



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

We SUPPORT the Mobility Plan 2035 = COUNCIL FILE #15-0719

1 message

Will Wright <will@aialosangeles.org>

Mon, Aug 10, 2015 at 4:49 PM

To: councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, cityhall@empowerla.org

Cc: Michael LoGrande <michael.logrande@lacity.org>, Seleta Reynolds <seleta.reynolds@lacity.org>, Andrew Westall <andrew.westall@lacity.org>, Shawn Bayliss <shawn.bayliss@lacity.org>, Gerald Gubatan <Gerald.Gubatan@lacity.org>, jay.greenstein@lacity.org

Council President Wesson and fellow LA City Councilmembers:

With regards to COUNCIL FILE #15-0719, I am writing to share our **strong support for Mobility Plan 2035** and encourage the Los Angeles City Council **to adopt the plan as currently drafted.**

The Los Angeles Department of City Planning and the Department of Transportation led an excellent multi-year outreach process with a diverse group of constituents and stakeholders.

The time, energy and professional expertise that went into that effort is highly commendable and should be celebrated as an outstanding example of community outreach and best-management practices for the city.

I highly encourage you to adopt the plan and to further promote a cooperative and effective political process that neither de-rails or interferes with what has otherwise been a very healthy, open and meaningful professional outreach process.

We as taxpayers have invested in a high-caliber Planning and DOT departments for a reason - and we encourage all of the Los Angeles City Councilmembers to respect and to trust that professional expertise. Their recommendations should be highly regarded, trusted and implemented as judiciously as possible.

Otherwise, why spend the millions of dollars that we do on those professional departments?

Furthermore, as you already know, politicizing a professional planning and outreach process may risk demoralizing a workforce, which in turn further dampens productivity.

Therefore, I wholeheartedly encourage you to help shepherd the Mobility Element update through the City Council process in such a way that delivers direct and meaningful success to an end result that embraces the complete Mobility Plan update as currently drafted.

Additional points to consider:

1. Based on the sprawling nature of Los Angeles, nearly every street passes by someone's home. It is unfair to penalize the safety and welfare of each individual resident by prioritizing swiftness of movement over the value of place making. That is, every street serves as someone's front yard. Let's value that premise by striving for safer, healthier and more beautiful streets that function more effectively as places for people rather than places for fast-moving machinery.

2. Zero-emission vehicles and shared-mobility options will continue to take precedence. While many of us our shifting to less carbon-intensive mobility options (foot, rail, bus, bike), those that continue to drive automobiles will eventually be driving less intensively emitting autos and since it will take years and years of development to implement the Mobility Plan, that by the year 2035 when much of this vision has been realized, the carbon impacts will be negligible by the continuance of those that select to drive.

3. The status-quo is unacceptable. A new plan forward must be reached and to simply cling on to the idea that traffic congestion can be reduced by widening roads is a time-proven fallacy. Therefore, let's have the faith and

the courage to understand that tomorrow will be vastly different than today and that there is a clear indication from a shifting demographic that expanding mobility options for all Angeleno's is a sign of genuine progress.

4. Even if adopted today, the Mobility Plan will take years and years to implement since it will predominantly only effect street standards as new development occurs. Therefore, let's not fear the path forward and let's build more consensus for how all stakeholders want a healthier and more beautiful Los Angeles that continues to attract a diverse population of people and provides continuous opportunity for investment and prosperity.

We welcome your leadership on this important issue.

Very truly yours,

Will Wright, Hon. AIA|LA

Director, Government and Public Affairs

AIA Los Angeles

3780 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 800
Los Angeles, CA 90010

213.639.0764 *office*

310.309.9580 *mobile*

213.639.0767 *fax*

will@aialosangeles.org

www.aialosangeles.org

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