

Martinez, Ruben

From: Jeanette Mann < >
Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 12:39 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Cc: Frank Duerr; Janet Waldron; Jeanette Mann; Jeff C; Ken Perry; Kevin Castaing; Lee Allen; Susan Buchanan
Subject: Item #9 on the May 24, 2021 City Council Agenda: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND SUSTAINBLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

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Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council Members,

The residents of East Pasadena have been calling for additional traffic signals and crosswalks on East Orange Grove for years. This sensible, simple solution promotes safer pedestrian, bicycle, and transit modes of travel at the intersections of Orange Grove at Craig and Orange Grove at Sunnyslope. Now the opportunity for funding a traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Grove and Craig is before you, but I had to read carefully to find it. Embedded in Agenda Item #9, auspiciously under the guise of a resolution for a program on “. . . affordable housing and sustainable communities” and “. . . transit-related amenities (TRA),” there it is an AHSC grant application to include the Craig Avenue Greenway (Bike Boulevard) and a new traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Grove and Craig Avenue.

As many of you know I have appeared before the City Council many times in the past several years with concerns about the accidents at the intersection of East Orange Grove and North Craig. Although a traffic signal has always been the preferred solution, the response I’ve received has always been that there was no funding for this signal. Last fall there was another fatality at this intersection—a young woman was killed in a single car accident at 2:00 a.m. Now there appears to be a possibility of funding. A traditional traffic signal at East Orange Grove and Craig is much needed and welcomed. It will make it easier for multi-modal forms of crossing and will eliminate the mandatory right-hand turn from northbound Craig to Orange Grove that many people currently ignore. However, I am concerned that, if grant funds are awarded, design on the proposed projects will not begin until 2022 with construction anticipated to begin in 2024. That’s a long time in which special interest groups could quietly attempt to make a lot of changes to the project.

In addition, I want to be clear that I am only supporting new striping for the crosswalk. Residents will not accept cement barriers, bulb-outs, and/or a roundabout (traffic circle) on Orange Grove and Craig that will block traffic flow and contribute to more traffic accidents. And residents are still on high alert for any kind of lane reductions as evidenced by the number of lawn signs along Orange Grove. In addition, the proposed Craig Avenue “Greenway” striping will take away parking and impede trash pickup from residents whose homes intersect with Craig. Craig is already a good, north-south street for bicycling without having to spend money on paint what needs to be repainted.

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I strongly urge you to support Agenda Item 9: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND SUSTAINBLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM.

Thank you,

Jeanette Mann

Pasadena, CA 91104

Martinez, Ruben

From: Ken Perry <...>
Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 1:22 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Item #9 On 5/24 Consent Calendar

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Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council:

Innocently tucked away in the consent calendar tonight is Item #9 – creating an Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program.

It sounds wonderful until you get to parts like a proposed greenway on Craig street that would include funding for a traffic light.

The residents of East Pasadena have been calling on additional traffic signals on Orange Grove for years. Especially on Sunnyslope and on Craig. Now even the Department of Transportation is using the affordable housing grant to get funding for the new traffic light.

A traditional traffic signal on Craig and East Orange Grove is much needed and will be welcomed. We need it today. We shouldn't have to wait until 2024 to get it installed.

However, without any consultation with local residents or even an airing at City Council, DOT Director Laura Conejo and City Manager Steve Mermell want you to sign off in the consent calendar to a “greenway” on Craig.

Craig is one of the best north south streets for bicycling – a hidden gem. It's a great quiet way to get under the freeway to the southern part of town. The traffic light on Orange Grove will make it that much safer and easier for walkers, people with pets, cyclists and drivers to go north and south.

However, what East Pasadena residents won't sign off on is new striping that takes away parking from residents who's homes intersect with Craig. Residents won't accept cement barriers on Craig or Orange Grove that block traffic flow and could actually contribute to more traffic accidents. And residents would be up in arms if there are plans to reduce lanes again on Orange Grove.

I hope the city had learned its lesson with the ridiculous Orange Grove Road Diet fiasco to bury stupid ideas that have no resident support and never let them see the light of day again.

We need to debate this issue in an open forum and ask questions about what exactly is a greenway and why do we need one on an already quiet street.

We also need to put more pressure on the DOT and finally get the traffic signal on Sunnyslope and Orange Grove installed! There seems to be funding for everything – let's find it for that signal too.

05/24/2021

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Ken Perry

East Pasadena

91104

Martinez, Ruben

From: KEVIN CASTAING <kcastaing@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 2:42 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Agenda Item #9

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Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council Members,

The residents of East Pasadena have been calling for additional traffic signals and crosswalks on East Orange Grove for years. This sensible, simple solution promotes safer pedestrian, bicycle, and transit modes of travel at the intersections of Orange Grove at Craig and Orange Grove at Sunnyslope. Now the opportunity for funding a traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Grove and Craig is before you, but it's well hidden-- I had to read carefully to find it. Embedded in Agenda Item #9, auspiciously under the guise of a resolution for a program on “. . . affordable housing and sustainable communities” and “. . . transit-related amenities (TRA),” there it is-- an AHSC grant application to include the Craig Avenue Greenway (a Bike Boulevard) and a new traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Grove and Craig Avenue.

A traditional traffic signal at East Orange Grove and Craig is much needed and welcomed. It will make it easier for multi-modal forms of crossing and will eliminate the mandatory right-hand turn from northbound Craig to Orange Grove that many people currently ignore. However, I am concerned that, if grant funds are awarded, design on the proposed projects will not begin until next year with construction anticipated to begin in 2024. That's a long time in which special interest groups could quietly attempt to make a lot of changes to the project.

Giving carte blanche to the Greenway project without input from affected residents is a bad idea. The wording of Agenda Item #9 appears to do just that.

In addition, I want to be clear that I only support the traffic signal and new striping for the crosswalk. Residents will not accept cement barriers, bulb-outs, and/or a roundabout (traffic circle) on Orange Grove and Craig that will block traffic flow and contribute to more traffic accidents. And residents are still on high alert for any kind of lane reductions as evidenced by the number of lawn signs along Orange Grove. In addition, the proposed Craig Avenue “Greenway” striping will take away parking and impede trash pickup from residents whose homes intersect with Craig. Craig is already a good, north-south street for bicycling without having to spend money on paint what needs to be repainted.

Thank you for your attention to this,

Kevin C. Castaing
Pasadena, CA 91107

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