

# California Science Center

700 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90037  
Telephone 323.SCIENCE (724.3623)  
Fax 213.744.2034  
www.californiasciencecenter.org

January 13, 2013

The Honorable Jose Huizar, Chair  
Planning and Land Use Management Committee  
Los Angeles City Council  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## Re: Figueroa Streetscape Project

Dear Chairman Huizar and members of the PLUM Committee,

With respect to the proposed Figueroa Streetscape Project, the California Science Center and Exposition Park Board of Directors requests that the City consider alternatives to the removal of traffic lanes on South Figueroa Street that will accommodate both the concerns of Exposition Park and the needs of bicycle riders. The traffic congestion that this Project will generate as the result of the reduction of traffic lanes, will exacerbate an already traffic congested corridor and will severely impact the ingress and egress for millions of visitors who come to enjoy the educational, cultural and recreational experiences offered in the Park. The primary entrance to Exposition Park is on Figueroa Boulevard.

Exposition Park is a regional destination and considered by many as a treasure of Los Angeles. It is home to the California Science Center and the beloved Space Shuttle Endeavour, the California African American Museum, the Natural History Museum, Expo Center, and the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, along with other facilities. The museums collectively receive more than 2.5 million guests a year. On weekdays, up to one hundred school buses drop off thousands of school children to the museums, entering the Park from Figueroa Boulevard. Every weekend and during the holidays, tens of thousands of guests from the region and around the world arrive to visit the museums. National and international tourism has also played a significant role in the increases of attendance at all of the museums.

Exposition Park also hosts local community events almost every weekend throughout the year. These events include major run/walks, health fairs, youth sports camps, town hall



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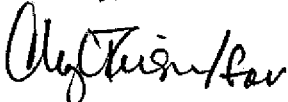
meetings as well as concerts, sporting events and filming. Attendance at these events range from 100 to 90,000 guests.

It seems clear that the loss of traffic lanes as proposed under the current Figueroa Streetscape Project will result in more congestion which will negatively affect visitors to the Park and its museums and facilities; and impede ingress and egress which may present safety issue during major events.

The California Science Center and Exposition Park Board requests that the City consider alternatives to the removal of traffic lanes on South Figueroa Street (particularly in the blocks south of Exposition Boulevard) that will accommodate both the concerns of the Park and the needs of bicycle riders.

Thank you very much for considering the concerns of the California Science Center and Exposition Park Board and the entities in the Park. We look forward to working with you to modify the Figueroa Streetscape Project in a way that reduces impacts to the Park and also provides for the needs of bicycle riders who utilize the corridor.

Sincerely,



Billie Greer

Board member, on behalf of the California Science Center and Exposition Park Board

cc: The Honorable Gilbert A. Cedillo  
The Honorable Mitchell Englander  
The Honorable Curren Price  
Ms. Sharon Gin, Legislative Assistant