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Council File 18-0057

1 message

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To: Clerk.ArtsCommittee@lacity.org

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Hello,

I would like to comment on the Comprehensive Strategies Report regarding Improving Access, Safety, and Mobility around Griffith Park and the Hollywood Sign.

-Section 1: I think enhancing pedestrian safety is of utmost priority, and I particularly love the sidewalk bulb-out on Beachwood Dr (Strategy 1) idea (as well as support all of the other strategies proposed under section 1).

-Section 2: I am strongly in favor of a shuttle from subway stops to the Beachwood Canyon trail (strategy 1), but I also think it is critical that the city work to improve pedestrian access to the trailhead. Whether that is working out some sort of compromise with Sunset Ranch, building the alternate trailhead in strategy #2 (or using that possibility to create a compromise with Sunset Ranch), or even possibly eminent domain buying the entire ranch out. It is unacceptable that there is no longer pedestrian access to this trailhead.

-Section 3: I think Strategy #3 is a great idea and would create a huge tourist and local draw for Hollywood Sign viewing while reducing current impact of tourists in the residential areas.

-Section 5 Strategy #2, the report proposes converting two-way streets to one way streets. This may improve traffic flow but at the expense of pedestrian safety. Cars already sometimes move through the hilly streets at dangerous speeds for residential neighborhoods. The most effective manner to slow down these cars is to keep the streets narrow and two-way. Cars slow down at the uncertainty of oncoming traffic, but with one-way streets average speeds are likely to increase to the detriment of pedestrian safety.

-Section 6, Strategies #1 and #2: I am already incredibly frustrated with the PPDs. I was against them from the start and I see little benefit in further expanding the inconvenience. Street parking should be available to the general public! I am in support of Strategy #3 to start paid parking in high volume areas, especially with parking meters that would adjust pricing to demand! I do not support citation amounts proposed in Strategy #4 particularly because they do not discourage parking violations or increase compliance. It will not help the situation but will rather create frustration with the city administration. Furthermore, more parking enforcement (strategy #5) does not seem necessary when there is already such thorough coverage.

-Section 7: Strategies 1, 2, 4, and 6 seem very reasonable and allow the city to take control of tourism in a positive manner. I'm not sure that a replica Hollywood sign would be accepted by tourists/locals in Strategy 5, but it is an interesting idea. Certainly at the beginning there might be pushback, but eventually it would be accepted. A viewing platform better integrated into the Griffith Observatory seems the best option (perhaps connected to by the arial tram). Strategy #8 (installing restrooms) should be a very high priority. Along with this, the restrooms in Ferndell Park are in desperate need of renovations and regular upkeep! Given that these are primarily used by one of the most popular access points to the Griffith Park and Hollywood sign trails, these should be included in the expansion of public restrooms.

Overall, I'm excited about most of the proposed ideas, and I'm glad the city is looking to so many options to improve the tourist experience while protecting local residents from negative externalities.

Best,

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