To:
The Planning and Land Use Management Committee:
Councilmember Jose Huizar, Councilmember Gilbert A. Cedillo, Councilmember Mitchell Englander, Legislative Assistant Sharon Gin

The Los Angeles City Council:
Councilmember Paul Krekorian, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Councilmember Paul Koretz, Councilmember Nury Martinez, Councilmember Nury Martinez, Councilmember Felipe Fuentes, Councilmember Bernard Parks, Councilmember Curren D. Price, Jr., Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr., Councilmember Mike Bonin, Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell, Councilmember Joe Buscaino

CC:
Shawn Bayliss, Phillip Bennett & Jay Greenstein, LA Council District 5 Office
Felicia Park-Rogers, LA County Supervisor District 3 Office
Paul Backstrom, Council District 11 Office
Westside Neighborhood Council Members
Jay Handal, Vice-chair, Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC)
CIS – Community Impact Statement for Council File 15-0719

RE: Westside Neighborhood Council Motion to Reject Both Mobility Plan (MP) 2035 (ENV 2013-0911-EIR) and the Statement of Overriding Considerations

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

In our meeting held on Thursday, June 11, the Westside Neighborhood Council passed a motion advocating for the rejection of both Mobility Plan (MP) 2035 (ENV 2013-0911-EIR) and the accompanying Statement of Overriding Considerations. This motion was delivered on the grounds that despite the adoption of feasible mitigation measures, the MP 2035 would result in the following unavoidable significant adverse impacts that are not able to be mitigated to a less-than-significant level: transportation (circulation, neighborhood intrusion, congestion management plan and emergency access); noise and vibration (excessive noise from buses and permanent noise increase from buses); and biological resources (sensitive species/habitats, Wetlands).

The benefits of the MP 2035 DO NOT outweigh and override the significant unavoidable impacts of the project. According to the LA Times, the Westside is already one of the most congested parts the city (see diagram and link below). Our community is beyond saturation in terms of traffic and we are seeking relief so that we may enhance our quality of life. This is no time to double down on additional congestion. If the City accepts the MP 2035 plan as is, we will all be missing an opportunity to really make improvements that benefit all Angelenos. MP 2035 is inconsistent with the City of LA’s
General Framework policies and not in sync with our neighborhood needs.

Our community has commented on the problems associated with the MP 2035 plan through every step of the process. Since the beginning, the neighborhood council has not been in support of bike lanes on Westwood Blvd. Additionally, in our letter to Planning Director Michael LoGrande dated March 15, 2015 regarding the MP 2035 DEIR, we specifically objected to the following: (1) A Bicycle Enhanced Network (BEN) on Manning, (2) Transit Enhanced Networks (TENs) on Westwood Blvd, Pico Blvd, and Sepulveda (where we would like to see a protected bike lane), and (3) Neighborhood Enhanced Networks on Olympic, Constellation, and Manning. We would like to see these proposal stricken from the project given the irreparable impacts associated with them.

Thank you.

Aaron Rosenfield,
Westside Neighborhood Council Secretary