

## **Chris Spitz At-large Rep report to the WRAC board, 2/8/24 – street takeovers/racing**

We've learned that on Tuesday 2/6/24, the City Council passed a motion in Council File 22-1019, that calls for LADOT's installation of measures at certain intersections citywide to prevent *street racing and street takeovers*. These preventative measures might include rumble strips, hardened center lines and/or surveillance cameras.

Surprisingly to some of us, the intersection of ***PCH & Temescal Canyon Rd.*** is listed in the motion and in supporting reports as being one of the *top 5 worst intersections in the entire LAPD West Bureau* in terms of complaints about street takeovers! According to an LAPD report, from 2020-2022 there were 38 complaints received about this intersection. In other words, it is now one of the locations that would potentially be subject to installation of one or more of the additional preventative street measures.

I was somewhat taken aback when I learned about this, because I had never heard of this activity at this intersection before. I communicated with the Area 4 reps (who hadn't heard of it either), as well as with a few residents. We've now learned that apparently, there were some instances in the past of drivers doing "donuts" at night on Temescal Canyon Rd., *not in the actual PCH intersection*, but somewhere on the roadway between PCH and Pali High. Skid marks could be seen in the mornings, and it seems that some nearby residents may have heard noise from vehicles doing donuts during the night and called LAPD. It also seems that this activity, which apparently occurred mostly during the Covid lockdown period, may have stopped for the most part after 2022.

I then spoke with CD 11 Legislative Deputy Kevin Brunke and gave him the information about the assumed actual scope of this activity. He understands that this is likely NOT about activity in the PCH intersection, but if it were, then Caltrans would have to be involved. He also assured me that Michael Amster will be our liaison with LADOT and LAPD going forward, that there would be further study and outreach to the community and our input will be sought as to whether these preventative street measures are even needed anywhere on Temescal Canyon Rd. at this point.

Kevin also told me that "rumble strips" have been essentially ruled out citywide as they are too damaging; that there are issues with cameras as to privacy concerns and monitoring (as noted in police reports); and that *if* anything is ever installed on Temescal as a preventive measure, it would likely only be hardened center lines. These could consist of either raised humps or flexible posts placed along the yellow center line in the area where the donut activity had occurred. He also agreed with me that it would be important to get more recent information from LAPD as to whether there have been any complaints about this since 2022. Hopefully, CD 11 can obtain this information.

We should continue to monitor this issue and attempt to ascertain community opinion in due course.