

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: As a long time Los Angeles resident who both uses a personal vehicle and public transit to travel around the city for errands and work, I have always been in support of giving signal preemption to the Metro light rail and busways. It is extremely baffling how in many scenarios, trains with hundreds of riders are stopped at a red light for maybe 2 or 3 cars to pass in front. Traffic lights should be giving priority to the mode of transit that is moving the most amount of people, and keeping the status quo only keeps the trains and busways slow, and makes people more likely to take personal vehicles, which worsens traffic and air quality. I live next to a station on the E line (previously Expo line), and while it has been convenient to use in many cases, unfortunately it can be extremely slow due to the high amount of at-grade crossings and potential stops at red lights. I even often find it much faster to take a local bus route to go into downtown than to take the rail line. The portion of the E line along Flower St and the portion of the A line along Washington are notorious for causing huge delays due to the large amount of at-grade crossings and lack of signal preemption. This is something that everyday riders are aware of and have to deal with, and yet the city hasn't remedied this issue for years. Many cities in developed countries with a much smaller population than Los Angeles have been able to give signal preemption to their trams and buses without issue, properly giving the right of way to the mode of transit that holds more people, and yet we have let Metro riders down in this regard. I implore the city to please finally give signal preemption to the Metro rail lines and busways so that these lines can not only be significantly faster (especially for the E line), but also more reliable and less likely to have delays or issues with bunching. The city overall would greatly benefit from this, and as someone who does use their car to occasionally travel through the city, I would be very understanding of having to wait at a traffic light for hundreds of riders using an efficient and more environmentally friendly mode of transportation to pass by.