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

1 message

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Mon, Aug 3, 2015 at 10:37 AM

To: councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org

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Dear Honorable Councilmember Cedillo:

I support adopting the Mobility Plan 2035, including ALL of its proposed networks. As a bike rider, pedestrian, teacher and resident of CD1, 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.

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 councilmember'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.

I am lucky to live in Glassell Park, with access to bike lanes and the LA River bike path, but I do feel that there is still plenty of room for improvement. Figueroa Street is not a safe street for anyone, whether they are on a bike, on foot, or in a car. Access to downtown is also problematic. Other neighborhoods need improvement in different ways, and that is why the Mobility Plan 2035 needs your support. It is a plan for a safer, healthier city.

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

Sincerely,

Gregory D. Schillo
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