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## **A Plea from the Emmy Rider: Support Mobility Plan 2035 for safe & sustainable streets!**

1 message

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**Tom Smuts** <tsmuts@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 30, 2015 at 4:19 PM

To: councilmember.bonin@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org  
Cc: david.ryu@lacity.org, paul.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.martinez@lacity.org, Adam.Lid@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, councilmember.fuentes@lacity.org

Dear Honorable Councilmembers:

I support adopting the Mobility Plan 2035, including ALL of its proposed networks.

As a cyclist who commutes by bike through Westwood to Hollywood three days a week, I strongly support this Plan because I believe that it will help make L.A. streets better for all of us.

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 particularly upset by councilmember Paul Koretz' 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.

As an Emmy-nominated TV writer for MAD MEN who got a great deal of attention for leading of convoy of cyclists to the Emmys last year, I am looking for ways to highlight those communities that see bikes lanes as an important part of the great city LA can become. I would love to be able to feature Westwood as a bike-friendly community in this year's ride to the Emmys.

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

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