

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

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Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Mid City WEST Neighborhood Council

Name: Michael Schneider

Phone Number: (323) 325-1857

Email: mschneider@midcitywest.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(23) Nay(1) Abstain(1) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/12/2022

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 07/14/2022

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 22-0002-S81

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Title: Vehicles: Pedestrians Re: AB 2147 (Friedman-Ting) / Freedom to Walk Act / Decriminalize Jaywalking Position: SUPPORT The Mid City West Neighborhood Council (MCWNC) calls for an end to biased, anti-pedestrian laws against safe mid-block crossings. MCWNC therefore asks the City of Los Angeles to promptly pass CF#22-0002-S81, and ask the legislature to approve AB-2147, the Freedom to Walk Act. AB-2147 would end the outdated ban on jaywalking for pedestrians making safe crossings. This would bring California in line with much of the rest of the world, where common sense crossing rules apply. Streets are not made safer by attempting to engineer pedestrian movements as if they were cars. Indeed, the unsafe design of many intersections in Los Angeles leaves some mid-block crossings as a safe or safer option. Additionally, jaywalking enforcement is often arbitrary and skewed along racial and economic lines. Fines for jaywalking can cost more than a parking ticket, even before extra penalties and insurance rate hikes that low-income Californians may face. Decriminalizing safe, ordinary pedestrian behavior will also reduce unnecessary and pretextual interactions between police and pedestrians. The Freedom to Walk Act is an important step towards a more equitable transportation system for all. Jaywalking laws were originally imposed to give automobiles more street space that was once safely shared. We call for a restoration of fair pedestrian rights and an end to the criminalization and targeting of normal, safe, and common travel behavior. Mid City West NC urges support for and passage of AB-2147 without delay.

