

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



## DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OFFICERS

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## DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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DLANC Office Coordinator: Ted Greaton

April 7, 2009

Arthur T. Leahy, Chief Executive Officer  
METRO  
One Gateway Plaza MS9925-1  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: 2009 Call For Projects: Broadway Historic Theater District Pedestrian Enhancements**

Dear Mr. Leahy:

The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") submits this letter of support for the Broadway Historic Theater District Pedestrian Enhancements project (Project) submitted in response to METRO's 2009 Call for Projects. DLANC has consistently supported projects designed to further the City's Bringing Back Broadway Initiative, including those that relate to improving the pedestrian environment along Broadway in Downtown Los Angeles.

DLANC believes the Project will enhance the pedestrian and transit experience along historic Broadway from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Streets and improve antiquated infrastructure along one of the City's oldest historic corridors. The Project will encourage the re-use of historic buildings through its various elements, including: sidewalk reconstruction, intermodal transit bumpout platforms at intersections and mid-block crossings, pedestrian-scale lighting to improve light levels on sidewalks and building facades, non-standard street furniture/fixtures and decorative paving unique to historic Broadway and in keeping with the National Register Historic District.


These improvements are necessary because Broadway's transit experience is currently confusing and feels unsafe due to the condition of infrastructure and lack of well-lit amenity and information-oriented transit stops. Curb and sidewalk extensions will shorten street crossing distances, improving safety and visibility for pedestrians and access to the confluence of transit serving Broadway. Extending curbs will also provide protected curbside parking/loading zones, further buffering pedestrians from vehicular traffic. These public realm improvements will encourage the use of transit, biking and walking, by providing user-friendly accessibility and enhanced transit and pedestrian experience.

Moreover, increased transit, bicycle and pedestrian use through these planned improvements will help the City of Los Angeles achieve compliance with SB375 by reducing vehicle trips and emissions from automobiles, especially as Downtown continues to attract new residents, workers and visitors. The Project also furthers the City's sustainability efforts by including opportunities for groundwater recharge and for integrating electronic and solar energies into way-finding and transportation demand management systems, thereby further reducing vehicle trips.

We strongly encourage METRO to prioritize this Project as critical to Downtown, and fully fund the amount requested. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Russell Brown". The signature is stylized and cursive.

J. Russell Brown  
DLANC President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shiraz D. Tangri". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Shiraz D. Tangri  
DLANC Planning & Land Use Committee Co-Chair

CC: Councilmember Jose Huizar (Council District 14)  
Jessica Wethington-McLean (Executive Director, Bringing Back Broadway)