

# CORRESPONDENCE



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CITY OF PASADENA

January 27, 2021

**City Council and Department of Transportation**

c/o Mark Jomsky  
City Clerk  
100 North Garfield Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101

175 North Garfield Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101

**Re: CEQA Threshold Measurement**

Dear Mayor Gordo, City Council members, and members of the Department of Transportation:

We have learned that the City Council and the Department of Transportation will be conducting a study of the current thresholds used for triggering a CEQA analysis of proposed projects as it relates to the city's analysis of traffic on our streets. We ask you to please review the traffic study we previously submitted to City Council, prepared by Mr. Grant Johnson, a traffic engineer at PRISM Engineering. As we stated earlier, the current thresholds and city's analysis of traffic on our streets do not accurately reflect the impact of developments on our traffic flow. It is critical that traffic be viewed both as a whole and how it interconnects between the different thoroughfares. The way that LOS has been interpreted to date hides real problems, and as a result the impact of new developments and the resulting traffic is under-estimated.

We also have learned that there will be a poll conducted at the meeting in an attempt to capture citizen feedback on traffic. While the intention to seek community input is important and very appreciated, this poll is not a meaningful way to do it. It only captures the interest of the people attending the meeting, which is an incredibly small percentage of the general population. It will not capture a reliable cross section of Pasadena, a statistically significant number of Pasadena citizens, and in fact can be easily skewed in any direction by simply packing the meeting with a specific constituency. If the DOT and the City Council are interested in seeking meaningful public input, we believe a more detailed survey should be widely distributed and publicized to Pasadena citizens.

It is clear to everyone that our city streets are failing. Traffic is building, frustration is building, and the safety of our pedestrians and cyclists is at stake. We can find a balance between a growing vibrant city, the comfortable flow of traffic, and protecting the walkability and bikeability of Pasadena. But we cannot do that without an accurate reflection and analysis of what is happening on our streets.

Thank you,

Megan Foker  
On behalf of Livable Pasadena