

MIKE BONIN

City of Los Angeles Councilmember, Eleventh District

October 25, 2016

Assemblymember Richard Bloom 2800 28th Street Santa Monica, CA 90405

Dear Assemblymember Bloom:

I am writing to ask you to join me in urging Caltrans to expeditiously approve a permit for a temporary re-installation of a traffic signal on Pacific Coast Highway in Pacific Palisades. I am making this request in order to spare the community the impacts of a haul route that is needed to complete the long-awaited Potrero Canyon Riparian Park, a passive, native park that will link Pacific Palisades Recreation Center to Will Rogers State Beach.

As you may know, for decades the community has clamored for the construction of a park in Potrero Canyon, and the City is preparing to move forward with that project. In order to proceed, the City needs to import approximately 122,000 cubic yards dirt for grading. We have a unique and time-sensitive opportunity to do so now, in a way that is a "win-win" for Pacific Palisades and the City of Los Angeles.

Recently, the City approved the Palisades Village project, a neighborhood-serving shopping and business district, revitalizing downtown Pacific Palisades. The project has begun construction and needs to remove approximately the same amount of dirt that the park project requires. The park project will save millions of dollars and be able to proceed far more quickly if we can import the soil from the Palisades Village project. And the community will be spared the additional truck and resulting air pollution impacts that would be caused by the need for someone other than the developers of Palisades Village to import soil from elsewhere, bringing thousands of more truck trips <u>into</u> Pacific Palisades.

Westchester Office

7166 W. Manchester Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90045 (310) 568-8772 (310) 410-3946 Fax City Hall

200 N. Spring Street, Room 475 Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 473-7011 (213) 473-6926 Fax West Los Angeles Office

1645 Corinth Avenue, Room 201 Los Angeles, CA 90025 (310) 575-8461 (310) 575-8305 Fax



There are a limited number of routes by which the Palisades Village project could deliver the dirt. The only entrance to the park for the dump trucks is from Pacific Coast Highway. However, given that there is no traffic signal on PCH to access the canyon, the developer has been authorized to access the park by looping down Chautauqua and then back up to the project via Temescal Canyon- all a series of right turns. This route, however, has caused significant concern in the community, and large numbers of residents are understandably requesting that entrance be permitted at the mouth of Potrero Canyon on PCH. That would require installation of a traffic signal. Installation would need to happen immediately to be able to accommodate the schedules of the projects. Otherwise, the Palisades Village project will need to use the Chautauqua route.

Ordinarily, installation of a traffic light takes months of engineering, traffic study and design, which would create unacceptable delays for both projects. However, there is the potential to expedite that signal process if Caltrans would authorize re-installation of a signal that was there previously.

On behalf of our mutual constituents in Pacific Palisades, who are eager for both the Palisades Village project and the Potrero Canyon Park project, I am respectfully requesting your assistance in urging Caltrans to approve temporary re-installation of this signal as soon as possible.

Regards,

MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

Udo Boi