

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Jill Fosselman <jafosselman@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 04, 2013 1:48 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Cc:** Bogaard, Bill; Bertoni, Vince; Foster, Siobhan; Beck, Michael  
**Subject:** Consent Calendar Item #2 Tonight: Foothill Blvd. Improvements

Dear Mr. Jomsky,

I just noticed item 2 on the Consent Calendar for this evening regarding the City/County joint improvement project for Foothill Boulevard between Rosemead and Michillinda. I appreciate that this item is on calendar, and support its approval by the Council. The purpose of my comment is to request that staff explore aesthetic improvements to the medians in the project, as well as aesthetic improvements to the sidepanels and sidewalks/parkways as well.

Foothill Boulevard is a significant commercial thoroughfare in East Pasadena, and for the thousands exiting the freeway daily to shop in the Hastings Ranch/East Pasadena area, this stretch of Foothill becomes the eastern gateway to our City. Virtually no one knows that the north side of this stretch of Foothill is Pasadena, and the south is unincorporated LA County. And I don't think it matters. People see it overall as simply "Pasadena," so we must treat this as any other important gateway into our City.

As a long-time resident, I think it's very important that all improvement projects include aesthetic improvements, particularly when the cost is shared. Rather than pavers in the medians that will increase stormwater runoff and pollution, please explore the appropriate and safe planting of small trees, bushes and greenery. Similarly, rather than just replacing damaged concrete sidewalks, please consider less concrete and more natural plantings in newly created beds. Of course, plantings should be drought-tolerant and native - nothing that will waste significant water. Again, the purpose would be to beautify the area. Overtime, the investment in beautification will help translate into more lively and walkable streets, and less turnover and vacancy rates in the adjacent businesses.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jill Fosselman  
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