



PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

September 29, 2021

Alice Tolar, Project Manager
Metro
One Gateway Plaza, MS 99-11-1
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Via email to: 405expresslanes@metro.net

Re: Comment on NOP for DEIR – I-405 Sepulveda Pass Express Lanes Project

Dear Ms. Tolar and Metro:

Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) has been the most broad-based community organization and voice of the Palisades since 1973. Pacific Palisades is a coastal and hillside community of approximately 25,000 residents, located in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains to the immediate west of the community of Brentwood and situated entirely within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ).

Our community has only two main routes of vehicular ingress and egress, used for emergency response and evacuation during wildfire events and other emergencies, and for daily travel by many community members to and from work and other activities: Temescal Canyon Rd. (to Pacific Coast Highway) and Sunset Blvd. (west to Pacific Coast Highway and east to the I-405 and the Sepulveda Pass). Both Sunset Blvd. and Pacific Coast Highway are also used by thousands of commuters daily to and from other communities in the Los Angeles basin, the San Fernando Valley and beyond; both roadways are congested during peak travel hours, reducing emergency response times to Pacific Palisades.

The PPCC board considered the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Express Lanes Project at two regularly scheduled public board meetings, on September 9 and September 23, 2021. At the September 23rd meeting, the board voted to submit comment on the above-referenced NOP as follows:

PPCC requests that Metro evaluate possible effects on traffic including Sunset Blvd. and Pacific Coast Highway that may result from any of the proposed project alternatives under consideration as part of the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Express Lanes Project.

The requested evaluation is necessary to adequately assess and ensure public safety in the surrounding area given the conditions in Pacific Palisades described above.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Card

David Card
Chair
Pacific Palisades Community Council

cc (via email): Hon. Mike Bonin, Councilmember, CD 11 and Board Member, Metro