

Flores, Alejandra

From: Claire Zeng <claire.k.zeng@gmail.com>
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To: Flores, Alejandra
Subject: Public comment on 5b + items not on agenda

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Hi Alex,

I would like to make some written comments:

On 5B: again, I appreciate the commission's support for public memorials. In my experience putting up ghost bikes and ad-hoc memorials, temporary memorials are dismantled after unpredictable short periods of time, which often feels disheartening and disrespectful. I appreciate more permanent installations. I also believe we can walk and chew gum - memorials and public awareness increases public support for road safety measures. **In my experience, residents are unaware of how high the injury and death count really is in Pasadena and we need to raise awareness.**

I believe it is an important use of resources and not a wasteful diversion, as was argued by Commissioner Litwin. I am dismayed by the strawman arguments from Commissioners Litwin and Lim about Chinese people apparently not discussing death, being worried about people feeling uncomfortable about seeing reminders of crashes, and the supposed squabbling and that these memorials will never be done correctly. As stated, these memorials are commonly and frequently done, and **the people whose feelings are most impacted by a crash are the family requesting the memorial. I am particularly frustrated by this misrepresentation and weaponization of Chinese identity.** My Chinese community and family would rather be aware of deaths and know people are making changes than being unaware and in danger of cars. **And my community and I will hold Commissioners Litwin and Lim as well as others accountable to their promise to vote for solutions, which include road safety improvements, bike lanes, safer crosswalks, and traffic calming mechanisms.**

On items not on the agenda: I would like to emphasize the importance of expediting the north-south routes being studied in the Greenways. Crossing the 210 remains extremely dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians. Many Pasadena residents including me use these routes and we need safe networks. Near these crossings the roads widen, and drivers often move at fast, unsafe speeds. **Strong traffic calming (e.g., speed tables, raised crosswalks, neckdowns) should be added near the dangerous freeway crossings to manage existing issues with unsafe speeding. This protects both cyclists/pedestrians and vehicle drivers as crashes frequently happen at these freeway crossings.**

I would also like to emphasize the importance of reducing cut-through traffic in neighborhoods. **Cut-through traffic puts residents in danger of drivers disrespectfully using a neighborhood as a pseudo-freeway. The use of traffic diverters or partial closures is critical to making the neighborhood Greenways comfortable, quiet, and safe.** Traffic diverters and partial closures allow residents to drive to and from their homes and preserve parking, but limit “cut-through” traffic in neighborhoods. The City's 2015 Plan included them on all four Greenways, and they have been successfully deployed on other streets in the City, including El Molino and Marengo.

Regards,
Claire Zeng
Pasadena resident