

Communication from Public

Name: Abdullah Danishwar

Date Submitted: 10/12/2023 09:27 PM

Council File No: 21-1072

Comments for Public Posting: 2 lives are lost every week in the city of LA in pedestrian vs auto collisions. That vast majority of those lives lost are cyclists that use the bicycle to commute and as their primary transportation. We have let the auto lobby (AAA, big auto, big oil, big auto parts) ride rough-shot over this entire region long enough, much to our detriment in a myriad of ways. LA being the first major city to be built out after the invention of the automobile, served as a huge social experiment, that has gone horribly horribly wrong. Being the first city to be designed and built around the automobile has turned LA into a pedestrian unfriendly nightmarish urban blighted wasteland of extremely unvibrant almost nonexistent street life. The studies are clear and unanimous. it is undeniable and irrefutable that the automobile is indeed one of the major scourges of the modern world. The Europeans realized that the car is an asinine transportation method that impoverishes cities of thriving and vibrant neighborhoods and street life's, and started to design away from the automobile decades ago and the benefits to the health and vitality of their citizen, businesses, streets and neighborhood are crystal clear. Road diets lead to better health, stronger families and economic boons to where ever they have been implemented. The citizens of those neighborhoods have seen the dramatic benefits of not being forced into their cars everyone they want to leave their homes. They vote to keep the road diets. Business owners noticed that when you slow traffic down, more ppl patronize their store fronts leading to an economic boon for those businesses and neighborhoods. The few road diets that have been implemented in LA, then were reversed or taken out at great expense serves as one of the most egregious and grossest perversions of democracy in modern times; where the will of the citizens of a neighborhood are trumped by commuters that don't live in the neighborhood but merely commute through it at 50mph. And just because a road diet makes them arrive at their destination 45 seconds after they would have normally arrived, the commuters, the motorists get into an irate uproar threatening council members, that just wanted to do right by their constituents and do what's obviously beneficial for their districts with recall. And because the auto lobby is so powerful in SoCal, THEY ALWAYS WIN, the voters democratic decisions are overturned for ppl that don't live there but only drive through there and the

poor citizens of those unlucky communities have to deal with the pernicious and deleterious consequences of a gross injustice and gross subversion of democracy all for 45 seconds to two minutes of average travel times. If I had a choice to arrive 45 seconds earlier to a destination but know that because of my choice to cut 45 seconds off my travel time, entire communities suffer in a myriad of and untold and unseen ways that results in poorer health, poorer businesses and store front and ultimately the safety and death of individuals; I would decide to take in for the team, so to speak, and choose to arrive 45 seconds later... because at the end of the day, when considering the health and safety of individuals and entire communities, what the hell is 45 seconds anyway