

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



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DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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April 14, 2010

Gary Lee Moore, Los Angeles City Engineer
Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Bureau of Engineering
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 350
Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: **Sixth Street Bridge & Viaduct Project**

Dear Mr. Moore:

At our regularly held public meeting on April 13, 2009, the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") voted to submit the following comments regarding the Bureau of Engineering's project to repair or replace the Sixth Street Bridge and Viaduct, pursuant to the motion passed on March 23, 2010, by DLANC's Planning & Land Use Committee.

DLANC joins in the proposal by the Friends Of the Los Angeles River ("FOLAR") to conduct an international design competition for the final design of the replacement Bridge and Viaduct. The existing Bridge and Viaduct is a Downtown landmark, and it should be succeeded by a future landmark that exhibits world-class design. A design competition will bring public attention to the City's on-going efforts to re-define the Los Angeles River and improve its surrounding neighborhoods, as set forth in the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan. The replacement of the Sixth Street Bridge presents a singular opportunity for the City to catalyze the river revitalization efforts by creating a new monument for 21st Century Los Angeles.

We strongly encourage the City to work with FOLAR, the American Institute of Architects and other stakeholders to establish an international design competition that would be juried by a team of experts and local community members. We join with FOLAR in requesting that the competition be used to identify a final bridge design that promotes the following goals:

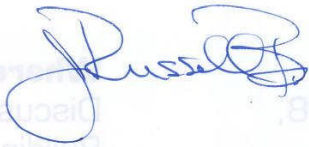
- **Create an iconic new landmark for Los Angeles.**
- **Catalyze economic growth and revitalization** in the Arts District, Boyle Heights, the new "Green Tech corridor" and throughout Downtown.
- **Strengthen the historic link** between Boyle Heights and Downtown.
- **Respect the context** of the historic Downtown River bridges.
- **Create new, accessible public open space** along the River and along the viaduct all the way east to Boyle Heights.
- **Encourage pedestrian and bicycle activity** through creation of attractive walk and bike lanes linked to the growing network of open space and bike paths along the River and through Downtown.
- **Support improved storm water quality and habitat restoration.**

DLANC believes that the value of a world-class design for the replacement bridge will extend far beyond aesthetic concerns. As seen in cities around the world, the creation of an iconic bridge creates not only civic pride, but attracts tourism and stimulates economic development. As such, a world-class bridge design will reinforce the on-going renaissance of Downtown and its surrounding neighborhoods, and stimulate further investments in those areas.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Very truly yours,

Very truly yours,



J. Russell Brown
DLANC President



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

CC: Hon. Ed Reyes (Council District 1)
Hon. Jan Perry (Council District 9)
Hon. José Huizar (Council District 14)
Lewis MacAdams, President, Friends of the Los Angeles River
Shelly Backlar, Executive Director, Friends of the Los Angeles River
Alex Ward, Chairman of the Board, Friends of the Los Angeles River