

Communication from Public

Name: AARP Los Angeles

Date Submitted: 01/12/2022 10:21 AM

Council File No: 21-1469

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Chair Blumenfield and Public Works Committee Members: On behalf of 3.3 million AARP members in California and nearly 119,000 members in the City of Los Angeles, I write in support of Council File 21-1469 Sidewalk Maintenance and Repair Program. AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people to choose how they live as they age. We work to strengthen communities by advocating on issues that matter most to older adults and their families. The City of Los Angeles is experiencing a sizeable increase in its older adult population, an expected nationwide trend as baby boomers age. According to the LA Controller's Office, over 764,000 residents of the City of Los Angeles are considered older adults (age 60+) and this population is projected to exceed 1 million by 2030 when nearly one in four Angelenos will be over the age of 60. The City and County of Los Angeles joined AARP's Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities in 2016 and launched the Purposeful Aging Los Angeles (PALA) Age-Friendly Initiative. As stated in the PALA Age-Friendly Action Plan For The Los Angeles Region 2018-2021: "The goal of this multi-year commitment is to become more age-friendly within very diverse cultural and socio-economic contexts, and building on our commitment to promote healthy and active aging and a good quality of life for older adults." Sidewalks are a critical link connecting older adults and their families to public transportation, social activities, economic opportunities, and community services. Our members have resoundingly shared with us how critical walkable sidewalks are to the transportation choices that best fit their needs. AARP believes Council File 21-1469 is an important step in advancing the PALA promise to "ensure that older adults can walk safely in their communities" as well as many of the issues raised in the Controller's November 2021 audit of the City's sidewalk repair program. AARP joins our community partners in supporting this motion and we look forward to working with the City Council to make Los Angeles more walkable and livable for people of all ages and abilities. Thank you for your consideration and leadership on this critical program. Sincerely, Nancy McPherson
State Director



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January 12, 2022

The Honorable Bob Blumenfield
Los Angeles Councilmember, Third District
200 N Spring Street, Suite 465
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: **Council File 21-1469** Street Maintenance and Repair Program

Dear Chair Blumenfield and Public Works Committee Members:

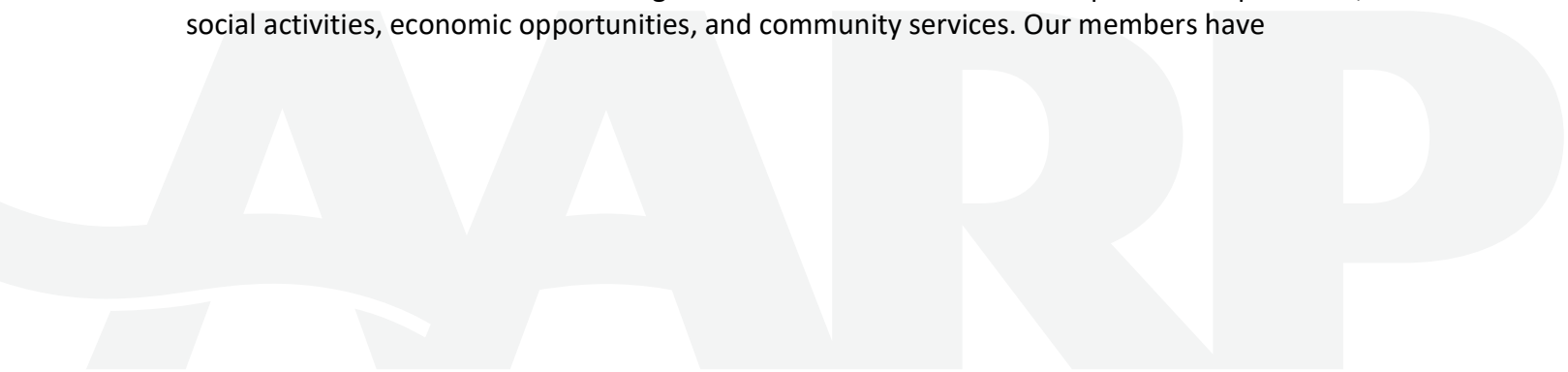
On behalf of 3.3 million AARP members in California and nearly 119,000 members in the City of Los Angeles, I write in support of Council File 21-1469 Sidewalk Maintenance and Repair Program.

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people to choose how they live as they age. We work to strengthen communities by advocating on issues that matter most to older adults and their families.

The City of Los Angeles is experiencing a sizeable increase in its older adult population, an expected nationwide trend as baby boomers age. According to the LA Controller's Office, over 764,000 residents of the City of Los Angeles are considered older adults (age 60+) and this population is projected to exceed 1 million by 2030 when nearly one in four Angelenos will be over the age of 60.

The City and County of Los Angeles joined AARP's Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities in 2016 and launched the [Purposeful Aging Los Angeles \(PALA\) Age-Friendly Initiative](#). As stated in the PALA Age-Friendly Action Plan For The Los Angeles Region 2018-2021: *"The goal of this multi-year commitment is to become more age-friendly within very diverse cultural and socio-economic contexts, and building on our commitment to promote healthy and active aging and a good quality of life for older adults."*

Sidewalks are a critical link connecting older adults and their families to public transportation, social activities, economic opportunities, and community services. Our members have



resoundingly shared with us how critical walkable sidewalks are to the transportation choices that best fit their needs.

AARP believes Council File 21-1469 is an important step in advancing the PALA promise to “ensure that older adults can walk safely in their communities” as well as many of the issues raised in the Controller’s November 2021 audit of the City’s sidewalk repair program.

AARP joins our community partners in supporting this motion and we look forward to working with the City Council to make Los Angeles more walkable and livable for people of all ages and abilities.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership on this critical program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nancy C. McPherson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Nancy McPherson
State Director

Communication from Public

Name: Carrie Madden

Date Submitted: 01/12/2022 12:43 PM

Council File No: 21-1469

Comments for Public Posting: Regarding: Council File 21-1469 Street Maintenance and Repair Program We are Community Organizers from Communities Actively Living Independent and Free in Downtown Los Angeles. We are an Independent Living Center that provides services to people with disabilities in over 50 zip codes. We are also an Aging and Disability Resource Connection that provides services to seniors and the disabled throughout LA County. We wish to express our support for the LA City Controller's office report "Repairing LA's Broken Sidewalk Strategy". Our Independent Living Center was one of the plaintiffs in the Willits Case Settlement. We are frustrated with the slow response in repairing the sidewalks. Many of the people we serve are still stuck in their homes because the sidewalks are not accessible. Most sidewalks remain unchanged. We have sidewalks that can best be described as dangerous. Wheelchairs can literally tip over. People with walkers and canes can trip over the broken pavements. The only alternative people have is to take their lives into their own hands by walking or rolling into the streets and risk getting hit by a car. Given this situation, many people remain stuck in their homes unable to fully participate in their own communities. We support the following: 1. Funding a professional inventory of the sidewalks 2. Eliminating the outdated policy of fix and release 3. Involving our mobility and transportation experts at LADOT in the entire sidewalk/crosswalk program. 4. Committing significant funding from the new federal infrastructure bill: the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Respectfully, Cynde Soto and Carrie Madden 634 S. Spring St 2nd Floor Los Angeles, CA 90014