLA  
Councilmember, 6th District

ORIGINAL

SECONDED BY:

