

MOTION

TRANSPORTATION

In 2015, the mayor announced a data-sharing partnership with mapping apps to provide real-time information about planned impacts to city streets to make apps, Waze, Google Maps, and Apple Maps, more effective and efficient. Subsequent to the announcement, a council motion was introduced to instruct the Department of Transportation to report on the feasibility of expanding that partnership to implement steps to reduce the volume of cut-through vehicle traffic diverted onto residential streets. That motion was referred to the Transportation Committee, but it was not placed on an agenda for hearing and subsequently expired pursuant to the Council's policy in 2017.

The real-world neighborhood impacts of sending distracted, stressed, and/or lost drivers down unfamiliar streets remain. And while there are certainly other factors that contribute to the overwhelming amount of traffic in narrow, neighborhood feeder streets, mapping app makers – like Google, Apple and Waze – have shown little interest in helping neighborhoods reduce the hazards on their streets.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council INSTRUCT the Department of Transportation to report with answers to the following questions:

1. What City data is made available to makers of mapping apps or software?
2. What data does the City receive from mapping app makers?
3. What benefits, if any, does the City receive from its previously announced partnership with these companies?
4. What efforts has the City made to engage mapping app makers to address neighborhood concerns and what has been the response from that engagement?

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council INSTRUCT the Department of Transportation to begin publishing the coordinates for "Impacted Street Segments," based on data from Vision Zero, engineering studies, other accident data or any other relevant factors, for use by mapping apps to avoid further negative neighborhood impacts.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council REQUEST that the City Attorney's office begin analyzing the risk and liability associated with accidents where drivers following the directions of a mapping app are a contributing factor – whether from unsafe routing, distracted driving or other app-related factors – and determine whether the parent companies of the involved mapping apps share liability for damages in any matter where litigation is initiated.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council REQUEST that Google, Apple, and Waze make informed representatives available to the Council or its Committees for a public dialog about the impacts that their products have on neighborhoods in Los Angeles and work in greater partnership with the City Council at reducing those impacts.

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