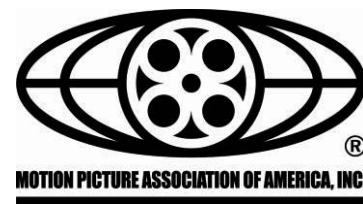




ASSOCIATION OF
INDEPENDENT
COMMERCIAL
PRODUCERS, INC.



June 13, 2013

TO: Members of the Los Angeles City Council

RE: Film Community Opposition to Huizar Motion 13-0479

Over the past few months, the Association of Independent Commercial Producers (AICP), International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE), Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA), and Teamsters Local 399 have been working diligently to find a solution to Council Member Jose Huizar's motion to re-paint the bike lane on Spring Street in Downtown Los Angeles. The motion will be before the Council on Friday, June 14th.

As you are aware, the solid green bike lane on Spring Street has all but halted exterior filming on one of the only streets in Los Angeles that can stand in for cities like New York, Philadelphia, or Chicago. The bike lanes are extremely reflective, a condition that is exacerbated under the intense lighting found on all film sets – making filming extremely difficult. After numerous discussions with Council District 14 and Department of Transportation (LADOT) staff, we do not anticipate reaching an agreement on a compromise bike lane design and paint plan. And while we feel we were close to a solution, the council office has rejected every one of our proposals.

As a reminder, our film industry coalition supports bike lanes, and we support the use of a non-reflective “forest green” color that could be applied to the bike lane on Spring Street. Our solitary concern rests with the current design of the bike lane and the amount of color that would be applied. The amount of paint in the current design makes it difficult to hide or conceal; leading to substantial additional costs that ultimately drive motion picture productions elsewhere – causing thousands of jobs to flee the Los Angeles area.

And while Council Member Huizar could defer the repainting for a couple of months - sending DOT staff to research, design and submit a new compromise bike lane design to the State of California for approval - there does not seem to be a willingness to do so. This leaves us little choice but to oppose any bike lane plan that will cost the City in excess of \$200,000, and comes at the expense of jobs for thousands of film industry workers such as actors, sound and lighting technicians, set designers, caterers, florists and other local and small businesses or independent contractors associated with film, television or commercial production.

We ask for your support and OPPOSE the Huizar Motion 13-0479 (Item 7) on the City Council agenda scheduled for Friday, June 14. If you have additional questions or need clarification on our position, please feel free to contact MPAA's Sarah Walsh at (818) 935-5840 or the Teamsters' Ed Duffy at (818) 432-3306.