

Takeda, Michi

From: Ken Perry <kenpasadena@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 4:24 PM
To: Takeda, Michi
Cc: Masuda, Gene; Siques, Joaquin; Erika Foy; KeepPasadenaMoving
Subject: New Foothill Blvd Project - We Need Better Solutions for the East Foothill Blvd. Corridor As A Whole

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Please include these comments in the record for 3452 Foothill Blvd.

Design Commission and Councilmember Masuda:

I was relieved to see Pasadena Department of Transportation recommendations for the completely revised project at the 3452 Foothill Boulevard. To see traffic mitigations beyond Complete Streets-type mitigations like bicycle lockers and transit passes however small is a rare and wonderful thing.

However, this is very inadequate for the East Foothill corridor where the City and developers are insisting on putting hundreds of multifamily units and other new development. There is little consideration to what is happening to the corridor as a whole.

East Foothill Blvd. is already a nightmare to drive down. I hope commissioners and representatives from the city who are making all of the recommendations actually drive down the street before they vote to approve this and other projects. When normal traffic resumes post-covid each new condo, every new apartment and each new office development will add to our woes of living in East Pasadena. As residents of East Pasadena, we have to drive to grocery shop at Ralphs or get cash from the ATM at Bank of America at the Hastings Ranch Shopping Center. We have been doing this for decades. Do we suddenly have to find alternatives because the city is cramming in too much development and causing gridlock throughout our neighborhoods? Do people who have long commutes to work have to wait even longer in the evenings to get off of the freeway exits at Sierra Madre Villa and Rosemead because of all of the gridlock on the surface streets?

There is already a huge need for additional traffic signals for the Hastings Ranch shopping center along Foothill as well as an additional signal from the shopping center at Rosemead (the current one is not enough given all of the traffic going in and out of the shopping center).

We are way past the incremental suggestions like the ones listed in the DOT's letter for this project. We need to take into consideration everything going in on Foothill - from the new Home Depot store, to the Spacebank development to all of the other developments going in on this important and already overcrowded corridor. The new East Pasadena Specific Plan will add even more development and more burden for area residents in the coming years.

A few bike lockers and some Gold Line passes are not going to address our very serious traffic issues in East Pasadena. For instance no one is using the bike lanes on Sierra Madre Villa to commute on the Gold Line. Daisy Villa and other East Pasadena residents were never actually allowed to provide input on that idea before the new lanes suddenly appeared.

Councilmember Masuda, I hope you will convene a district townhall so that your constituents have an adequate chance to hear about all of the planned development along Foothill and other parts of East Pasadena, and be able to ask questions

and make recommendations. Letting each individual development sail through Planning and Design Commissions without much consideration about the cumulative impact is not adequate and is proceeding without enough input from residents.

If the city wants to overburden East Pasadena with more than its fair share of new housing and development, residents should at least have input into how that is done. Back room negotiations between city departments and developers are not good enough. The specific plan meetings have not been adequate or representative of the majority of residents who live here. We need an approach that works for all residents - especially East Pasadena residents who continue to be negatively impacted by each new development being plopped down in our backyards.

Ken Perry
East Pasadena Resident
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