

Date: March 22, 2023

202300874

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

Subject: PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CONNECTING ELBERON AVENUE TO MT. ECHO PARK

Reference Document #202202062

The Council at its session on November 22, 2022, referred the following item for review and report.

MOTION, dated 11/8/2022, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney, WE MOVE that City administration provide a REPORT on the feasibility of building a pedestrian bridge to provide a safe, non-vehicular route across Elberon Avenue to Mt. Echo Park, and whether there are available funding sources such as the U.S. Department of Transportation's Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program.

SUMMARY

There are several factors that determine the feasibility of a pedestrian bridge across Elberon Avenue into Mt. Echo Park. Currently, DOTE does not have adequate staff or funding to complete a feasibility report; but DOTE estimates the total project cost to construct the pedestrian bridge would cost \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

FEASIBILITY FACTORS

There are several factors that determine the feasibility of a pedestrian bridge across Elberon Avenue into Mt. Echo Park.

1. The bridge should be placed in a location that is convenient for use by residents. The construction of a new pedestrian bridge would need to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
2. Once a location is determined, designing to ADA requirements would determine the overall construction footprint.
3. With limited public right of way in this area, the City would likely need to purchase property for the bridge.
4. The surrounding hillsides must be evaluated to determine what mitigations or improvements need to be incorporated with the bridge design to prevent future landslide issues.
5. There will need to be coordination with the Parks Department on the exact location of the bridge and the impacts this would have on Mt. Echo Park.

Currently, DOTE does not have the staff or funding resources to complete a feasibility report. Based on the current data, DOTE estimates a feasibility report would cost \$75,000. The total estimated project cost for the pedestrian bridge is \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000. Once a feasibility report is completed, DOTE can determine the most competitive grant to fund the project.

cc: John S. Brazina, Director, Transportation and Engineering
Bryan Williams, Transportation and Engineering
Bill Shefcik, Transportation and Engineering