

E-Mail dated October 4, 2017

Dear Councilmember Rodriguez and Eve Sinclair:

It is with mounting frustration and determination that I'm forwarding you this article from today's LA Times detailing pullback of the road diet program in CD10, but not in CD7.

I'm asking all area community leaders to join me in calling again for your prompt action and response to my early August communication, sent prior to the La Tuna Fire, and the subsequent motion from Pat Kramer and the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council that was unanimously adopted by the board of the Shadow Hills Property Owners' Assn. Specifically, we are calling for immediate restoration of the two lanes of traffic along Sunland/Foothill Blvds. and removal of the menacing and obstructive bollards (and not just during crises or emergencies). **I've written and called your office nearly a dozen times since early August on this issue and the only response I received was a passing of the buck to LA DOT and the failure of you, Ms. Sinclair, or any member of your staff to attend either a SHPOA board meeting in mid-August or the SHPOA general meeting last week, attended by more than 100 residents and community leaders from CD7.**

To see this action taken in CD10, which has not faced the life and death crises created by the La Tuna Fire and several other recent major traffic mishaps in CD7, points out how slowly your office is responding. Further, the awareness of you and key CD7 staff about this issue prior to its implementation is a big concern. You've heard clearly: we don't want studies, we don't want committees, we don't want process and we don't want to deal with bureaucrats when we reach out to your office. **We've asked numerous times for documents showing when and by whom authorizations were given to proceed with the costly and dangerous changes to our local roads so we know who should be held accountable. We've gotten no response and are not receiving the representation, leadership or responsiveness that this District deserves.**

The magnitude of these road diet changes, if undertaken by a resident or business, would have prompted years of environmental/EIR studies. What happened here? So, before any committees or studies are done, it's long past due for these recent changes to be rolled back and that NO changes be implemented until our communities are properly engaged and involved in the process. This public safety response really needs to happen before any further crises occur due to that city-created deathtrap.

The decisions in CD7 were finalized without community input and during a time in which we lacked a full-time City Council representative prior to the election and your swearing in. Mayor Garrett, Councilmember Wesson, LA DOT and the Board of Public Works (for which you were a board member), never should have implemented this project prior to your swearing in, nor without integral involvement from our community and its leaders. It's sad that residents in CD10 had to threaten a recall to get the action they deserved while not even facing a crisis anywhere near the magnitude of the La Tuna Fire. It's worse that you and key staff in your office were aware of and involved in the issue before and after your election and did nothing to stop this from happening without proper community input.

As I've communicated to many community leaders and several of your supporters, I'm out of town for two weeks and did not intend to speak out further on this or the high speed train issue until my return. But, reading this story from New Jersey, and seeing the Mayor's office, your office and others continue to flounder on the high speed train issue, made it that much more apparent that things are not well in CD7. I cautioned you and your staff last week that your reputation was in free fall here locally. Once the word gets around that other Districts are getting action while we are being ignored or getting the runaround, things will only get worse.

Action on this issue and high speed trains is the remedy. We renewed our calls for meetings on these issues, along with cannabis, last week, and have yet to receive a response or results. Please advise us on how you will address these situations. Thank you.

Dave DePinto
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