Dear Councilmember Mike Bonin,

The Silver Lake neighborhood in Council District 4 is a beloved east-side community that is utilized by vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians sharing major and local streets that connect the neighborhood to the rest of Los Angeles and beyond.

In 2013, following the tragic death of a young woman who was struck by a vehicle while attempting to cross Rowena Avenue, a former four-lane portion of the road was reconfigured into two-lanes (one traffic lane in each direction) with a middle turning lane and dedicated bike lanes on both sides of the street, adjacent to on-street parking. Since the reconfiguration, concerns have been raised about cut-through traffic, north and south of Rowena Avenue, particularly on Waverly Drive and Angus Street, and the increased potential for collisions with cyclists and pedestrians, including children walking to school, parents with strollers, and joggers.

As a result, Council District 4 commissioned a study to examine existing conditions in the area, specifically along Waverly Drive and Angus Street. Multiple stakeholder meetings were conducted, the project’s engineering consultants analyzed existing traffic conditions in the project area, and potential strategies were then presented to help alleviate the safety issues observed.

It is now necessary for the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to evaluate the potential mitigations outlined in the report and present recommendations to the City Council that would help ensure the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists alike.
It is my goal, as it is the Department of Transportation’s, to ensure that the analysis of Kimley Horn’s report be objective, data driven, and that any and all recommendations and/or improvements place the safety of Silver Lake residents first and foremost.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this item and please don’t hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions.

Sincerely,

David E. Ryu
Councilmember, District Four