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Support Mobility Plan 2035 for safe & sustainable streets! CF#15-0719

1 message

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To: councilmember.bonin@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org
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Dear Honorable Councilmembers:

I support adopting the Mobility Plan 2035, including *ALL* of its proposed networks. As a keen cyclist, I *strongly* support this Plan because I believe that it will help make L.A. streets better for all of us walking, biking, taking transit and driving and encourage more people to take up cycling as a way to keep fit and healthy.

A well-connected network of protected bike lanes and other complete streets improvements the Plan includes will give people healthier options to get around our neighborhoods and our whole city. Calmer traffic and safer streets are critical to protect and enhance our quality of life. We need this plan to build on the progress made by the 2010 Bicycle Plan and make all modes of transportation work together for our city. The modal networks in the Plan were carefully crafted to balance the needs of all who will use them. We can't afford to piecemeal them to appease local naysayers without undermining their citywide utility.

I am especially distressed by a council member's recommendation to remove bike lanes on Westwood Blvd from the Mobility Plan 2035. At a time when the City of Los Angeles is working to become more walkable and bikeable, we need more safe bike lanes connecting popular destinations like Westwood Village and UCLA to neighboring communities--not fewer. According to the L.A. Department of Transportation (LADOT), along this half mile stretch, more than 8 times as many collisions occur between vehicles and bicyclists than similar streets in Los Angeles. Without proper accommodation for bicyclists, Westwood will continue to fail the thousands of students and faculty who ride to the campus every day, as well as the countless more who will come when the Expo Line opens next year. Not to mention anyone wishing to visit the area's shops and restaurants by any means other than motor vehicles. Please keep the Plan's networks intact and keep Westwood Blvd. in the Plan.

We must embrace the fact that cycling is a cost effective alternative to the car, that impacts not only on the environment but also on health. Encouraging people to use bikes for short commutes by making safer bike lanes more accessible helps our congested roadways, but also empowers people to make healthier lifestyle choices.

Please approve the Mobility Plan 2035 so that we can all travel safely on the streets of L.A.

Sincerely,

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