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## City Begins Process of Improving Lincoln Boulevard Bridge Over Ballona Creek

By Damien Newton | Feb 13, 2014 | 29



The New Lincoln Blvd. Bridge? All images via Westside Mobility Plan.

When trying to decide whether or not the City of Los Angeles is serious about becoming a safe and inviting place to walk or ride a bicycle, it's easy to look at the largest projects, such as MyFigueroa! or the Hyperion Bridge re-design, or the statistics. But, its equally important to look at some of the smaller projects that can improve mobility for all road users in an area, such as the newly announced project to improve the Lincoln Blvd. bridge over the Ballona Creek.

The LADOT and Councilmember Mike Bonin are enthusiastically promoting [The Westside Mobility Plan \(WMP\)](#), a collaborative effort between the councilmember department, and community groups. The plan includes a project to turn the bridge, a major choke point for any cyclist or pedestrian moving north or south on Lincoln Boulevard, into one more hospitable for all road users. The Lincoln Bridge Mutli-Modal Corridor Plan would widen the surface design of the bridge without increasing the structure's footprint into the Ballona Creek.



The current look of the bridge.

On Wednesday, the WMP received approval [from the City Council Transportation Committee](#) to begin public outreach for the proposed project to get community feedback before moving the project to the design phase. The current graphics for the project, including the above one, are just concept designs.



Wide sidewalks, bicycle lanes and even a transit-only lane are all being considered for the project. While neither Metro nor LADOT is planning to add light rail or bus rapid transit to the bridge anytime soon, there are regular Metro bus routes that run over the bridge today.

“What we’re hoping to do here is improve traffic flow and make things easier and better for bicyclists and pedestrians,” explains Bonin. “In the last century it would have been a mega widening.”

When Caltrans looked at the bridge in 2001, the state’s road paving agency proposed widening Lincoln Boulevard from Jefferson to Fiji Boulevard from two mixed-use lanes in each direction to four lanes. Instead of widening the bridge, Caltrans decided the best course of action would be to build another bridge over the environmentally important Ballona Creek.



The Westside Mobility Plan study area.

In the resolution authorizing the new study, it notes, “The Coastal Commission and the community wisely rejected the proposal.”

“If at first you don’t succeed, try try again,” joked Bonin introducing the motion authorizing the project.

With Caltrans’ first plan dead and buried for a decade, the City Council approved a contract amendment to the Westside Mobility Plan adding a site specific analysis for a Lincoln Bridge Improvement Feasibility study in 2012. The Council directed the Westside Mobility Plan consultant team to examine opportunities to improve pedestrian facilities, bicycle facilities,

center running Bus Rapid Transit or Light Rail Transit facilities and minimize the impact to the Ballona Creek.

The budget for the project exceeds \$3 million. Bonin reports that funds could come from [Metro’s Call for Projects](#), once the design is approved by the surrounding community and the City Council.

The plan is being led by Fehr and Peers, one of the more progressive consulting transportation consulting firms in California.

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**Alangold00** • a year ago

VALLEY GO HOME.

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**Alangold00** • a year ago

how about not letting the developers screw up the area. how about people not using their garages as rentals. I have lived here for 25 years and watched the community get screwed up. Playa vista never should have happened. Now you have a bunch of self entitled jerk offs thinking that since they payed a lot of money for there houses or condos, they own the rode.

^ | ▾ • Reply • Share ▸



**Joe** • 2 years ago

Still a disaster, still a death trap to even think about crossing. Still completely cuts off two areas from anyone outside of a car. Still 0 progress. Typical LA.

^ | ▾ • Reply • Share ▸



**Brian** • 3 years ago

How about dedicated bike/pedestrian bridge near Alla or McConnell like the one near Culver Middle School over the creek? Would give great access to the new Playa Vista mall (this would eliminate a lot of driving!) and be so much safer than Lincoln.

2 ^ | ▾ • Reply • Share ▸



**Stephan** • 3 years ago

I think this is a fantastic step! It's amazing to me that some people are more interested in preserving a concrete wash than caring for people's lives and safety. Los Angeles and especially the Westside are becoming more pedestrian and cyclist friendly and it's about time that we consider their needs as a community. I bike across this bridge as an individual and with my family regularly and am constantly in fear of our lives. I hope this gets approved soon! Thanks!

^ | ▾ • Reply • Share ▸



**Scott** • 3 years ago

Safety issue too on northbound Lincoln at Fiji way - watch out for the cavernous pavement in front of the gas station it will grab your wheels if not careful. The bridge improvements will be huge - thank you CD15 for putting this on the radar.

^ | ▾ • Reply • Share ▸



**Irwin Chen** • 3 years ago

I ride over this bridge several times a week so this has been a very personal crusade for a while. I'm

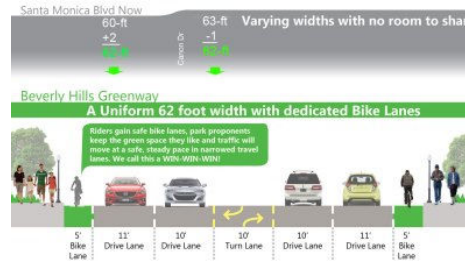


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By Joe Linton | Jan 13, 2015

Editor's note: The Department of Do-It-Yourself works in strange and mysterious ways. Today we run a guest post by cyclist Eric Weinstein who may or may not have been part of Dept. of DIY's westside cycling division's Lincoln Boulevard sand removal effort last week. You'll probably never notice. Last Friday night a very small crew [...]



### Beverly Hills Approves Bike Lanes for Santa Monica Blvd

By Joe Linton | Jun 21, 2017

The Beverly Hills City Council approved new bike lanes for Santa Monica Boulevard, expected to be installed by mid-2018.



### How Mayor Garcetti Can Make L.A. Bike-Friendly – 1: Easy Bike Facilities

By Joe Linton | Mar 22, 2017

If Mayor Garcetti wants to make Los Angeles a bicycle-friendly city, here are ~50 streets that should receive bicycle upgrades right away.

### LADOT Has Completed More Than 50 Miles of Road Diet Bike Lanes

By Joe Linton | Jul 2, 2014

Earlier in 2014, the national Streetsblog Network website highlighted BikeSD's coverage of the city of San Diego's first road diet bike lanes. Streetsblog Los Angeles has covered quite a few city of Los Angeles road diets over the past few years; most of them non-controversial, including 7th Street, Grand Avenue, Hoover Street, and Myra Avenue. A few of [...]

### Lawsuits and Leadership: Where Is Mayor Garcetti On L.A. Mobility?

By Damien Newton and Joe Linton | Sep 10, 2015

Yesterday, the Orwellian-sounding Fix the City officially announced their lawsuit against the recently approved city of Los Angeles Mobility Plan 2035. The plan, unpopular with those that value car travel time over public safety, is controversial because of provisions that would, in some cases, remove mixed-use travel lanes (car lanes) or car parking to add bus, [...]

### Editorial: Can LA Bridge Builders Reconfigure Our Riverside-Figueroa Bridge?

By Joe Linton | Feb 3, 2014

Though I am excited about L.A.'s great bridges, I confess that I am not a big fan of city of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering's (BOE) "Bridge Improvement Program." I used to be. In the 1990s the city's bridge program was headed by Clark Robins. After the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, most city bridges received a [...]

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