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TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, Item 17-0728, Traffic Plan for Dodger Stadium

1 message

Phyllis Ling <pling@yahoo.com>

Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:26 AM

To: Adam.Lid@lacity.org

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TO: TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RE: Item 17-0728

I want to thank Councilmember Cedillo for submitting Item 17-0728, a motion to develop an updated Traffic Plan for Dodger Stadium.

It has become critical that an updated Traffic Plan be adopted to respond to changes in traffic caused by ridesharing, and apps such as Waze and Google Maps, which have altered how most of us get from point A to point B.

Let's recall the "Beyoncé Jam" to Dodger Stadium, which happened almost a year ago. I clearly remember the epic traffic jam because I got stuck in it just like a concert goer, except I was only trying to get home at around 9 p.m. The backup went as far as the 10 Freeway and clogged all of Chinatown. This traffic jam was blamed in large part to the increased use of ride-sharing.

I'm sure we've also heard the stories of apps like Waze directing unsuspecting drivers up steep streets such as Baxter or Ewing Street in Echo Park. Most of us, likewise, probably have experience taking an unfamiliar route through a residential neighborhood at the behest of Waze. However, when this scenario is multiplied by the thousands of people trying to get to Dodger Stadium at the same time, it's a burden and a hazard for residents living along those residential "shortcuts". A lot has changed in the last 10 years, and the Traffic Plan for Dodger Stadium needs to be updated to reflect those changes.

One key way to adapt to these changes is to direct Dodger Stadium traffic away from residential streets, and keep to it on the freeway or onto streets that are designated for such traffic. Before many home games and major special events, Savoy Street, which is residential, is congested with drivers who are trying to take a minor, and frankly pointless, shortcut to the Downtown gate. Traffic control and resident-only access is needed at the intersection of Savoy Street and Broadway, so that residents can get in and out of the neighborhood safely. Emergency vehicles also need to be able to serve the neighborhood, which is home to many elderly residents.

Like most residents around Dodger Stadium, I check the Dodger calendar routinely and avoid trips during peak times. We all know that there is a lot of traffic during major events and adapt to it. However, more needs to be done to mitigate the safety hazards created by the stadium traffic, especially for my neighbors along Solano Avenue and Casanova Street. Some of the oldest neighborhoods in the city surround Dodger Stadium, and they are not equipped to handle the ever increasing volume of traffic. An update to the Traffic Plan for Dodger Stadium is sorely needed.

I want to thank the Transportation Committee and ask that you immediately take up this issue. I look forward to a speedy and thoughtful resolution to the problem.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Ling
Savoy Street Resident